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STUDENT VOICE

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Student fee increase sparks dialogue

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Chancellor Dean Van Galen is asking for student involvement regarding the proposal of increasing differential tuition in order to fulfill the UW-River Falls Falcon Promise.

“There must be collaboration on any proposal that is brought to the Board of Regents to ensure that the initiatives support the goals of the campus, have demonstrated student support and include adequate accountability for the use of funds,” Van Galen said in an e-mail.

The Falcon Promise consists of five core institutional values: academic excellence, community, continuous improvement, inclusiveness and integrity. According to the Chancellor’s proposal, there are four main areas

that will help UWRF achieve this promise: an increase in tutoring services, increase in undergraduate research opportunities, increase in student scholarships and classroom modernization. By increasing these four areas, UWRF will hopefully have higher retention and graduation rates.

Van Galen said this proposal is trying to help students in a variety of ways.

“As is generally the case with student tuition and fees, different students would benefit in different ways from the Falcon Promise initiative,” Van Galen said. “Some students would benefit from more tutoring, others would be able to engage in study abroad or undergraduate research, some students would receive new scholarship support from alumni, while many students would benefit over

time from the enhanced classrooms and other learning spaces.”

Living up to the Falcon Promise will come with a price tag.

The promise calls for three annual increases to the \$72 fee full-time students are currently paying. According to the proposal, the fee supports expanded library services which includes a 24-hour computer lab; additional undergraduate research and scholarly activity experiences and a centralized testing and tutoring center.

For the 2011-12 academic year, the annual fee will be \$100 per student. The total amount collected will be \$630,000. Of that amount, 30 percent, \$52,800, will go to tutoring, and an additional 30 percent will go to undergraduate research. The remaining 40 percent,

\$70,560, will go to scholarships.

For the 2012-13 academic year, the annual fee will be \$130 per student with the total amount collected being \$819,000. Of that amount, 50 percent, \$94,500, will go to scholarships and the other 50 percent will go for classroom modernization.

For the 2013-14 academic year, the annual fee will be \$160 per student, totaling a little over \$1 million. Of the total amount collected, 100 percent will go for classroom modernization.

The proposed differential tuition fee increases remain far lower than those currently charged at many other UW-System institutions, according to the proposal. In 2013-14

See fees page 3



Approaching winter brings higher chance of CO poisoning

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As winter approaches and a furnace become a requirement in many people’s homes for providing heat, it is no wonder why December and January are the peak months for non-fire carbon monoxide incidents, according to a national non-profit organization, The Center for Campus Fire Safety.

Governments both at the state and national level are heeding the call to try and reduce the number of residential carbon monoxide poisoning.

In August, the House of Representatives passed the Residential Carbon Monoxide

Poisoning Prevention Act, and last February, Gov. Jim Doyle signed a bill that will require carbon monoxide detectors in one-and-two family homes by Feb. 1, 2011.

The law will expand on the existing requirements for the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in all multi-family homes, hotels, bed and breakfast establishments and any other public building that is used for sleeping or lodging purposes. One of the driving reasons for a more cohesive law was the fact that carbon monoxide’s affect on citizens at the state level.

“Wisconsin ranks 12th in the nation with respect [to] deaths and injuries from carbon monoxide poisoning,” said Sen. David Han-

sen, D-Green Bay. “Requiring these detectors will reduce the number of injuries and deaths, emergency calls and emergency visits.”

The bill was written with no fees or penalties for not complying with this law; however, the bill dictates whether or not a home can be sold.

“When a person goes to sell their house, carbon monoxide detectors will be included in the home inspection. So in other words, for the home to be sold, they will have to have the detector installed,” Hansen said.

Property owners are responsible for putting the carbon monoxide detectors in, so people that rent can call on their landlords to have the detectors installed. Instead of waiting un-

til the law takes affect, tenants can request the detectors early.

“The landlords are going to have to do it anyway; it’s going to be law,” said Director of Communications for the Wisconsin Builders Association, Annie Rubens

Carbon monoxide is known as the silent killer because the gas is colorless and odorless. The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning depend on how long a person has been breathing as well as the potency of the gas. Mild symptoms include headaches, fatigue and shortness of breath. More severe cases include loss of muscle control, brain damage

See monoxide page 3

Limited space prompts move to Hathorn

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Residence Life and Student Rights and Responsibilities offices began their move Wednesday from out of the Involvement Center in the University Center into the basement of East Hathorn Hall.

The move will take place in two phases.The first was Wednesday, and the remaining staff members will move Dec. 17, Director of Residence Life and Student Rights and Responsibilities Sandra Scott Duex said.

Duex said the main reason for the move was that staff changes in Student Affairs had overcrowded the IC. Another reason was to provide better facilities to meet the privacy needs of staff that deal with confidential matters better than the pod-style offices had. The restructuring of Student Affairs including the addition of First Year Experience since the IC was designed has left the IC overcrowded.

Assistant Director of Residence Life Julie Phelps said that many staff had desks pressed against the walls of the pods in the IC rather than offices of their own. Since Residence Life already owned the space in Hathorn Hall, it made the most sense for Residence Life and Student Rights and Responsibilities to be the ones to move out of the IC.

Cost of constructing several new offices, furniture and the addition of another outer door cost Residence Life and Student Rights and Responsibilities approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000, said Phelps.

Crabtree Residence Assistant Maranda Mahr said she thinks the move of Residence Life outside of the IC is kind of sad.

Mahr said she thought the majority of RAs utilize the UC and it is a common place to see the professional staff in passing or stop by their offices to visit them or discuss issues. Mahr added that she believed some RAs wouldn’t take the extra step to go to Hathorn Hall to visit professional staff.

Duex acknowledged that being in the UC is optimal for meeting causally, but that the new office space would have hall manager mailboxes and two small conference rooms so that student staff might start to see the new space as a place they are welcome.

“I don’t think the move will weaken relationships,” Duex said in an email. “Although it is true that one of the benefits of being in the UC was the informal contact that could happen.



Sally King/Student Voice
Assistant Director of Residence Life Julie Phelps has made the move to Hathorn Hall from the IC.

I do believe, though, that our Res Life student staff will come to see the new Res Life office space as theirs and we certainly hope staff will stop by frequently.”

Phelps said that meeting with student staff would be more of a challenge, but feels that they will make the extra effort.

The new space will be home to 10 staff members; four will have private offices and six will be in cubicle style offices.

The new office space will not occupy any student housing space. Previously, East Hathorn was a daycare, which was transformed from an office space. FredNet also occupied the space until it moved out two years ago. Since then it has remained vacant.

An open house will be held for students during the first week of classes spring semester.

Res Life seeks responsible, diverse applicants

Sally King
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Residence Assistant staff selection started, and students have begun the first part of the sign up process.

“All they have to do is answer a few questions and tell us a little bit about themselves, their qualifications and stuff like that,” said Assistant Director for the Department of Residence Life Kristie Feist. “It’s a very simple application.”

Feist said it is important that students have a good understanding of the position and what it entails.

“We look for people who have a genuine interest in helping

RA’s are responsible for activity planning, safety and security for the residence halls. They also are responsible for building relationships between residents. The time commitment of the position requires availabilty on the evenings and weekends. RA’s typically work 15-20 hours per week.

Thomas Lengyel, the hall manager for McMillan Hall, started off as an RA in the spring of 2008.

“I had a difficult transition between high school and college and went through a lot of personal strife during that transition,” Lengyel said. “After it was all said and done, I have a fairly good understanding of how that transition works and what it should be and what people really should get out of this experience. I wanted to share my experience, share some of the outcomes of my mistakes with the people so that they can hopefully learn from my mistakes and so that they would have a better experience.”

Lengyel said there are challenges that RA’s must face on a regular basis. For example, RA’s must be able to confront and document inappropriate behavior, mediate conflicts between residents, assist residents with compromising and conflict resolution, and to be able to respond to student behavior that may be personal, social, or academic problems.

“Being a RA, there are time management challenges, there are challenges in relationships,” Lengyel said. “I live with 30 people, and we share a bathroom. But when someone breaks policy, I have to confront them. We have to work on behavior and some people don’t take that kindly and choose to retaliate against the RA for doing their job; that can be hard. Other challenges are that it is a time consuming position you live where you work and work where you live. It’s not always the easiest job to have, I have to go to hall programs and advise hall council. It gets hectic.”

Former RA in Hathorn Hall, Priya Kailash said students to realize the high standards of Residence Life and recommends people to review the contract before signing it.

“It’s very demanding and hard work. At the end of the day, it all comes down to who you have as your staff. If you have people who mutually respect each other and want to work things out and communicate to you directly, it’s going to work,” Kailash said. “People should really think about it before applying because the rules are extremely strict. It’s a good way to meet people, but it can consume your life.”

Residence Life also encourages students to carefully read all the information that pertains to the position that they are applying for. They also encourage interested students to talk to other students who are currently working for Residence Life before applying.

“Being an RA, a lot of people look up to you, so that means being there for them and listening, while also providing a good example like what it takes to be a successful student at River Falls,” said Residence Life Area Coordinator Rob Andrews said. “It means that you can have a social life that is good for being a healthy student, and that there are choices that you could make that are poor for you, like breaking the law if you are underage. We don’t tell people that they can’t go out; we tell people to make smart choices.”

RA’s are expected to serve as positive role models for residents, and they are expected to follow residence hall and University policies, as well as state and federal laws. This expectation applies whether the RA is on or off duty, on or off campus.

“A lot of people think that we need a certain type of person to be a RA, but we really need a variety of types of people,” Andrews said. “We could really use almost anyone as a RA; it’s just a mater of the balance of the right team. So someone shouldn’t think that just because they’re not obnoxiously over the top that they couldn’t apply to be a RA. Some of our best RA’s are quiet, calm and even a little shy. It’s a matter of picking the right groups of people to make the right team.”

Applications for Residence Life are due by Feb. 6, via Org-Sync.

VOICE SHORTS

Annual Art Sale benefits students and Art Society

The Annual Art Scholarship Sale features one of a kind artwork for sale that benefits scholarships for continuing art students, the student organization Art Society and a fund for visiting artists. There will be a wide variety of art displayed including glass, ceramics, painting, fibers, metals, printmaking, photography and mixed media. The sale will be during gallery hours from 9-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 2-4 p.m. Friday Dec. 3 through Dec. 12 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building Gallery 101.

Masquers present ‘How I learned to Drive’

The Masquers will be putting on “How I learned to Drive,” Paula Vogel’s 1998 Pulitzer Prize-winning play that exposes a taboo subject that has been living in the shadows for very long. The play mixes realistic drama with surrealist comedy for a tension-filled portrait of abuse. Performances will be at 7:30 p.m Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from Dec. 3 through Dec. 11 at the Blanche Davis Theatre in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building. The box Office opens at 6:30 p.m. on performance nights.

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. 19
- Rachael Klahr, 19, was cited for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
- Nov. 17
- A vehicle was reported damaged at O-lot.
- Nov. 20
- Ariel Rygwalski, 19, was cited for underage consumption at South Fork Suites.
 - Jonathan Cabak, 19, was cited for underage consumption at South Fork Suites.
 - Zachary Walsh, 20, was cited for underage consumption at South Fork Suites.
 - Dillan Edelen, 21, was cited for knowingly permitting underage consumption.
- Nov. 24
- David McGill, 19, was cited for possession of marijuana.

SENATE SHORTS

From the Nov. 16 Student Senate meeting:

- Senate passed a bylaw policy presented by AFAB Chair Jordan Harshman to outline the process of modifying or creating a segregated fee. The addition to the bylaws gives clear guidelines and procedures to the process that had not existed in the bylaws before Nov. 16.
- Senate approved a letter to be sent to the entire student body regarding the proposed United Council constitution changes. The letter has yet to be distributed due to technical difficulties.

Pick up a Student Voice application for the Spring semester outside of 304 North Hall

Apply for an on-air position with
88.7 FM WRFW
Pick up an application outside of 306 North Hall

Find Freddy’s Feather!

E-mail the Voice at editor@uwrfvoice.com. Be the first person to report the find after 10 a.m. to win free movie passes.

Visit the new and improved
Student Voice Web site
at
uwrfvoice.com



Hannah Lenius/Student Voice
UWRF’s Assistant Director of Residence Life Kristie Feist in the UC. Res Life applications are due Feb. 6.

new students and returning students in the residence halls. We also look for people who bring various leadership skills, an ability to communicate, organization and the ability to manage their time,” Feist said. “We’re looking for people who are open to all kinds of situations and people who are very accepting and understanding of differences. We’re looking for somebody who is trainable, and willing to work hard.”

The compensation for being a RA is having a room and meal plan paid for and receiving a stipend of \$700 per year with Residence life.

“I think more importantly though what they gain from the experience is a lot of those development in leadership skills with being able to work effectively with others, understanding difference and how that impacts others relationships,” Feist said, “Students who are in our positions tend to tell us that the position has forced them to be better at time management because of all of the things that they have to balance. The ability to complete tasks, projects and to be successful in the world. They deal with a lot of conflict and resolution, being able to mediate issues and discussions with students. The position really requires you to be really organized and focused as far as being able to manage your time effectively.”

“A lot of people think that we need a certain type of person to be a RA, but we really need a variety of types of people.”

Rob Andrews,
Area Cooridinator

Fees: Proposed tuition change to assist students

from page 1

the differential tuition fee at UW-Madison will be \$3,000 per student, at UW-Eau Claire it will be \$1,363 per student and at UW-La-Crosse it will be \$1,162 per student. UWRF is keeping its differential tuition lower because most students here are first generation college students, Van Galen said.

“I think that yearly increases of \$72 really isn’t that much when compared to what other schools in the UW-System are going to have to pay for their differential tuition,” said UWRF Freshman Emmily Rasmussen.

This proposal calls for the campus to be willing to support these initiatives. According to the proposal, UWRF will partner with students by making a one-to-one match of all differential tuition fee dollars used for classroom modernization for a total of \$283,500.

In regards to scholarships, UWRF alumni — through fundraising campaigns and designation of existing endowments — will contribute \$4,000 for each Falcon Scholar, while students will provide \$2,000 through differential tuition. It is believed that the students’ commitment to the challenge will motivate alumni and friends to make charitable gifts, thereby significantly increasing the scholarship awards available to students, according to the proposal.

There is some concern from students about whether or not it is the role of the students to pay for classroom renovation via the differential tuition fund. Student Senate Allocable Fees Appropriation Board Chair Jordan Harshman acknowledges a link between quality education and updated technology and renovations, but he said he feels that the goals of differential tuition should consist

of "game-changer" ideas, or ideas that make UWRF students ready for what is to come after college.

“In particular, the proposed funding would allow more students to participate in undergraduate research. Undergraduate research has been shown time and time again to lead to allow true synthesis and evaluation of ideas and is most applicable to life after college,” Harshman said in an e-mail.

There are also concerns regarding the scholarship aspect of this proposal.

“Why should I, as a student, be forced to pay into a segregated fee that will help pay for the schooling of another student,” Harshman said.

The Chancellor is going to the Board of Regents Dec. 17 for analysis of the proposal. Once the Board has finalized the proposal, they will bring it to Madison on Feb. 10 to get

it approved.

Van Galen said he wants every step of this process to be a collaborative effort between the students, the Board of Regents and the administrators. The Chancellor wants student engagement in this process to see if students are in support of the increase in differential tuition or not.

Concerns or comments about the proposal may be e-mailed to the Chancellor at dean.vangalen@uwrf.edu or to Student Senate President Leigh Monson at leigh.monson@uwrf.edu. Monson also said students are more than welcome to come to a Senate meeting and voice their opinions. Senate meetings are held 7 p.m. every Tuesday in the Willow River Room located in the University Center.

Monoxide: Law requires mandatory home detector installation

from page 1

and even death.

Carbon monoxide is still the leading cause of unintentional poisoning deaths in America, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Approximately every nine minutes, a fire department in the U.S. responds to a residential carbon monoxide poisoning, according to CCFS.

Beth Bejcek, a former student at UW-River

Falls, is a staunch supporter of carbon monoxide detectors. Bejcek’s dad, stepmother and brother moved into an older home in St. Croix Falls two years ago. Soon after moving in, they began to experience symptoms.

“They all started getting headaches, and my mom and brother went to the doctor,” Bejcek said. “The doctor gave them both a blood test, and the results showed carbon monoxide present in their blood.”

The culprit was the fuel-burning boiler in

the basement, which had cracked and was releasing the carbon monoxide. The building inspector and the heating company had inspected the home on several occasions but noticed nothing wrong with the boiler, Bejcek added.

Upon receiving the news, the Bejcek family immediately bought two detectors, one for each floor of their home.

Carbon monoxide detectors cost anywhere from \$20 to \$40. The plug-in and battery

operated detectors will be cheaper than the interconnected carbon monoxide detectors. Displaying the latest technology, the interconnected detectors are wireless and work in concert with a smoke alarm to alert of a fire or of carbon monoxide gas in the air.

Once the bill becomes law in February, Wisconsin will join 24 other states that also have laws requiring carbon monoxide detectors in residences.

Facebook: Students present research findings at undergraduate research gala

from page 1

Physical and Health Education students and Exercise and Sport Science students, said Allyn.

The group collectively selected this topic because the amount of time spent on computers has seemed to limit young people's physical activity and overall performance, said Harmon.

“This research affects people and their everyday life,” Lambach said.

According to Facebook, there are over 500 million people registered with the networking website; 50 percent of which log onto their profiles daily.

The Facebook and GPA findings were introduced to the public in the Falcon's Nest on Nov. 17 at the Society for Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity gala.

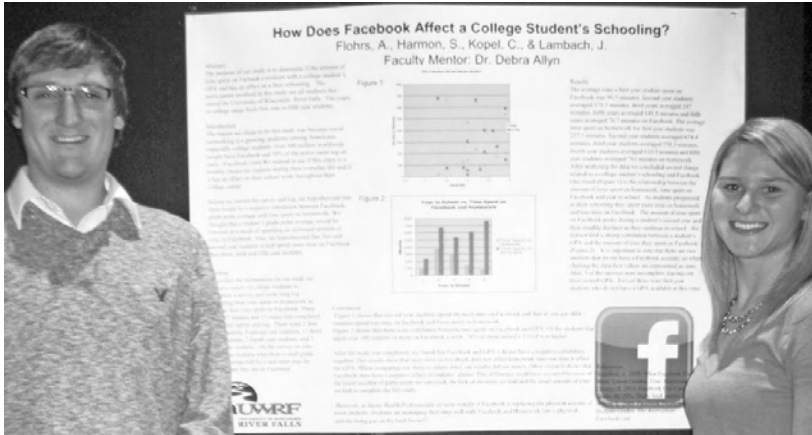
At the gala, students exhibit their undergraduate research. Some of the students work with professors and others work independently, said SURSCA faculty adviser, Timothy Lyden.

The researchers findings were met with positive reviews.

“They did a good job and they worked hard,” Allyn said.

Student Aaron Bergman said that he thought the Facebook and GPA relationship findings were a good start towards researching the issue. He didn't expect to see a negative correlation between the two.

“As time goes on, more time is devoted to homework,” he said.



Tennae Maki/Student Voice
Students report study findings at the SURSCA gala Nov. 17 in the Falcons Nest. The study followed Facebook habits of UWRF students.

UWRF athletes to mentor, give back to community during Kids’ Night Out

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Kids in the River Falls community will have an opportunity to play games and hang out with UW-River Falls student athletes this Sunday at Karges Center from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The second annual Kids’ Night Out event is put on by The Student Athlete Advisory Committee and coordinated by Student Senate Athletic Representative Ricky Hoffman.

Some of the activities that are planned for the event include a four square tournament, floor hockey, basketball, movies and arts and

crafts, said Hoffman.

The target age group for the event is first through fifth graders so Hoffman sent out brochures to the area elementary schools advertising the event.

Last year there were around 40 kids at the event and Hoffman said he is hoping for the same or greater turn out on Sunday.

This Sunday’s event is not only a way for student athletes to mentor kids to become future leaders but it is also a way to give back to the community, said SAAC President Colleen Kopel.

“We feel that it’s important for athletes to

give back to the community. The community helps support us during our athletic events and this is a way to show our thank yous.”

It is mandatory for all the SAAC representatives to attend the event, said Kopel.

The NCAA has made it a requirement that all member institutions have a SAAC at their universities, according to the NCAA website.

A way SAAC directly impacted the community of River Falls was on Halloween. As part of a long running event, around 250 student athletes went out into the River Falls neighborhoods to trick or treat for canned

goods. The student athletes raised 3,205 pounds of food, which set a record in non-perishable food collecting. The food was sent to the River Falls Community Food Pantry.

Director of Athletics Roger Ternes, stresses the importance of the SAAC.

“It is invaluable to give back to the community that supports intercollegiate athletics. It is a great way to engage young, collegiate adults with special athletic skills to use their "celebrity" status in humanistic endeavors.”

WRFW's

Fall 2010

On-Air

Loudest Organization on Campus

88.7 WRFW 88.7

River Falls, WI

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.	Ryen 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

Can't make it to the game?

Listen to Falcon Sports on WRFW

EDITORIALS

Students should continue to give without incentive

There are many benefits to being charitable. What seems as the most popular benefit lately is winning prizes or recieving something of monetary value in return.

This weekend, students and the community have a chance to help the hungry, win prizes and watch a great hockey game as both men and women’s will be collecting donations for the River Falls Food Pantry. For each item donated, participants will be entered in a raffle for prizes.

River Falls Municipal Utilities is also providing incentives to support the River Falls Food Pantry sponsoring a non-food household and toiletry product drive. Except for being entered in a raffle, RFMU will exchange a compact fluorescent light bulb for donations.

While these types of incentives to donate work incredibly well, isn’t the main point of charity to help your fellow man?

Don’t our parents and all the classic holiday stories made into movies like “A Christmas Carol” teach us that personal gain of wealth isn’t what matters most. Good feelings that come from helping others should be the driving incentive.

Feeling that your actions and the choices you make actually have effects on other people in the world can be an empowering thought.

Even though as college students we have a significant amount of student loans and may not have jobs, we’re doing better than many.

According to the Miniature Earth Project, if you have a roof over your head, keep your clothes in a closet, sleep in a bed and keep food in a refrigerator, you are richer than 75 percent of the world population.

If you can afford to buy an ice cream treat at Dairy Queen, you can afford to give \$3 to any cause. Remember, there are many different chairites to donate to. You can decide where your money goes. Whether it stays here helping Americans, helps those oversees possibly in Haiti or to a church or a secular organization; a little bit can go a long way.

Chairity can also take the form of volunteering and doesn’t have to cost you any money at all.

This holiday season, consider taking your family to help at a soup kitchen or wraping gifts to donate with your family rather than giving each other items that you don’t need or that will only collect dust in the back corner of the closet.

Please, support in any way you can. You can even enjoy that CFL lightbulb or the sweatshirt you won at the hockey game by donating, but don’t stop there.

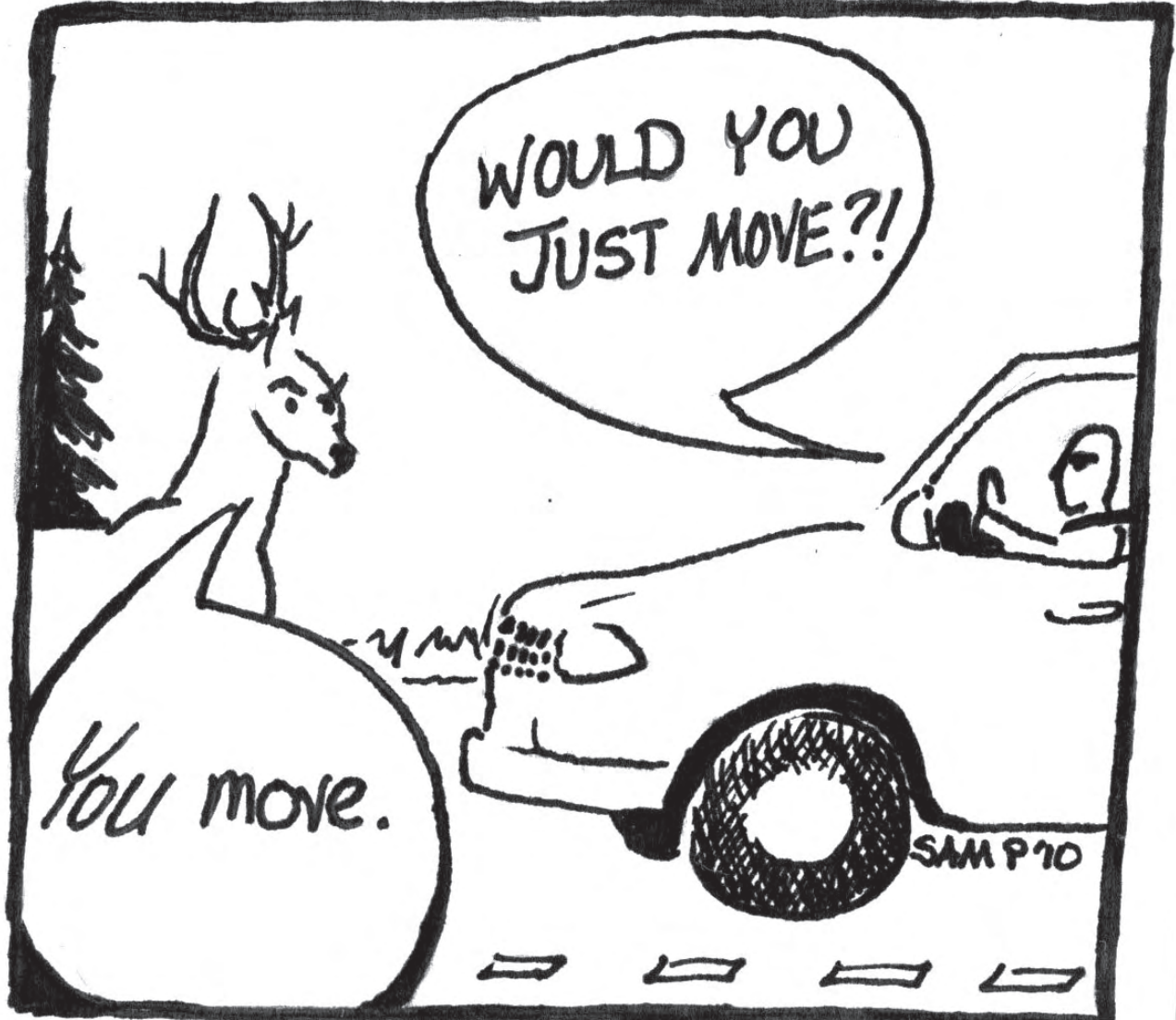
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Sam Powell/Student Voice

Counselor offers difficult time tips



Mark Huttemier

- Exercise reduces stress and fends off depression.
- Volunteering is an anti-depressant.
- A hobby is an energizing obsession.
- Learn from your past—don’t live there.
- You can think about the future but you can’t live there. Be present.
- Slow down. Do one thing at a time and watch anxiety disappear.
- Bad feelings get better when you start to speak about them.
- Exercise teaches your body and mind how to handle stress.
- Practice saying “NO” so you can be your own person.
- Listening to others is an act of love. Judge less/speak less.
- Needy people unintentionally push friends away.
- Suicidal thinking means you are depressed. Get help and feel safe again.
- Be proactive. Turn thoughts into action.
- Mistakes are how you learn. Make them.
- Choice—you always can make change in your life.
- Don’t make drugs and alcohol the most important thing in your life.
- It’s ok to feel lonely once in a while.
- Accept yourself separate from your accomplishments.
- Practice acceptance of the duality (good and bad) in others and yourself.
- Be flexible and you will survive change.
- Cynicism is what passes for insight amongst the mediocre.
- Worrying about things doesn’t stop them from happening.
- Avoidance of difficult things only works in the short-term.
- Emotional dependency makes slaves out of us—trust yourself.
- Suffering through hard times will make us wiser.
- Living well is the best revenge.
- Vacations work.
- Who am I/why am I here = Spirituality.
- Give to givers, retreat from takers.
- Conquer your fears and start living.

Call 715-425-3884 to make a free and confidential appointment with a licensed UWRF Student Mental Health Counselor

Mark is a Student Mental Health Counselor here at UW- River Falls.

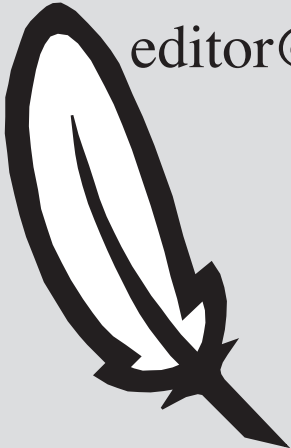
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The first person to report the find to editor@uwrfvoice.com AFTER 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 3 wins.



Last week’s winner: Laura Chandler

Contradictions, paradoxes riddle networking giant



Ashley Cress

If you are one of the millions living in a world called the internet, perhaps you have encountered the beloved monster that is Facebook. Alright, more appropriately phrased, unless you have been living under a rock, you have undoubtedly heard of and probably use Facebook. Possibly your parents have asked you time and again to explain the importance of checking your page. Maybe they have even asked why you are so obsessed with such a website. Have you ever actually stopped and thought about the answer? After reading a column supposedly (but not) written by yours truly in Volume seven of the Student Voice back in October, I have been thinking about social networks, both their pros and their cons. After much contemplation, I have discovered many contradictions.

Facebook connects people. Easily being able to keep in touch with old friends, distant cousins and camp buddies is an act that we as people of the 21st century should regard as a luxury. No longer is postage and paper the only way to connect; no more is telephoning the only way to talk. Have you ever reminisced with friends, telling a story of a childhood pal, only to be left wondering what that pal is up to today? In the past, it would have been nothing but a thought. Now we can find the answer. And here is where I come to the first contradiction.

Yes, Facebook connects us, but in doing so, our privacy is lessened. You may have hilarious stories of that childhood pal, but maybe they remember the same stories with disdain.

Perhaps your “pal” doesn’t want you in their life anymore. Luckily for them, there is such thing as privacy settings and the option to not “friend” them.

And how informative is Facebook? Getting and receiving information is dangerously simple now. Exchanging thoughts, showing videos and posting pictures are all exchanged effortlessly. Imagine sitting at lunch with friends as you discuss a movie you just saw on ABC Family. “Overall it was pretty lame,” you say. “But then there was this one scene that was freaking hilarious!” You continue to describe the scene, and your friends’ unsmiling faces make you realize that it was a you-had-to-be-there moment. Later that afternoon, you post the scene on their Facebook pages so they understand. Without Facebook how would you avenge your momentary embarrassment at lunch? The information you discover on Facebook can save you money too. If so-and-so hadn’t posted that Jimmy Johns was doing one dollar subs, I probably would not have found out until the next day and would have been severely depressed that I missed such a deal.

However, I could have done without so-and-so posting about her messy break-up, and I’m willing to bet that I am not the only one. So your boyfriend (well, ex-boyfriend) is a lying cheater; we understand why you are angry. Caps lock and 50 exclamation points aren’t going to change anything, except maybe my opinion of you. Do us all a favor and keep a journal. Paradox two: Facebook can be informative, but can also give too much information.

The internet does give people a voice. Last semester I was enrolled in an online class and to get credit for it we had to

engage in online discussions. Our online discussions were very different compared to those of a typical classroom discussion. Without the presence of peers, people found it easier to illustrate their opinions, which eliminated having to deal with others trying to talk over them or get emotional. Everyone had their say, unlike in classroom discussions, where usually only the same students speak. Some students online wrote some pretty extreme opinions. I wonder to this day if they had been asked to explain their controversial beliefs, would they have spoken so strongly out loud or would they have been quiet? Would they have been reluctant to support what they had written online? If so, then social networking sites like Facebook would reveal a third irony: they give people the prospect to speak up online, but offline they also have the ability to silence them.

After comparing the good and the bad aspects of Facebook, the question to be asked is thus: is Facebook really worth our time? Depending on who you ask, the answer will be either yes or no. Although that is not much of an answer, it is the truth; to each their own. Our parents may never understand the obsession, but honestly, who cares? Millions of people across the globe think it is perfectly acceptable and how could so many be wrong? Yes, there are some issues, but the fact is that the users of Facebook make this social networking thing possible by simply logging on. The problems that arise are their own doing and they can only accept the consequences, as they do.

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

STUDENT VOICES

Do you enjoy winter time activites?
Which ones do you participate in?

Nikki Shonoiki, senior



“Heck no! It is cold outside! I think I may be allergic to cold.”



David James Lay, junior

“I like ice skating and skiing, and I have been doing each for about four to five years.”

Jessie Behrman, senior



“I run, since I am in track. I also ski and snowboard.”



Hunter Winey, sophomore

“We have our annual snow football game outside of Hathorn.”

Brian Burton, sophomore



“I like sledding and, of course, the annual snow football game.”



Ariel Wenig, freshman

“Snowball fights and snowmen.”

Student Voices compiled by Hannah Lenius

Changes to US domestic monetary policy creates international tension



Jason Larson

I am really bothered by all of this news about Germany and China freaking out about our domestic monetary policy. For those of you who are unaware of what is going on, basically, the Fed decided to invest \$600 billion into the U.S. economy which is known as expansionary monetary policy. Since you most likely are not an expert in economics--neither am I for that matter--expansionary monetary policy is the Federal Reserve purchasing U.S. debt which is more commonly known as printing money. The effect of this is a greater supply of money which creates a downward pressure on the dollar’s value.

What this does for our economy is actually beneficial in our current situation. The U.S. is currently facing two problems: we have high unemployment and a large deficit. This improves both because as the dollar loses value our exports will be relatively cheaper. This has the same effect on domestic purchasing because products produced in the United States will also be relatively cheaper than those abroad, thus creating further incentives for people to buy American.

It is really surprising that there would be any domestic debate over this because more people buying American, or at least goods produced in America, creates more jobs, which we really need right now. This also does much to improve our trade balance which, as you probably could imagine, is

quite unbalanced. Of course, as many nations have found out, this is no miracle cure. There are two draw backs.

The first drawback is, if pursued too aggressively, expansionary monetary policy can lead to out of control inflation. Think wheelbarrows of money to buy a loaf of bread. This scenario is it is extremely unlikely. The dollar is the most popular, most pervasive form of currency in the world, with countries even forgoing their own currency to adopt the dollar. The United States Treasury produced more than \$219 billion in currency last year; almost \$21 billion replaced currency taken out of circulation. You expect me to believe that another \$600 billion is going to lead to the general collapse of our entire financial system? Not likely.

The second drawback is foreign policy related. The more the United States pursues this policy, the angrier export orientated countries such as China and Germany become. Frankly, I have a hard time caring. China is notorious for manipulating their currency and China and Germany both are dependent on American consumers to purchase their products. I fail to see how Germany expects unemployed American consumers to purchase a Jetta.

Why in the world are people criticizing the Federal Reserve for undertaking policies that make basic economic sense? Moreover, why are people making this into a political issue? The Federal Reserve is a non-political entity. Its members are not elected, they are appointed. Finally, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke was a Bush appointee and an exceptionally qualified one at that, making any reflection of his policies on Obama absolutely ridiculous.

Jason is an International Studies major. He is interested in the Middle East and Asia, and enjoys intramural athletics.



Darielle Dahnke/Student Voice

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Falcon women's basketball earns victory



Sally King/Student Voice
Above: UWRF cheerleaders root on the Falcons during Wednesday's game. Left: Falcon women's basketball still lead the all time series with their 78-58 win against the UW-Superior Yellowjackets Wednesday night at Karges Center. Below Left : UWRF dance team entertains the crowd during the halftime show. Below Right: Lucas Mueller and Paul Schreiner sell concessions to the crowd.



Minnesota sports need more than Christmas wish list



Ashley Goettl

The holidays are fast approaching, and since the world of Minnesota sports cannot separate their dreams from reality, I thought it would be appropriate to make a Christmas wish list for them.

Let me start with Mr. Brett Favre.

For Christmas, all he wants is a nice retirement home with unlimited texting. But, since dear Mr. Favre has been naughty, all he will receive is a walker and his fourth retirement

party — but this is the final straw. For the sake of us all, please retire!

Ahh, and who could forget Mr. Brad Childress. All he wants for Christmas is to collect his unemployment benefits, courtesy of the Green Bay Packers. My only question is, why didn't they fire you weeks ago?

After all, the Vikings only made Chilly look even sillier after the first game without him saw Interim Head Coach Leslie Frazier and company beating a team that neither the Packers nor the Bears could beat.

It is a shame that so much talent went to waste. However, Santa might be nice to you; he will let you go to a retirement home right next to Favre. That way, the two of you canicker to the very end.

But Santa does know the inner desires of every team, including the Green Bay Packers. Dear Aaron Rodgers, all he wants is a

ring. However, Rodgers is playing with the big boys now, and he won't see that ring for at least five more years. While Rodgers' performance against the Vikings was certainly admirable, it is the closer games against play-off contenders where Rodgers falters and comes up short. Fumbling on the 1-yard line against the Falcons has dropped the Packers to eighth place. So for this Christmas, Rodgers will be receiving a lump of coal, because he cowers in the face of adversity.

The final Christmas wish is for the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome, also known as the Humpty Dump. While you have been very kind, especially to the Minnesota Twins, it is time for the Vikings to find a better place.

This Christmas will be your final as the capital of Minnesota sports. The Metrodome is the only stadium in the world to have hosted all of the following: the NFL Super Bowl,

1992; Major League Baseball's All-Star Game, 1985; two World Series, 1987 and 1991; and the Final Four of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship, 1992 and 2001. The Metrodome's time, just like Favre's, is about to expire. There is no doubt in my mind that the people of Minnesota will come through for a new stadium, but my only plea is to please have a retractable roof. This is more than likely not to happen, but nevertheless, this is a Christmas list.

The world of Minnesota sports never ceases to amuse me. It tears at all of my emotions. But hopefully Santa will hear my plea, because unlike Randy Moss, I don't ask for much!

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 ends losing streak against UW-Eau Claire



Robert Silvers

used career best performances from three of their seniors to gain the win.

Ryan Luessenheide had the best performance of his career as he tossed the ball for 375 yards and 5 touchdowns. Joe Ganske had over 200 yards receiving, and Keith Lofgren played shut down defense at the cornerback position.

Underclassmen Chad Blair and Brady Hannigan also had big days for the Falcons as Blair was six for six on extra

The Falcon football team broke through for their first and only win of the 2010 season Saturday, Nov. 13 with a 45-42 upset win at UW-Eau Claire. The Falcons

point attempts. Blair also tacked on a 28 yard field goal in the second quarter. Hannigan hauled in three of Lussenheide's touchdown passes including the game winner.

Blair and Lussenheide both earned WIAC Player of the Week awards for their efforts. Greg Klingelhut also earned accolades for his play this season as his 127 kick-return yards on Saturday setting the Division III kick return record for a single season with 1017 yards.

With the win Head Coach John O'Grady took over sixth place all-time in wins with 105, moving past UW-Eau Claire's Link Walker. For O'Grady it was the final win in a twenty-two year run as the Falcon's head coach.

It was nice to see the Falcons avoid going 0-10 for the first time in history, and it took a full team effort. Nobody gave up on this game and they turned it into a win. Unlike earlier in the season, the Falcons came out and threw the ball when behind, and it paid off in a big way.

Luessenheide's 375 yards not only earned him a WIAC Offensive Player of the Week Award, but it also put him down

in the Falcon football record books. The 375 yards are the most in team history by a Falcon quarterback. The record was previously held by current Falcons Assistant Coach Storm Harmon who threw for 340 yards in 2007 against UW-La Crosse.

Five Falcons were named to All-WIAC teams. Running backs Taylor Edwards and Klingelhut were named to the first offensive team. Offensive lineman Joe Gotmer and corner back Keith Lofgren made the honorable mention teams for offense and defense respectively. Tight end Patrick Houlton was named to the All-Sportsmanship team.

The Falcons finished their season 1-9 overall, and 1-6 in the WIAC. It was the final game for O'Grady who finished his career 105-112-3.

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 lost their weekend series 1-2 and 1-3 against St. Norbert. Falcon Sean Roadhouse scored his first goal of the season. They play Lake Forest College starting at 7:05 tonight in Hunt Arena.

Women's Basketball

The Falcons earned a victory against Martin Luther College 99-78. Falcon Alise Holst led the team by scoring 18 points. Next, the Falcons take on UW-Stevens Point at 5 p.m. Saturday in the Karges Center.

Women's Hockey

The Falcons beat St. Olaf 6-2 last Tuesday night. The Falcons outshot St. Olaf 51-18. They take on UW-Eau Claire at 7 tonight in Eau Claire.

Men's Basketball

UWRF men's basketball lost 59-63 against the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas last Saturday. Falcon Shane Manor led the team by scoring 23 points. They play UW-Stevens Point at 3 p.m. Saturday in the Karges Center.

WIAC Standings

Men's Basketball			Women's Basketball			Men's Hockey		
School	WIAC	Overall	School	WIAC	Overall	School	WIAC	Overall
UW-Whitewater	0-0	2-1	UW-Oshkosh	0-0	5-2	UW-Eau Claire	1-3	5-4
UW-Stevens Point	0-0	3-0	UW-Eau Claire	0-0	3-2	UW-Superior	3-1	5-3
UW-Oshkosh	0-0	2-2	UW-Whitewater	0-0	3-1	UW-River Falls	2-2-0	3-5-1
UW-Platteville	0-0	4-1	UW-Platteville	0-0	3-4	UW-Stevens Point	0-2	4-5
UW-Stout	0-0	3-2	UW-Stevens Point	0-0	4-1	UW-Stout	2-0	7-3
UW-Eau Claire	0-0	3-2	UW-River Falls	1-0	5-1			
UW-La Crosse	0-0	3-4	UW-La Crosse	0-0	6-0			
UW-River Falls	0-0	4-2	UW-Stout	0-0	3-3			
			UW-Superior	0-0	3-1			

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Action film loses fizz as secondary characters divert away from plot



Michael Brun

It’s ironic that a movie called “Faster” actually slows down as it progresses. What starts as an efficient revenge thriller branches out into a complex character study of morality and forgiveness. However, while I may have been chanting, “Faster, Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson! Kill! Kill!” by the film’s midpoint, the unexpected final act makes the slower parts worthwhile. The premise of “Faster” is standard revenge movie fare. Johnson is forced to watch as his bank robber brother is murdered by a disgruntled crew. He vows bloody revenge before getting shot execution style and left for dead. But he gets better— and, after a decade of training courtesy of the California Department of Corrections—he sets off to layeth the smacketh down on the unsuspecting thugs. I was nervous going into “Faster” that I would not be able to take Johnson seriously in an action movie. The last time we saw him in a starring role, he was pranc-

ing around with feathery wings in “Tooth Fairy.” But what I saw on the screen was a far cry from the lighthearted, eyebrow-raising Rock of recent years. His new look is the very image of sullen rage; he is a brooding behemoth that looks like he could snap a man’s spine like a twig. In a world where actors like Adrien Brody and Channing Tatum can pass as action heroes, it is refreshing to see the kind of unrealistically buff leading man of yesteryear. Although Johnson’s quest for revenge is the core of the movie, it fights for screen time with the stories of two side characters. First is a detective (Billy Bob Thornton) charged with bringing Johnson to justice. Second is a murder-for-hobby assassin (Oliver Jackson-Cohen) hired by an unknown client to put an end to Johnson’s killing spree. These secondary characters attempt to add substance to an otherwise one-note plot, but the results are a mixed bag. For instance, Thornton’s detective is a walking cliché. Going down the list: he is a drug addict,

has an estranged wife and is only a few days away from retirement. Meanwhile, Jackson-Cohen never manages to fit in with the rest of the cast. His outrageous character—an ultra-rich adventurer that became a hitman out of boredom—feels out of place in this otherwise restrained movie. My biggest beef with these characters is the amount of time they take away from the main plot. As the movie cuts away from Johnson to further develop the supporting cast, it begins to lose its drive and focus. Their buildup pays off when the three main characters meet in a not too subtle “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly” homage, but it is almost not worth the effort getting there. Ultimately, “Faster” is little more than proof of Dwayne Johnson’s ability to star in an action movie. It has a polished presentation and moments of real entertainment, but this grim and haphazard tale is far from required theater viewing for action fans. It’s still worthy of your consideration, but save it for a rental instead.



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.

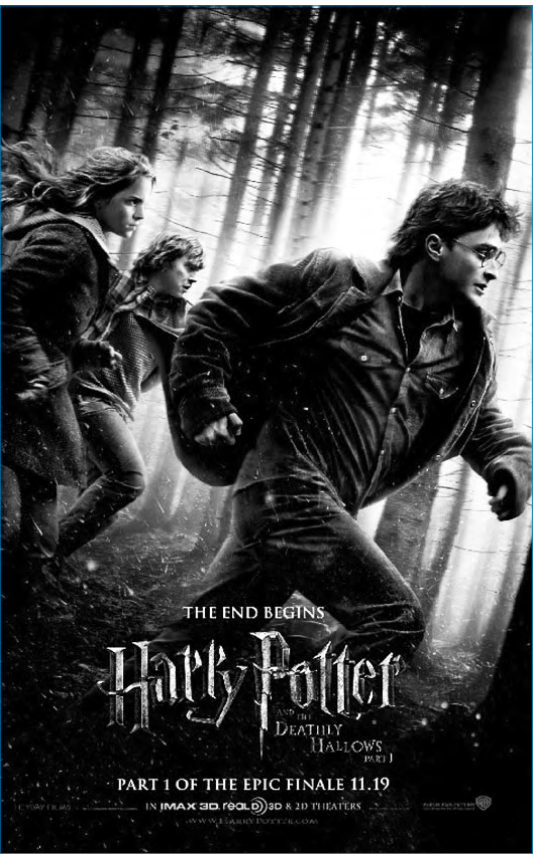
Harry Potter generation connects film, books as series nears end



Anthony Orlando

another Harry Potter movie coming out sometime soon, or standing outside a movie theater for several hours in a bathrobe with permanent marker scribbled on your forehead, while waving a stick, screaming gibberish at strangers. For those of you concerned with the actual artistic merit of the film, here’s what I thought of it—which may or may not have anything to do with artistic merit. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1, covers the first half of the seventh installment in the HP series. With the final good vs. evil showdown looming, Harry, Ron and Hermione continue on their quest to track down and destroy the splinters of Voldemort’s soul scattered around Great Britain. Along the way, it is revealed that Voldemort is on a quest of his own, tracking down the three elements of the Deathly Hallows that will ensure his role as the most powerful wizard in the world. It’s a race against the clock for HP and the gang, as V-mort and his Death Eaters become more powerful by the day. If you have no idea what I’m talking about, then perhaps the first thing you should be aware of, if considering to view this movie, is

that you will be utterly and hopelessly bewildered by the plot if it’s your first experience with the world of Harry Potter. For maximum enjoyment and minimal “WTF is going on?” you’re really going to need to have read all the previous books. I say read the books because my personal experience with the HP movies has been—in a word, disappointing. With the possible exception of the third film, the entire series has felt very contrived to me; the movies have seemed more like a visual accompaniment to the books rather than standalone works with their own personality and unique experience. So how does Part 1 stack up against the rest of the series? It’s a healthy step in the right direction. I was a little rusty with some of the elements of the plot, since I admittedly lost touch with the HP universe in 2007. But I was happily surprised by the quality of this movie. Harry Potter has been a pretty big part of my life. He’s the reason I can tell people that I’ve read an 800-page book in one sitting, and he was probably one of the most influential characters of my childhood. Not to mention that these books have whooped my imagination in ways no hallucinogen—so I speculate— could dream of. This film will not be in the running for best picture, but it sure did remind me of why I used to wait outside the bookstore at 4 a.m. HP fanatic or not, if you’re looking for an absorbing getaway from reality, or your imagination just needs a kick in the pants, go see this movie.



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.

Band transforms slow start to beautiful masterpiece



Rylen Kleiser

In a world full of dreadfully awful music, exceptions occasionally exist. LCD Soundsystem meets this exception and may even set the industry standard. The perfect brilliance of James Murphy, the lead singer, is in full view after just one listen to LCD Soundsystem’s ‘This Is Happening’. Simply put, the new album is pure musical genius and dance floor dynamite. If you have every listened to any song from LCD Soundsystem, you’ll know that each song has a tendency to build into purely epic jams that normally start off a bit slow, but eventually transform into something beautiful and, at times, remarkably moving. This fact alone leaves me nearly always wanting more: I find myself feinding not for a cigarette or a beer, but just a good helping of some LCD Soundsystem. You may laugh, but try them; LCD Soundsystem has a cruel tendency to entrance the listener and leave them hooked. This new album is no different, as it starts off with a tune named none other than

“Dance Yrself Clean.” Believe me, if you like music one bit, you will dance yourself clean. Rather ironically, this track is followed up by the single “Drunk Girls” and is at the very least explicitly fun to listen to. As the tracks progress, a story begins to unravel, starting off with the wild “Dance Yrself Clean,” and finishing with a rather mellow track in “Home.” One can’t help but wonder if this was a planned scheme or just a brilliant coincidence. Recently, LCD Soundsystem had a tour to celebrate this



A musical entrepreneur on the recent LCD Soundsystem in Milwaukee says, “I had only listened to them for about a couple weeks before the show, but the vibe was so captivating, it felt as if I had for years.” LCD Soundsystem has conquered the task of mixing interesting, strong and provocative lyrics with outstanding acoustics. Usually I’m not a fan of longer songs, but their songs were so fantastically layered, I didn’t want them to end.”

In short, as good as the studio albums are, live shows hold nothing back at all. LCD Soundsystem has conquered the task of mixing interesting, strong and provocative lyrics with outstanding acoustics. This creates for one hell of a music experience. “One Touch,” “All I Want” and “Home” are all stand out tracks on this album and exemplify musical perfection seldom seen in today’s times. This album is one for the charts and really ought to win some awards. All in all, if you have the slightest interest in music at all, you really owe it to yourself to give this album a listen. Chances are you won’t be disappointed; in fact, you may just acquire a new favorite band.

Rylen Kleiser is a laid back biology student at UW-River Falls. He is hoping to become a well known marine biologist and teacher.

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