

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS STUDENT VOICE

May 15, 2003

Serving the UW-River Falls community since 1916

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NEWS



Kyle Weaver examines community service learning in a special section.
See A3



Editor gets ready to take a dive, Freddy is unmasked.
See A8

OFFBEAT



Craig Corsten leaves Student Voice, UW-RF.
See A7

Chris Anderson complains about Hollywood—again.
See A7

SPORTS



Falcon tracksters attempt to qualify for national meet.
See A6

Ryan Brinks dishes out the annual Egg Awards.
See A6

VIEWPOINTS

Jen Cullen points out the benefits of road trippin' with her allies.
See A4

Tiffany Shelman discusses Jayson Blair's disgrace to journalism.
See A5

Chuck Sween worries about becoming an uncle.
See A5

Proposed budget cuts raise questions at UW-RF

Kyle Weaver
Viewpoints Editor

In an open meeting with UW-River Falls students, faculty and administration, UW System President Katharine Lyall fielded questions and concerns about the proposed budget cuts last Monday in South Hall.

Lyall, who spent the day visiting the UW-RF campus and dining with students, said anyone doubting the necessity of reducing budget cuts "needs to have the kind of lunch I've had."

Lyall said the group of UW-RF students she dined with "unloaded" on her, asking some very tough questions pertaining to the budget cuts. Lyall called it a "lunch-time well spent."

"This kind of visit helps me understand first-hand the impact cuts will have," Lyall said.

Despite a minimal student turnout, there was no shortage of questions raised by UW-RF faculty and administrators about the proposed budget reductions.

One of the problems Lyall addressed in the meeting was the skepticism legislators seem to have about university representatives.

"The folks at the other end of State Street seem to think we're paid to say what we say," Lyall said. "We are, but most of us happen to believe in it."

Another concern Lyall addressed was whether or not the system will consider moving toward privatization. With the current budget proposal cutting 25 percent of state investment, Lyall said that the System would no longer be able to be "all things to all people."

Whether the System will seek to regionalize some of its programming as a result of the cuts was also a concern raised at the meeting. Lyall said that while there was very little duplication for specialized programs, cuts to such programming are inevitable. But, Lyall said, they are decisions that will have to be made "closer to the ground," in order to have them be the best possible decisions.

"We can't protect students from all the effects of these cuts," Lyall said. "There are no easy choices anymore."



Kyle Weaver / Student Voice
UW-RF faculty members question Katharine Lyall, UW System president, about proposed budget reductions.

Sounds of summer

Maisha Downey /
Student Voice



The UW-RF Chamber Brass Ensemble held an end of the year concert May 13 in the William Abbott Concert Hall in the Fine Arts building. Pictured at left are Elsa Arnold on the horn and Karla Miller on the tuba. Rick Gaynor directed the concert.

Students disciplined following theft of 2,000 newspapers

Jen Cullen
Editor-in-Chief

After pleading no contest to charges under UWS 17 in connection with the theft of more than 2,000 copies of the Student Voice April 24, Ashton Flinders, Christopher Riepe and Robert Wicklund were disciplined May 13 with sanctions per University hearing procedures.

The three students were placed on non-academic disciplinary probation for fall semester 2003.

In addition, Flinders will be on non-academic probation during spring semester 2004. He must also serve 10 hours of community service to the Voice next semester. Flinders' tasks will be determined by Voice adviser Pat Berg and Journalism Department Chair Colleen Callahan.

Student Rebecca Pommier,

Faculty Senate chair Dave Trechter and Academic Success Center director Phil George served on the hearing committee.

After being read a formal letter of charges from the Voice staff and a statement from Flinders, Riepe and Wicklund, committee members were given the opportunity to ask Voice staff and the three students questions.

Flinders, Riepe and Wicklund also provided four character witnesses on their behalf.

After hearing from the character witnesses, the committee members were informed in private by Dean of Students Roger Ballou of each of the students' past disciplinary records at the University. The past record, if any, was considered in determining a sanction.

This is the third hearing the committee has had this year.

Year in review: Budget woes to hockey nationals

Tiffany Shelman
Front Page Editor

As the 2002-03 school year comes to an end, we remember the highlights, the low points and the most memorable events of the past year.

DEATHS

Several people related to UW-RF died during the 2002-03 academic year.

Craig Hendrickson, 20, died Aug. 8 in River Falls from a drug overdose. Hendrickson, a double major in history and political science, strived to become a criminal defense attorney.

Erik Spindler, 20, UW-RF junior, died Nov. 11 from bacterial meningitis.

Spindler's friends said his personality always brought a smile to someone's face. Jennie Schulz, friend of Spindler, said she remembered his smiling face.

"He was always smiling," Schulz said. During winter break two 2001 alumni died in unrelated accidents.

Amanda Anderson, 23, died Jan. 27 near Cottage Grove, Minn. as a result of injuries suffered in a head-on collision with a semi-trailer. Anderson was a resident of St. Paul, Minn. and is survived by family living in Green Bay, Wis.

Matthew Swett, 24, died Jan. 25 from injuries during an accident in Waterloo, Iowa. Swett was living in Cedar Falls, Iowa, with his wife. He was employed as a recruiter from Hamilton College in Cedar Falls.

Retired music professor Bob Samarroto, 69, died Jan. 1 from a heart attack.

Students, faculty, community members, family and friends honored Samarroto at a Feb. 13 poetry reading organized by Jenny Brantley in the English department.

Terri Sampson, 44, died March 10 from injuries suffered in a car accident. Sampson worked in the accounts receivable department for the eSIS project.

BUDGET

Gov. Doyle announced his plan to cut \$250 million from the UW System budget in February.

Doyle capped tuition increases at \$250 a semester over the next four semesters.

CHANGES TO ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Students will return to hit the books two days later than previous years, class periods will increase five minutes and semesters will be equal in length beginning fall semester 2003.

A balanced calendar has been in the works for five years and this year Faculty Senate and Chancellor Ann Lydecker approved changes.

"We are going to have the same number of Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays each semester," Taylor said. "Instructors and students can plan ahead."

MAYOR CHARGED

Mayor Eric Amundsen pleaded not guilty to a misdemeanor battery charge last October for his involvement in a confrontation that involved six people outside a local bar.

The incident took place in the 100 block of S. Main Street and included UW-RF student Robert E. Klingworth.

Amundsen told police he struck Klingworth with a baseball bat when he thought the confrontation turned into a "threatening situation."

Amundsen is scheduled to appear in the Pierce County Courthouse July 7 for a jury trial.

In a separate incident Amundsen was charged March 5 with misdemeanor disorderly conduct following an incident that took place Feb. 12.

The incident, involving City Council member Tom Parent, took place outside Whole Earth Grocery Store.

Amundsen made his initial court appearance March 17.

POLL RATING WOMEN

An e-mail survey sent to 32 students including 12 current or former varsity athletes asked men to rate female students based on several physical attributes and to make nominations for "Hottie of the Year."

A female student who was written about in a previous e-mail said the recipient list included up to 700 people based on past voting results.

All of the 32 students listed on the recipient list met with UW-RF coaches and administrators and said they were unaware their names were on the list and didn't want anything to do with it.

"To me, it's the worst of what you want male students doing with their time," said Roger Ballou, dean of students. "It's exactly what the University doesn't stand for," he said.

CHARGES AND CONVICTIONS

Former student William Banholzer, 21, was charged with reckless homicide in the Aug. 8 death of Craig Hendrickson, 20.

Hendrickson died Aug. 8 from an apparent heroin overdose. Pierce County Assistant District Attorney Russ Berg said Banholzer was charged with first degree reckless homicide because he provided an illegal drug to Hendrickson, who died after consuming that drug.

The homicide charge carries a maximum 60-year prison sentence and was one of six criminal charges against Banholzer in connection with Hendrickson's death.

Brian Busby, 19, a UW-RF student was charged with misdemeanor battery following an incident with a public safety officer Sept. 27.

Busby allegedly shoved UW-RF Public Safety Officer Dave Kuether against a dorm room wall in Johnson Hall. Busby was scheduled to appear in a pretrial hearing in Pierce County District Court on Nov. 4. He could face a fine up to \$10,000 and/or a nine-month prison sentence.

UW-RF student Joanne Sander, 18, was charged Oct. 8 with 14 misdemeanor counts including criminal damage to property, entry into a locked vehicle and misdemeanor theft. The charges are in connection with a series of vehicle vandalism in a River Falls parking lot.

The maximum penalty for Sander if convicted is \$10,000 and/or nine months in jail.

Bobby Salas, 20, Hudson, was convicted Oct. 25 of second-degree sexual assault with use of force and aggravated battery felonies, both stemming from the rape of a 21-year-old female on the UW-RF campus one year ago.

The Pierce County jury found Salas guilty following the two-and-a-half day trial.

Salas was sentenced Jan. 13 to 18 years in prison and 10 years probation.



DESPITE SETBACK WOMEN'S AND MEN'S HOCKEY GO TO NATIONALS

The UW-RF women's hockey team faced forfeiture of three victory games because of an ineligible player.

Forward Courtney Canniff didn't have enough academic credits to be eligible as a junior athletically. The NCAA mandates that student athletes must have earned a minimum of 48 credits to participate in a third season of varsity competition. Canniff completed 39.

UW-RF Athletic Director Rick Bowen said Canniff's case was rare and four people missed the ineligibility.

Despite the setback of an ineligible player, the women's hockey team made it to the frozen four where they took fourth place.



WAR AFFECTS STUDENTS

A declaration of war by President Bush in late March left UW-RF with 12 less students. The students withdrew from the University following activation orders and reported to assigned locations.

The campus and River Falls communities both joined together for opposing causes, also following a war declaration.

Two groups participated in rallies on either side of Main St., River Falls representing both peace and the troops in Iraq.

Both groups said they planned to continue meeting until troops are sent home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don't forget textbooks are due May 23 by 8 p.m. before fines will be charged. If you need to extend the deadline, stop by textbook services before the due date. For more information regarding returns and pickups, stop by textbook services.

The bookstore will buy back books until May 23. The value of your book is determined by demand. Stop by the Bookstore and see what your books are worth.

Tickets are available for the Kansas City Chiefs vs. Green Bay Packers 2003 Hall of Fame game. This event is August 2 to 4 at the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton, Ohio. For more information visit www.uwrf.info/chiefs/ or www.profootballhof.com.

Unique Summer Jobs with the Kansas City Chiefs training camp. There are openings for courier positions and a volunteer/guest services coordinator. If interested or have any questions, contact Mary Halada at mary.l.halada@uwrf.edu.

Graduation regalia is available at the bookstore. Stop by and pick up your graduation cap and gown.

Student job opportunities with athletic teams for fall semester. If interested contact Kevin Bullis at 425-3138 or via e-mail at kevin.w.bullis@uwrf.edu.

EVENTS

A Car Bash to relieve some of you stress during finals week is May 20 in the J-Lot, circle lot by Student Center from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Stress Reduction Center (formerly MASH) is May 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Falcons Nest, Student Center. There will be free massages, ice cream, root beer and much more. To relieve some stress, stop by and join the fun.

Come to the eco-friendly car wash Friday May 16 from noon to 6 p.m. behind Econo Foods. All proceeds go to a northeast regional field trip for geology majors.

CORRECTIONS

A student senator's name was misspelled in the article entitled "Faculty Senate agrees on 8 new evaluation areas" on page A1 of the May 8 issue. It should have been Nick Cluppert, not Clupper.

In an article entitled "Artists, state help keep tattooing safe" on page A3 of the May 8 issue, it was incorrectly stated that individual tattoo artists don't have to be licensed by the state, when in fact they do.

Top CAFES student, professor honored

Leslie Shuler
News Editor



Erin Peterson

Erin Peterson of Frederic, Wis., was named the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) Outstanding Senior and Stan Schraufnagel, agricultural economics professor, was named the CAFES Outstanding Faculty Member. The awards were presented at the annual CAFES awards banquet earlier this month.

Outstanding Senior

Peterson, who is majoring animal science-dairy option with a minor in chemistry, has maintained a 4.0 grade point average during the past four years and has fulfilled the requirements for the UW-River Falls honors program.

Working on research projects with the UW-River Falls Chemistry Department faculty and with University of Minnesota animal scientists has influenced Peterson to attend graduate school for dairy cattle nutrition. Currently, she has research fellowship offers at Pennsylvania State University and Cornell University.

"She is an individual we will be proud to count among our alumni," said Thomas Goerke, animal science professor and Peterson's academic advisor.

While in college, Peterson has been involved with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Horseman's Association and regional competition in the Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon. She also serves as an emergency medical technician and a Polk County 4-H leader, as well as volunteering



Stan Schraufnagel

with various other organizations.

"I'd like to thank the faculty and my fellow students for the four great years that I spent here and all of the support they've given me," Peterson said.

Outstanding Faculty Member

Schraufnagel received his bachelor's degree from UW-Whitewater and earned his master's degree and a doctorate in agricultural economics from Iowa State University. He began his teaching career at UW-River Falls in 1983.

"He works hard at learning new materials for his courses," said colleague Lewis May, agricultural economics professor. "He puts significantly more time into preparing for classes than anyone I have ever met."

He was involved with the Wisconsin in Scotland program in 2000, where he taught courses in microeconomics.

Previously, Schraufnagel has held a part-time extension appointment as a farm management specialist. In this role he has served as a state leader and advocate for the advocate for the FINPACK program, a farm financial planning and analysis system.

In 2002 he was recognized as the UW-River Falls Advisor of the Year in 2002. Schraufnagel has also served on many college and university committees and served as an advisor for the UW-River Falls Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity.

As the 2003 recipient, Schraufnagel received a certificate from the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA). He was also awarded \$250 from the CAFES Alumni Association.

Public Safety

Underage drinking continues, fines issued

Aaron Kenealy
Staff Writer

May 13 a plastic sign cover was broken in the east stairwell of Stratton Hall. The cover was valued at \$25.

—May 9 a parking attendant noticed two vehicles with parking permits that did not fit the vehicle description. After relaying this information to Public Safety it was found that Christopher W. Beaber, 18, and William J. Olsen, 19, had switched parking permits. Both were then fined \$256 for misuse of parking services.

—An RA called Public Safety May 10 after spotting someone staggering into a room. Upon arriving at the room, 413 McMillan Hall, officers

noticed the smell of alcohol and contacted the individuals inside. Natalie L. Johnson, 18, Kayla K. Johnson, 18, and John D. Ward, 19, were all cited \$225 for underage consumption after taking a Breathalyzer test. Matthew C. Schreiner, 19, received a \$473 citation for his third offense, but left after giving the officers his information and did not return.

—Police were called May 10 for a noise complaint and possible party in a parking lot off Bartosh Lane. Upon arrival officers saw several people flee the scene and pursued some of them. One of the subjects who was caught was UW-River Falls student Michael K. Sonn, 19. Sonn was uncooperative at first, but then released his information to officers and took a Breathalyzer

test. He was then cited \$410 for third offense underage drinking.

—May 9 Public Safety was notified by an RA to a possible underage drinking situation at 403 May Hall. Officers then found at the scene Jonathan M. Coonen, 19, Kristina L. Lindgren, 19, and Dylan Conway-Tuel, 18. All were given Breathalyzer tests and subsequently cited \$225 for underage drinking.

—Public Safety was called to 321 May Hall after an R.A. noticed a subject stumbling in the hallway. The officers then talked to the subject, Nicholas C. Asmus, 19, and noticed the strong smell of alcohol and slurred speech. He was cited \$225 for underage drinking.

Student Senate

Family day money allocated

Angie Schumacher
Staff Writer

Student Senate passed a motion allocating more than \$16,000 to fund all activities for Family Day, which takes place during fall of the next academic year, Tuesday night in the Regent's Room of the student center.

Funding will come from the University's reserve account.

Finance Director Emily Wenger said the total cost of the event will most likely not reach that amount, but

said the committee must budget for full attendance and cover all potential costs.

Last year the budget was \$13,000 and the total cost was a little more than \$6,000.

In Other Senate News

—A finals week Car Bash held by Student Senate is set for May 20 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is located in the J-lot, the circle lot next to the student center. There is no cost, but students are asked to give feedback about Student Senate in exchange for 'bashing' the car.

The next Student Senate meeting is set for next fall on Tuesday, September 9 at 7 p.m. in the Regent's Room of the student center.

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Have a good summer.

Think about it...

0-5
drinks per week

71% of UWRF students
consume 0-5 drinks per week.

I drink: one shot, one mixed drink, OR one beer
UWRF Core Alcohol and Drug Survey Data March 2002
UWRF Student Health & Counseling Services
Call 425.3755 or 425.3291 for more information.

In the future, community service learning programs such as Don Petzold's playground map painting projects will likely be much more common. Wisconsin Campus Compact hopes to encourage service learning by strengthening communication between universities, educating faculty members, securing grant money for such projects and fostering partnerships with civic organizations.

Editorial

Criticize perpetrator, not messenger

The Student Voice has taken some flak in the past two weeks because of a front-page article that ran about Director of Residential Services Larry Testa. Testa was booked into the St. Croix County Jail April 9 after driving a vehicle while intoxicated.

Newspapers often take the heat when they cover a story some people would rather not hear about. It's important to remember newspapers are merely the messengers. It is the duty of journalists to inform the public. How the public chooses to react to this information is beyond our control. But at least the public is aware.

This particular story was covered on the front page because it involved a high ranking UW-River Falls official who committed a serious offense. If it had been a speeding ticket, no mention would have been made. But when a person with a high level of responsibility at UW-RF shows poor judgement that earns them jail time, it is worth mentioning.

All the information in the article was in the police report of the incident, a public record that anyone has access to. There was no investigating or sensationalizing involved.

Unfortunately, not all news is positive. If Testa's reputation has suffered, he brought it on himself. While what a public official does on his own time is his own business, this particular incident likely affected Testa's ability to do his job. A blood alcohol level of .229 on a Wednesday night will impair anyone's ability to function on Thursday. Instead of being upset with the Voice for reporting these facts, perhaps people should be upset that a high-ranking official conducted himself in a way that disgraced our university. As a public figure, there is no on/off switch for your job title and responsibilities. It may not always be fun or fair, but you are always in the spotlight.

It would be nice for Testa and the UW-RF administration if his actions were swept under the rug and forgotten. But that is not the way it should be.

Remember, it is the role of journalism to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted.

"This particular story was covered because it involved a high ranking UW-River Falls official who committed a serious offense. If it had been a speeding ticket, no mention would have been made."

FDA should regulate unsafe diet pills

Columnist empathizes with fellow dieters who use ephedra to stay thin

The alarm goes off at an obscenely early hour. She rolls out of bed and prepares to start the day. A shower, make-up, and she's out the door by 6:45 a.m. to drive to her 8 a.m. class. She has a tough time staying awake and alert, and by her third consecutive class of the day she is drowsy and hungry. After two weeks of barely making it through class, she starts taking a "pick me up" diet pill available at grocery stores, discount stores and gas stations. Twenty minutes after popping the pills, she feels a burst of energy, and the hunger disappears. Her ability to stay alert increases exponentially and she's dropping the pounds like magic. For several weeks, all seems fine.

Slowly, however, she starts seeing some weird side effects. She starts craving more and more pills. At night, she has a strange, irregular heartbeat. She is experiencing occasional black spots in her vision. An hour into her 8 a.m. class, her hands start to shake, she gets really jumpy and her heart is pounding so hard it feels like it's going to explode. She's not dumb so she begins to figure out what is causing the side effects.

She wants to quit, but every time she tries, she gets nauseous, dizzy and has trouble breathing. Eventually, she is able to slowly quit taking the pills, although they still temp her, especially on tough days. Even months after she totally stops taking them, the irregular heartbeat, vision problems and appetite loss still remain. Yet, she is one of the lucky ones, because she is still alive.

The person I just described was me fall semester of 2001. For an entire semester I took a common "diet and energy booster" containing the "herbal supplement" ephedra. This supplement is available over the counter, and is not regulated in any way by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Despite potential side effects such as anxiety, increased or irregular heart rate, tremors, insomnia, seizures, stroke, and in some cases, hallucinations and psychosis, this drug is still classified as an "herbal supplement" and is subject to no oversight from the FDA. Why not?

Because of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994. This bill, sponsored in chief by Utah Republican Senator Orrin Hatch, states that dietary supplements "cannot be removed from the market unless the FDA successfully challenges their safety in a court of law." In plain English, the manufacturers of these pills are under no obligation to prove that their product is safe before putting them on the market. Instead, it's up to the FDA to prove that they are unsafe, which can only be done with significant proof—such as death. Basically, these pills are considered "safe" until they kill someone. Only after the fact can the FDA step in.

Ephedra is a billion-dollar industry with unlimited potential. Oh, yeah, except for the occasional dying clientele. But don't worry. For every pill-popper who drops dead, there will be two more to take their place, right? These companies don't even have to spend that much on government lobbyists, since their product is not in any danger of being yanked off the market unless the FDA can prove it's unsafe.

Is there a happy ending in sight for this supplement fiasco? Well, maybe. Tommy Thompson, the head of Health and Human Services, has launched his own investigation into ephedra. Will anything come of it? That remains to be seen.

However, while the federal government may not be willing or able to do anything about ephedra, what may have the most effect of the manufacturers is, once again, money.

If you do an Internet search on ephedra, the number of hits you get on lawyers and law firms putting together class-action lawsuits outnumber ephedra wholesalers three to one. Just last November, the largest manufacturer of ephedra-containing diet pills got hit with a \$4.1 million verdict against them, hopefully the first of many. If ephedra manufacturers start losing enough money, eventually they will give up and pull the product from the market.

I'm not going to end this column with any sort of heart-felt plea to other ephedra users to quit now before it's too late or anything like that. Ephedra should be like smoking, a decision best left to the individual. But, at least in the case of smoking, the potential health hazards are well known, not hidden like ephedra was until recently. My goal in this column was to try to bring to light the dangers ephedra poses, and hopefully help people make an informed choice. When I took it, I had no clue what I was getting myself into. Maybe the next user will.

And so ends my first semester as a columnist. Thanks for reading, and see you next fall where I intend to sleep through the majority of my 8 a.m. classes.

BLYTHE CRISWELL

"At least in the case of smoking, the potential health hazards are well known, not hidden like ephedra was until recently."



But how many "someones" have to die before ephedra is considered unsafe in a court of law? Apparently, Vikings player Corey Stringer and Orioles pitcher Steve Bechler, (both of whom suffered ephedra-related symptoms that played a significant role in their deaths) aren't enough. Nor are the 88 ephedra-related deaths that were reported to the FDA since ephedra went on the market. And the 1,500 "adverse event reports" the FDA has received concerning ephedra? Forget about them—the FDA certainly has.

So why can't something be done? Again, like so many other dangerous products that are still on the market, the reason all boils down to money.

Road trips: a necessary college experience

It's go time. After a long semester of sleepless nights (it's not as bad as it sounds; they were worth it), bad grades, flying squirrels and a whole lot of journalism I'm leaving this town full of cows for bigger and better things. It's time for a road trip to the Windy City for my first baseball game at none other than Wrigley Field.

Sounds like fun, except I'm a bit nervous about who I will be spending the seven-hour drive and four-day trip with: three guys with attitudes.

When I think about it on a basic level, I am kind of flattered that I am the only female going on the trip. I get to spend my time with three pretty good-looking guys. Then my journalistic cynicism taps me on the shoulder and slaps me in the face with a dose of reality. I'm thinking there are three reasons anyone thinks it's a good idea I tag along. First off, I was a co-founder of the whole idea so it would be kind of rude not to invite me. Secondly, I've got three bachelors on my hands here—and we're staying in a tent on Lake Michigan. Everyone knows it's always easier to pick up chicks when you have a cute brunette in your group who knows what females like. I'm kind of like bait. OK, I am bait. Thirdly, who better to make fun of than someone of the opposite sex? Yeah, it's going to be really easy for the three studs to gang up on me.

Aside from the fact I'm outnumbered three to one, I still think it's essential for every college kid to go on a road trip at least once. Secrets fly, tempers flare and friendships are made with people you never thought you could stand to spend more than a few hours with.

Without a doubt, there is a lot to learn from a city like Chicago. From what I've heard, Wrigley is one of the most amazing baseball fields ever

built. A number of monumental events have taken place there; the most memorable being Babe Ruth's "called shot" to right field in the 1932 World Series. I'm excited that I will get to say I've been there. Hopefully I will have at least one cool story to use as a conversation starter.

But if Chicago is like any other big city I've heard about or been to, the essence is in the peo-



JEN CULLEN

"If there's one thing I've got going for me it's that my three trip mates each have distinguishing qualities that will get me out of trouble..."

ple and the city life. Big cities are great places to get lost and even greater places to just sit down on a park bench and talk to the person next to you. You'd be surprised at how much you learn. I'm hoping to hear a story that makes me feel like my life isn't as messed up as it appears to be right at this moment.

Most city folk are intimidating and I love that. They learn to live life in the fast lane. They learn to live with an attitude. They see a lot of interesting things they could probably do without. Their personalities are hard and they have attitude. Now those are the kind of people I can deal with; at least I think I can.

Although my story might be a bit different once I hit the streets along with thousands of other people on a mission. It's OK, I will have my boys to protect me.

In River Falls I am sure most people feel comfortable with their surroundings. I know I do. But sometimes you gotta be out of your element to learn something about yourself. And that's probably the most important reason for everyone to take a long trip to a place they've never been.

You think you're tough? Wait until you walk around in the real ghetto for about an hour. You think you like the city? Wait until you see a real homeless person.

I know I'm in for a real treat. If there's one thing I've got going for me it's that my three trip mates each have distinguishing quality that will get me out of trouble when my attitude gets the best of me in the Windy City.

One possesses a pretty good repertoire of mixed martial arts moves in case things get ugly. I know he's dying to actually use them on someone besides a Voice staff member.

Number two has a freaky voice. If I didn't see him every day I'd definitely run from him.

Number three always has an intelligent little quip for every situation. Sometimes they get annoying. I think the quips alone would be enough to fend off a person who wanted to pummel me.

Once go time is over I'll be back in good old River Falls at least for one more year. I think I can handle the cows for a bit longer.

After that it'll be time for another road trip to see what else there is to learn.



STUDENT VOICE

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Letters concerning coverage or content should be directed to: Editorial Board, 304 North Hall, UW-River Falls, 54022.

The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not necessarily represent those of the newspaper's advisor, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

All letters to the editor must be legible and contain a handwritten signature and telephone number.

The Student Voice reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or

space. It also reserves the right to withhold letters.

Unsigned letters will not be published and must include first and last name. Letters to the editor become the property of the Student Voice and cannot be returned. Only one letter per person per week will be accepted. The student retains reprint rights to all published material.

All letters to the editor must be submitted by **Monday at noon** for inclusion in Thursday's edition.

News releases and briefs, display ads, and classified ads must also be submitted **no later than Monday at noon** for inclusion in Thursday's edition.

Single copies of the Student Voice are free. If you wish to purchase additional copies, contact the editor-in-chief. Printing costs are paid for through student fees.

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Journalist’s fabricated stories destroy reputation, career forever

As a journalism student a dark day once again clouded my final weeks of school and it wasn’t because of the tremendous amount of work I look forward to.

Because I am so overwhelmed with other things for classes and I can’t seem to keep up with daily news, I think I was the last person in the journalism world to find out about Jayson Blair, a reporter for The New York Times who recently resigned after an investigation began regarding fabrications and plagiarism in his articles.

I just don’t understand why someone who became so lucky to work at the Times, a very prestigious newspaper, would ruin his career as a journalist forever.

OK, the incidents didn’t begin at the Times and his fabricated stories were probably part of the reason he got the job in the first place but seriously, aren’t journalists already the underdogs? Why put yourself in a black hole forever?

The news of Blair’s resignation and fabricated stories were splashed across the news for the past week. The 27-year-old reporter has been at the Times for four years and, according to the newspaper, 36 of 73 stories



TIFFANY SHELMAN

“As someone who continues to learn the rules and regulations of journalism I question what could have been so bad to make Blair do such a thing.”

There are many things we learn when training to become journalists, to keep ourselves out of messes like these. I know one of the first things I

learned is to attribute quotes to the rightful “owner.” If you use information verbatim from another source give them credit.

I know that Blair is definitely not the first journalist to further his career and ruin it with fabrications and blatant lies. Unfortunately he won’t be the last, but why?

Maybe it has something to do with the morals, ethics and values people have today—money, prestige, the thought of a Pulitzer. There are many more unforeseen reasons, but nothing excuses it.

To put it simply; I feel disgraced that Blair got the chance to work for The Boston Globe and the Times.

I struggle on a daily basis to explain to other people and sometimes myself why what I do is needed and important to the public. I can’t imagine having the feeling that Blair had each night going to bed knowing that he was creating a real disservice to the people, to journalists worldwide and to himself.

I live by something my mother always taught me and I wish every journalist from this point on could, at the very least, do the same: “Lying gets you nowhere and only comes back to bite you in the ass; don’t do it.”

Worries, wonders about being an uncle

Fears about day care system have columnist worried about niece’s future

This summer, I will become an uncle. My brother and sister-in-law are the first of the children in my family to have a child of their own, so it’s a momentous occasion. Already, my parents are buying gifts for their granddaughter-to-be and, I might add, cooler things than I ever had.

I’m excited. “The uncle” is a unique role. In my mind, the uncle is the fun guy. I don’t have to worry about discipline because the parents take care of that. I don’t have to worry about spoiling the kid because the grandparents take care of that. I get to be a buddy. I get to take her for walks and teach her the names of birds and trees and tell her funny stories and give her piggy-back rides when her feet get tired. At least these are the things that go through my mind when I let it wander.

As is usually the case, I’m also worried. My brother and sister-in-law are incredible people who are pretty good at everything they’ve ever done. I don’t doubt that parenting will also be one of their strengths. My worries lie in the variables beyond their control. This is a difficult world to bring a child into, so much so that, during one of my more introspective moments, I decided there’s really only three kinds of people who can bring children into this world: the very brave, the very



CHUCK SWEEN

“I’m excited. The uncle is a unique role. In my mind, the uncle is the fun guy. I don’t have to worry about discipline because the parents take care of that.”

First of all, as I alluded to in my last column, I think children are getting the shaft. Day cares have become a normal way of raising a child and I feel it’s the wrong way. When did humans decide that it wasn’t that important to be personally responsible for the raising of our young?

The idea that a stranger can raise a child as effectively as that child’s parents is completely absurd. I have also heard that children learn essential socialization skills in preschools and day cares. If that were the case, then wouldn’t we have had more social problems in past decades when children weren’t learning these essential social skills in day cares? School shootings are a recent development, ladies and gentlemen. And, yes, there are certainly parents out there doing more damage than a preschool staff does, but that’s a separate issue. I beg all of you that foresee children in your future to raise your child, in your home, with unconditional love. It might be our only hope.

I will finish by saying this, and apologize for the cursory manner of addressing the issue. Humans are animals, albeit unique animals. As such, we are subject to the same laws that govern all other animals. We tell ourselves that we are not, and for the last 10,000 years, we have lived like we are not. Recently, however, we have begun to discover the ramifications of this world view. It’s impossible not to be aware of the environmental problems rampant in the world today, so I won’t try to list them. We live a way of life that goes against the laws of ecology in fundamental ways. Species that don’t comply are eliminated by these laws. The world was not created to support and sustain the human race. Stop believing that it was.

Final advice for summer break

MAILE ILAC

Well, it is finally here, the end of the year. Like many of you I am ready to be done. Unfortunately, unlike several of you, I’ll only have a week off before summer classes start, but even a week break will be welcomed.

So what do I have to share with you? Any parting wisdom? I’ve been thinking about it what message I’d like to convey in the last column that I ever write for the Student Voice. Here it is.

For many of you, the end of this semester just means the beginning of summer break. You’ll be back in the fall. So for all of you that fall into that category, enjoy your summer. Do something crazy and fun aside from working away like a dog, which I am sure many of you will be doing. I know that I will. Enjoy each day that isn’t spent in a classroom since before you know it, September will be here.

Now for the lucky ones who are graduating and moving on, good

luck. I am quite sure that because you went to this fine learning institution, you are well equip to succeed in whatever your chosen field is. Cherish all your memories, then step to the edge and jump head first into making your dreams come true. Also, take in every moment of commencement. Especially after all, the time you spent here slaving away to get your cherished and prized degree, you’ve not only paid dearly for it, but you truly deserve it. So good luck in all that you pursue next and thanks for leading the way for all of us to follow.

The end of the year is always bittersweet. We’re all happy to leave but sad to see everyone go. I realize we are all busy wrapping up our projects and cramming for finals, take some time to chill with all your pals. Celebrate your hard work and have some fun. Have a great summer and to all you graduate, have a nice life.

I know that this has been short and sweet, but like so many of you, I still have a few projects to wrap up so I too, can hang with my friends before summer parts our ways. Good bye.



One day 2,000 copies of the student newspaper were stolen and for some reason the campus wildlife just seemed to be smarter.

Chris Rogers

Become a columnist next semester for the Student Voice. Stop by 304 North Hall for an application.

Letters to the Editor

Testa incident deserved less prominent coverage by Voice

To the editor:

What has become of ethics in journalism on this campus? I was highly disappointed in the front cover article of the May 1, 2003, Student Voice. I do not believe that the information published on the front page, with a photo of Larry Testa, warranted the coverage it received. I have concerns about the Voice publishing information from local incidents and sensationalizing it to the level that occurred last week. Please understand that I am not saying don’t report news; however, you were out of line in this case when you choose to “investigate” the story and bring those details above the fold of the front page. This tabloid style of journalism is disappointing, especially at the expense of another’s reputation purely for public curiosity. Where are the details in this story that are related to the University? This incident had no tie with the job duties Mr. Testa has with the University; neither was he acting in any official capacity, so therefore it did not deserve this level of exposure.

Barb Winget, Staff

President Bush’s promises fall flat

To the editor:

In the May/June issue of National Parks, the magazine of the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA), the president of NPCA pointed out that the Bush administration has shown its willingness time and time again to approve an onslaught of regulations and policies that view public lands as reserved to meet the needs of oil, natural gas, coal and lumber industries at the expense of national parks and the environment. Although Homeland Security, economic issues and the war in Afghanistan and Iraq have diverted the president’s attention and the nation’s financial resources, NPCA argued that protection of national parks and the environment should not be any less of a priority.

During his presidential campaign, Bush promised the American public that he would “restore and renew” America’s national parks. His fiscal year 2004 budget proposal makes it clear that the administration does not intend to keep that promise.

Even during World War II, when the United States was strapped for steel, lumber, oil and cola that nation did not lose sight of the fact that national parks forests and

the environment were to be protected.

A special report on the members of Congress who supported legislative initiatives to maintain and improve our national parks (March/April 2002 issue) showed a lack of republican support, with only 17 of 215 receiving recognition for supporting national parks.

It is obvious that the Republican agenda is in favor of letting special interests whose goal is financial gain to influence the use of national parks and our environment. They don’t seem to understand the importance of national parks and forests as the affect our environment, clean air, clean water, recreation, plant and wildlife species, important archaeological sites and irreplaceable historic structures.

Several weeks ago Gaylord Nelson, former governor and U.S. senator from Wisconsin, founder of Earth Day and, presently, a consultant to the Wilderness Society, was asked how he would rate Bush on the environment. He answered, “There are not enough letters in the alphabet to assign him a grade.”

Ray Anderson, professor emeritus

Opposing political ideologies

To the editor:

Last week Joleen Lunzer criticized my letter appearing in the April 17 issue of the Student Voice. She twisted much of what I said and also tried to put negative words in my mouth, but that’s fine. It’s all part of political bantering I guess. I stand by what I wrote and suggest people read it again (if any copies still exist).

Joleen and I could debate these issues forever. However, my main goal as to get those who are more politically neutral or even “left” leaning to see the flaws of “liberal” political philosophies and to educate themselves as to why people oppose them. Many “liberal” positions sound good and make you feel good inside, but in the end they often have unintended negative consequences for our country.

The truth is that “liberals” aren’t really liberal and “conservatives” aren’t really conservative as our dictionaries would define them. To me, their political meanings are almost opposite. “Liberals” are constantly trying to regulate every aspect of our lives via legislation and taxation. “Conservatives,” however, advocate more freedom and less government intrusion into our lives.

To the Editor:

I’d like to thank Jake Duesenberg, Nick Koecheler, and others who have recently written thoughtful and respectful letters about the war in Iraq to the editor of the Student Voice and the River Falls Journal. This type of public discussion is always useful and should be commended in a democratic society.

I’d also like to reply to Dave Misselt, who made sweeping negative generalizations about the national “peace movement” in his May 8 column.

I’d like him to know that we in the River Falls peace movement have been dedicated to engaging in lawful and peaceful behavior. Our peace walks and public forums have been models of thoughtful and respectful activity, and we have been commended by the police and River Falls community for this.

I’d also like to reply to Mr. Misselt’s question, “I wonder how many activists actually do anything but talk about these problems? [peace, poverty, etc.].” I’d like him and the rest of the UW-RF community to know that many members of the River Falls peace movement have been very involved in social justice activities for years,

So, who’s liberal and who’s conservative?

I hope all of those who are under the misguided notion that all “conservatives” and Republicans are greedy, racist and uncaring will seek out further information so they can dispel these worn-out myths. Good sources of “conservative” political philosophies can be found at places like FOX News Channel, WorldNetDaily.com, Townhall.com and AM radio stations 1280 WWTC and 1500 KSTP. There are also many books available written by “conservative” authors explaining this paradigm.

Too many people I meet are walking around with dogmatic slogans like “Republicans are mean” and “Democrats are for the little guy” stuck in their heads, yet I often find that they understand little about “conservative” political philosophy at all. If people want to make informed political decisions they should understand both sides of the argument before casting their vote at the ballot box.

Jesse Spelbrink, student

with many of them dedicating their lives to actively addressing these issues.

Even more importantly, I’d like people to know that the River Falls peace movement has now evolved into a broader-based and longer term coalition entitled the “River Falls Area Peace and Justice Group.”

We, as campus and community members who are dedicated to working for peace and justice, commit ourselves to continued discussion and action on behalf of global and domestic peace and justice issues. These issues include poverty, homelessness, hunger, the environment, and many more.

All students, faculty, and community members are welcome to join us, including those who have disagreed with us on the issue of the Iraqi war. You may subscribe to our list-serve by contacting RFJustice-subscribe@topica.com, or you may contact me at jacqueline.m.bruux@uwrf.edu for more information about the River Falls Area Peace and Justice Group.

Dr. Jackie Bruux, Professor of Economics

Check out the Student Voice online at www.uwrf.edu/student-voice

Track season nears finish line

Sports Information

The UW-River Falls women's and men's track and field teams competed at the University of Minnesota Invitational and the Leo Schnur Open in La Crosse Friday. No team scores were kept at either meet.

Four women competed in field events at Minnesota. Jill Crandall placed second in the high jump with a leap of 5-3 3/4. Jen Leis placed fifth in the discus with a toss of 141-feet and fifth in the hammer throw with a 160-5 effort. Her 141-foot effort in the discus places her 12th in the country. Steph Dura placed eighth in the discus with a toss of 133-feet and Haylee Hall was ninth in the same event with a 119-2 effort. Katie Mitchell competed in La Crosse and finished third in the 200 meters in 26.01.

Steve Berg and Weesayma Kennedy were the only members of the men's team to compete. Kennedy placed third in the 200 in 21.75, which is a NCAA Div. III



Submitted photo Although the season is over for most of the Falcons, including Sarah Thull (right), at least one will compete at the NCAA Div. III Meet. Five others are close to qualifying for the meet.

Meet provisional qualifying mark. He competed in La Crosse. Berg finished eighth in the discus with a toss of 125-5 at Minnesota.

A few Falcons will also compete Friday at St. Thomas in a final effort to qualify for the NCAA Div. III Meet at St. Lawrence University in New York May 22 through 24.

"We have one going for sure and five who are on the bubble," Glover said.

Leis has already qualified for the meet in the discus. Others hoping to earn a spot in the NCAA meet are: Dura, shot put; Hall, discus; Crandall, High Jump; Mitchell, 200m; and Kennedy, 200m.

Schultz bids farewell to college life with parting shots, thank-yous

It has been tradition for the graduating columnists to take their parting shots at the school, bad professors, and such in their last opportunity to do so. The majority of these shots are just negative, misguided attacks, because of a bad grade or difference of opinion. I thought I would be creative by putting a positive spin on some of the issues on campus. I also leave you with quips of good luck wishes for those of you who have late night papers and hours of procrastination still ahead of you.

I'll start with the twist on the man I refer to as the "Food Fascist," Rafael Conde. Why take shots at his ploys for reducing the amount of food while raising its cost? You need to think of it this way, those of you graduating with me can look at his nicely tricked-out Dodge Ram and know that you have paid for the majority of the payments. I would even suggest asking him to take it for a test drive. For those of you with years still left on your schooling, just know that your funds will be helping kids build college and trust funds, along with a great retirement fund for Conde.

The next subject is on Public Safety. I have to wish the best of luck for the underage students willing to test the limits with the "Barney Fides." These wannabe-cops (ranking just lower than mall security) have gotten good over the past four years. I was one of the few who evaded them for two years in the dorms secretly consuming adult beverages. For all of those complaining about getting "busted" for drinking, learn how to conceal and find some friends off campus to do your wrongdoing. That's what I did. However, I couldn't avoid the brightest violation of them all...the parking ticket. It never failed to have at least one surprise message left on my windshield per semester. For all of the debt in the state of Wisconsin, they should contact our Public Safety to consult on fund raising through parking patrol.

The column written a couple of weeks ago commenting on the campus being held together by the professors and the custodians was right. The one-to-two good teachers I had per semester seemed to outweigh the multiple bad teachers. I am not going to harp on the list of bad teachers I have encountered. These teachers may be book-smart or published, but if you can't make the information interesting or hands-on then you've lost the battle. Some of my suggestions for professors would include: Brad Caskey (psych), Travis Tubre (psych), Sandy Ellis (journalism), Marilyn Duerst (science), Bob Baker (science), James Madsen (science), Edward Peterson (history), and Richard McNamara (mass comm.). These teachers may have been tough graders but they were always fair and got you to work hard for grades. If I were to

OPINION



DAN SCHULTZ

explain to you on a scale of how early in the morning I would wake up to go to these classes I would rank most of them at 8 or 9 a.m.

The custodians surely don't get the recognition they deserve. They do the work others wouldn't touch with a 10-foot pole. Make sure to thank the people who clean up our messes (especially in the dorms)! I would like to see some of the deans and heads of departments on this campus take pay cuts to help support one of the most important cogs in the school machine. Without them this school would be a complete dump. I would also like to acknowledge the people who work in the different offices around campus. I would especially like to thank the Cashier's office. Why none of them have gone postal after all of the stuff they go through with people upset

with computer, not man-made, mistakes is unbelievable. I wish I could give them a purple heart myself for the condescending tone I gave them over a stupid computer mistake in a different department.

I also would like to thank the worker in the Registrar's office who accosted me for passing up walking in commencement. At least she cared enough to check, despite the fact that I had to tell the school along with \$35 that I am graduating. You might wonder what the \$35 is for since I am not walking, here's the breakdown: 15 cents for the thick paper, \$1.35 for good ink, \$3.50 for package and postage to send it to me, which leaves \$30 for manual labor.

Now I would like to get teary-eyed with you. I want everyone to know the head coaches here in River Falls are some of the best to work with and I wouldn't want to work with anyone else in the conference. Each one had their quirks but always treated the radio and print staff as professionals and I hope I returned the favor in my behavior on the trips and in the booth. You couldn't ask for a more accommodating staff. As for the athletic facilities on campus I wish the teams good luck with trying to get a new floor in Karges, better soccer accommodations or a better press box at Ramer that we like to refer to as, "The tiny red turd box."

Here's my last parting shot. I really learned and grew a lot in four years. I came here a preppy-jock out of a culturally-diverse city school and learned more than I would like to admit about farming, cows and corn. This is a great place for teacher education and agriculture. As for the other departments I hope the school finally realizes you need money and facilities to produce successful graduates (that's my plug for journalism). I was able to meet the girl of my dreams here and I couldn't have asked for a quicker hands-on start into the field I love, journalism. To the girls at the Oasis, that's my final take. I am out.

Brooke, Poulter earn fastpitch honors

Sports Information

Pitcher Amy Brooke and catcher Anna Poulter have both been named to the 2003 All-Great Lakes Region third team picked by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Brooke was named to the first All-WIAC teams in

2003, 2001 and 2000 and she received honorable mention in 2002. Brooke was named a NFCA Scholar-Athlete in 2000, 2001 and 2002. Brooke was named the 2003 WIAC Co-Scholar Athlete.

Poulter was named to the All-WIAC first team in 2003 and 2001. Poulter was named a NFCA Scholar-Athlete in 2002.

Brinks presents 02-03 Eggys

OPINION



RYAN BRINKS

This issue marks the five-year anniversary of the Eggy Awards, the Student Voice's tribute to the best in Falcon sports. Originated by former Sports Editor Jason Egerstrom, this year's awards also conclude the third generation of Sports Editors in the Eggy era. With my last words here, I'm hanging up the Sports Editor title in the tradition of Egerstrom and Troy Mallat - and passing it on to the fourth generation, Mike Foley. Without further ado, here are the nominees and winners:

Rookie of the Year

It's one thing to get respectable playing time as a freshman, but it's quite another thing to star. Lewie Parish, a redshirt freshman in football, earned a starting spot at cornerback by the end of the year. Men's hockey goalie Dan Meneghin held his own against a few tough conference foes. Soccer's Libbi King went on to earn All-WIAC honors as a defender. But women's hockey leading scorer Ali Slinden played all the way to All-American status for the hands-down Rookie of the Year.

Bounce Back Performance of the Year

The men's track and field team had a long-awaited bounce back from nonexistence, but they didn't threaten anybody late in the sea-

son. The fastpitch softball squad, on the other hand, turned around a 3-9 seventh-place conference record in 2002 to a 10-6 third-place effort this year while entering the post-season as the hottest team in the WIAC. If that isn't impressive, however, the Falcon soccer team went from 6-10-1 a year ago to 13-5-2 and ranked fourth-most improved in the nation. Give the soccer team the Rubber Band Eggy for the second straight year.

Best Team Performance (season)

Both the men's hockey and volleyball teams were ranked in the top five nationally throughout the season, but neither went the distance in the playoffs. Volleyball took runner-up honors in the WIAC tournament, the swimming crew added 28 all-time top 10 efforts this year, but women's hockey avenged a would-be NCAA bid that went to St. Mary's two years ago by getting to the Frozen Four this year.

Best Team Performance (event)

If seven minutes constituted a whole football game, the Falcons would have gotten this award for their 13-point comeback win over Oshkosh. Too bad the rest of the contest was crap. The swimmers' best day came at the WIAC meet where the Falcons broke five UW-RF records. Then there was the men's basketball team's 92-86 overtime win against rival Stout to garner the three spot in the playoffs. Ultimately, though, the women's basketball triumph over Oshkosh that snapped a 14-year losing streak to the Titans more

than earns them Best Team Performance Eggy.

Best Individual Performance

You know it's coming. No, not John Peterlik's 232 yards in the football season finale at Platteville, although it was one of the grid-iron's highlights. The undisputed Best Individual Performance was Rich Melzer's super-human 54 points against La Crosse Jan. 29. Coach of the Year

For UW-RF, 2002-03 was the year of the coaches. Three Falcon headmasters took tops in their classes - Sean McKuras in WIAC soccer, Steve Freeman in NCHA men's hockey, and Joe Cranston in NCHA women's hockey. So the Eggy goes to ... McKuras, who

over the last two years has literally dragged his squad from out of the gutter.

Athlete of the Year

Take your pick. A lot of people put up envious performances this year, but because I must choose, I'll give you a runner-up as well. Worth a mention were All-Americans Karen ZumMallen in volleyball and Adam Kragthorpe, Lindsay Carlson and Ali

Slinden in hockey. Melissa Tvrdik receives further mention, leading the volleyball team in hitting percentage and rising to second-team AVCA All-American. Beyond that, it's a toss-up between hockey stars Evan Stensrud and Marlene Yaeger, both of whom made All-American after being named conference Players of the Year. But runner-up goes to soccer's Amy Gilfillan, who shattered records at both UW-RF and WIAC levels with her 36-goal junior season. And the Athlete of the Year Eggy goes to Rich Melzer for obvious reasons, among them a NABC first-team All-American selection.

"If seven minutes constituted a whole football game, the Falcons would have gotten this award for their 13-point comeback win over Oshkosh. Too bad the rest of the contest was crap."

Sports facilities still lacking

Anna Permann
Staff Writer

During home football games, Falcons emerge to take the field from the Knowles Center, where they take up both the men's and women's locker rooms for dressing, and hold their team meetings on benches set up on the indoor track.

Have you ever wondered where the opposing team appears from if the Falcons take up all the space at Knowles?

"At River Falls, facilities in general are incredibly under-represented," assistant athletic director and head volleyball coach Patti Ford said. "Nobody would disagree with you on that."

When the visiting football teams arrive on campus they dress at Karges and then take their bus to the football field, where there is a temporary locker room set up during the game.

It is a given that it is tough to work with a budget, and even more so now. There are many schools across the country with less than perfect facilities for their athletic teams.

But exactly how does UW-RF stand up against other UW-System schools?

"Basically the problem is that we are a small school," said head athletic trainer Gary Eloranta. "We have fewer resources and don't have the space for newer or bigger equipment, even if we had the money to purchase it."

Other schools also have more of an ability to raise money for sports-related causes, said Eloranta. For some reason River Falls isn't a receptive place for fundraising.

"We are, by far, not the best in our conference," Ford said. "But we make due with what we have."

Until last year the women's hockey team would dress in Knowles and walk to Hunt Arena because there wasn't a proper room available. Now, after some reconstruction, the women have their own locker room.

"Some UW schools have multiple gyms," said Eloranta. "There are entire sports facilities which give all sports ample room for competition, practice and training. UW-Whitewater has an amazing set up as far as athletic training space and resources go. Here, we just don't have the room, or storage to spare. It's that simple."

It has not hindered performance to drastic measures and teams have made do, said Ford.

"I think that as our school has expanded, but our sports facilities have not," River Falls sophomore and tennis player Amber Weissinger said.

"Even the weightroom could be improved. The more things are used, the more worn out equipment becomes and it is sort of just left behind."

The growing number of athletes isn't being supported adequately by the athletic facilities here, she said.

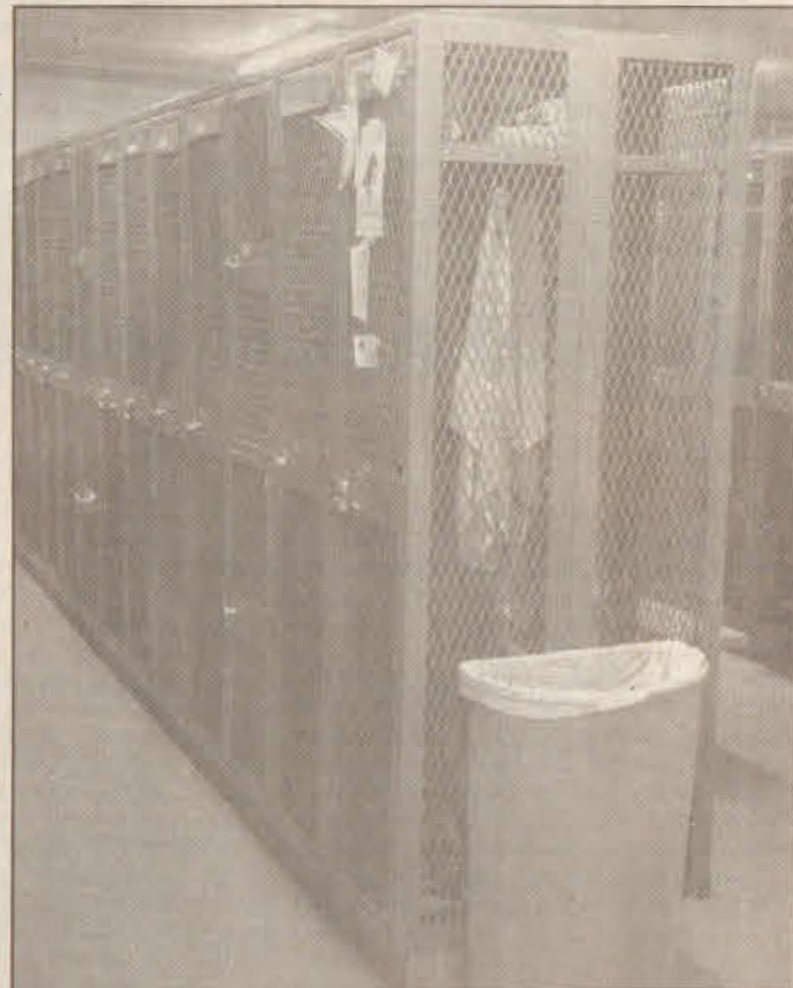
"I think that if coaches made it a big deal then maybe an athlete's performance would be affected and might suffer," Ford said. "But in volleyball, a court is a court. There is not much difference. The atmosphere is still the same."

At Whitewater, the volleyball team has an entirely separate gym from the basketball teams. Practice time and scheduling is not an issue, Ford said.

"Their athletic establishment is incredible," she said. "It is comparable to Division I schools."

Superior just put money into a brand new, bigger facility, and at Platteville all of the tracks, fields and gyms and other athletic complexes are located in the same area. They are not dispersed throughout campus.

"That is something really nice that we don't necessarily think of," Ford said, "to have all of the sports in the same central location."



Maisha Downey / Student Voice

The women's locker room at Knowles serves many purposes for the athletic department. The Falcon football team, visiting women's hockey teams and other athletic teams use it. It isn't the only campus athletic facility in need of upgrades.

Correction

In the article entitled "Coaches' other job," on Page B1 of the May 1 issue, it was stated that Lee Lueck and Jeff Berkhof do not have teaching responsibilities atop their athletic ones. This statement was inaccurate. Lueck teaches two three-credit classes. Berkhof teaches several half-credit classes.

OPINION

MOVIE CRITIC

Corsten bids bon voyage to RF

Craig Corsten
Offbeat Editor

Five years now. Where'd they go? Five years I don't know sit and I wonder sometimes. Where they've gone?

See, above, I took a quote by Bob Seger and I changed it to fit my needs, because my needs are important. Fred Rogers taught me that. Of course I learned that way before I ever got to college, but I also learned a lot in college and in about a week, college will be over for me and many, many impatient professors will give a sigh of relief.

I don't want this to be like other columns people write for The Student Voice for their last column, but it's probably going to be. It's your job, as the reader, to read this and either nod in agreement with what I have to say, or say "I never liked your writings anyway, good riddance." Either way, I'm hoping I at least made a connection with some readers out there.

Now that I see the light at the end of the tunnel, I'm glad I stuck with college. There were times when I felt like I was in over my head and that maybe I was not college material, but in a couple of days they'll hand me that thing, that piece of paper will go in on once they send it to me. That piece of paper will say that "Craig Corsten is college material; barely."

I hope they leave out the "barely" part.

College was basically a wealth of experiences for me, good and bad. I made a lot of good friends, lost touch with a few and plain lost one. My two-year stint in the dorms was great, and anyone who commutes and misses out on the dorm experience is plain and simply not as good as a person who does the whole dorm thing and

survives.

I saw a lot change in the world. My freshman year I watched the horrible Columbine shootings unfold from my dorm room. 335 Grimm, where you at? My first senior year I sat in Pat Berg's Journalism and Public Opinion class, listening dumbfounded as the early reports of Sept. 11 attacks came in on the radio. I cried with friends when we found out our good friend James Ellison was senselessly murdered while working at a funeral home in Hudson. (and if anyone knows anything, please come forward).

Not that college was all bad, because it was far from it. I've had a blast here in River Falls. I learned a lot in the classroom and I'm grateful to the many great (and ungrateful to the several bad) professors I've had who shaped my fragile, little mind. I have a decent idea of what I want to do with my life after I leave this place, if only I could just find a job doing what I want to do. Sadly, there is no such thing as an Englishologist.

I learned a lot outside the classroom. I learned how to shotgun a beer... and uh. Well, I guess I just did a lot of drinking outside of the classroom. My liver is going to be very mad at me someday. Oh yeah, I also learned that even though democrats are more competent at everything, republicans get elected by scaring the hell out of Americans.

I love this country.

Oh yeah, I also got to live through Monicagate while at college. Talk about excitement.

I leave all of you with parting words of wisdom from Kang...er I mean Bill Clinton, "I say we must move forward, not backward. Upward, not forward. And always twirling, twirling, twirling toward freedom."



Year-end thoughts, tantrums, other minute observations

Chris Anderson
Movie Critic

Well it's the end of the semester and the summer movie season has already started. Once again, we will be treated to endless sequels (some 25 before September) and remakes, celebrity vehicles, the lamest special effects ever, blatant commercialism (that I'm sure half of you reading this column will fall for) and the rest of the crap Hollywood puts out.

With the happy thought that it's 2001 all over in movies again, here are some thoughts, anecdotes, and observations of mine that I couldn't fit into my column this past year, until now.

Hollywood marketers say they try to appeal to teens because teenagers are the most likely to go back to a movie. My experience is that teens usually go to movies in dates and/or groups and are so busy talking to each other they don't watch the movie much and never realize how crappy it is.

Last fall during the trailer movie for "Catch Me if You Can" there were several teens in the theater, including many young girls, and they all booed when Leonardo Di Caprio's name appeared at the end. Nonetheless, Hollywood still believes teens are the best people to look to in order to solve problems.

Speaking of DiCaprio, in the year 2005, two, count them two, Hollywood studios plan to release expensive epics about Alexander the Great. One will star (you guessed it) Leonardo, and the other one will star (equal gasp) Colin Farrell. Too bad each actor will be irrelevant by the time each movie gets released.

Speaking of young girls, could we start seeing three-dimensional women in movies, or at least two-dimensional ones? If I wanted to

watch young and vain anorexics wearing hardly anything amidst sugary lies I'd stay home and watch TV commercials.

That crack team of writers out in Hollywood that gets paid millions of dollars and writes nothing but sequels and remakes always says they are justified in what they are doing because only five or six ideas have ever existed in Hollywood. So if you really think about it "Love Story" and "The Exorcist" were the exact same movie.

It now costs an average of \$59 million to make a movie, not including marketing costs which will raise the total to more than \$100 million. Of that \$59 million, \$20 million usually goes to the lead actor(s). Of that \$20 million, the actor or actress gets to keep \$6 million; most of the rest goes toward hiring however many bodyguards they can get, their plastic surgeon, their agents and basically everyone who they think will keep them looking young and important forever. A lot of these same actors are quite upset at the narrow-mindedness of Republicans.

Movie stars generally tend to side with Democrats on many issues, probably because both are hypocrites and neither seems to grasp the seriousness of religious institutions such as marriage (the Hollywood divorce rate) or funerals (the Wellstone memorial).

People always ask me, "Chris, what's your favorite movie?" probably because I watch a lot of movies and my name is Chris. This is kind of a rhetorical question because I might watch some film I've never seen before and that could become a new favorite, and also because movies that made an impression on me the first time I saw them may not have the same effect the next time. So I'll say I have several favorite movies to choose from. If I have to pick a name I'll say that "Little Big Man" (1970) is one of my all-time favorites.

Half the people I say this to (and that's being lenient), and I'll bet half the people reading this article, are so conditioned by advertisers, corporations, and the vapidness of

most TV networks to believe that only "new" movies are important, that they've never heard of it. In fact, I have several fairly well known movies on tape ("The Dirty Dozen," "The Hustler," "Cool Hand Luke," "Wait Until Dark," among others) that no one on campus I talk to seems to have heard about. It gets even more depressing when I'll invite someone to watch a movie with me and they reply that since they haven't seen or heard of this movie it can't be any good.

Up to about 1996, older movies could be seen on TV quite frequently.

Then the Telecommunications Act, which allowed corporations to buy hefty amounts of mass media, kicked in and radio started playing all the same songs. Then cable TV got the brilliant idea to run the same three-year old movie four times a night, seven nights a week because nobody could possibly get tired of that. You'll be happy to know the same corporations that did this, and own a lot of movie studios, feel they don't have enough and are currently bribing the FCC to put further deregulations into effect before the month, this month, is out (gee, I wonder why the mass media doesn't mention this.) Since you probably don't have time to write your local Congressperson if you want this to stop you might want to try buying him or her.



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