



Student entrepreneurs unveil plans



Submitted photo
Select business students from all over the UW system received awards for the business plans they presented.

Patricia Bruhn
Staff Writer

Business students from within the UW System came ready to present and defend their business plans and posters before a panel of judges at the first annual Young Entrepreneurs' Conference held April 29-30 at UW-River Falls.

The conference was sponsored by a grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation, and co-sponsored by the St. Croix and Pierce County Economic Development Corporations.

"We received a grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation to put on this event," UW-RF College of Business and Economics professor Jude Rathburn said. "There are 12 teams from River Falls, White Water, Superior, Stevens Point, Eau Claire and Milwaukee competing."

The conference was the brain child of the College of Business and Economics Dean

Barbara Nemecek, who wanted to bring students from area campuses to gain awareness of what it takes to create and sustain a successful business, share ideas with leading business executives and local entrepreneurs, and network with other business-minded individuals in Wisconsin.

The premise of the conference was that each team would present the best student-written business plan from their school in competition with peers from other UW institutions.

"It is important for students to experience the process of writing a business plan," Rathburn said. "By presenting their business concept and getting feedback, they are better able to understand the process."

Awards were presented for the best poster,

best written business plan, best business plan presentation and best overall business plan. The winner of the best overall business plan received the traveling trophy named after former Chancellor Ann Lydecker.

"The conference was an excellent opportunity for us to put our business plan into reality."

**Rachel Leach,
UW-Stevens Point student**

The students orally presented their business plans to a panel of judges with a determined and professional attitude, but getting up in front of people to make the 30-minute presentation did make some students nervous.

"I was a little nervous at first, but once I got into the plan I felt confident," said UW-Milwaukee marketing major Lisa Thorson.

"It was a great experience and I would do it again."

At the awards ceremony, Rathburn said that the competition was very close.

See AWARDS, Page 7

Students M*A*S*H through finals

Katrina Schmidt
Staff Writer

Another week of finals has arrived. Many students are probably feeling the pinches of stress on the rise. UW-River Falls' Personal and Professional Development Center (PPDC) is offering students, faculty, and staff a chance to M*A*S*H out some of that built up stress and reboot for finals week.

The sixth annual M*A*S*H (Mobile Academic Success Hospitality) will be held May 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the Student Center, weather permitting. Otherwise, events will be held in the Falcon's Nest.

When the program was first created in 1999, organizers based the idea on the well-known sitcom M*A*S*H.

"The idea was that finals week was a really stressful time and kids almost acted like they were going to a battlefield," said co-creator Sally Berkholder, a UW-RF career counselor.

"This is a more healthy and proactive way to get through finals week."

**Sally Berkholder,
UW-RF career counselor**

ner," Berkholder said.

Students will have the opportunity to play M*A*S*H trivia games, compete in bedpan chipping, stretcher races, hula hoop contests and the toilet paper wrap to win prizes such as empty

The PPDC encourages students to take advantage of the activities to relax and not think about finals for a while.

"We are providing a positive, supportive place for students to hang out and recoup and blow off steam in a positive manner,"

Students will have the opportunity to play M*A*S*H trivia games, compete in bedpan chipping, stretcher races, hula hoop contests and the toilet paper wrap to win prizes such as empty

See MASH, Page 7

Juried art show



Photo by Micheal Foley

Juror selected art pieces on display in the KFA art gallery, the juror later selected some exhibition pieces for awards.

Students hear critique from judge, get permanent placement at UW-RF

Eric Ebert
Assistant Editor

Picasso and Dali might have come and gone, but artistic personalities similar to theirs persevere at UW-River Falls. From April 22-May 6, Gallery 101 in Klienpell Fine Arts has displayed student artwork as part of the Juried Art Show.

The Juried Art Show is an annual tradition at UW-RF dating back 20-25 years, said associate professor of art Bernice Swenson. Pieces displayed in the show are selected by an art juror brought in from outside the University.

"We had 197 entries and 72 students that

submitted work," Swenson said.

While students could submit up to four pieces each, only 60 pieces were selected by the juror for the exhibition.

Ann Pifer, this year's art juror and owner of The Grand Hands art gallery in St. Paul, Minn., said selecting pieces for the exhibition was intimidating.

"There was such good quality work," Pifer said.

But Pifer was impressed by the number of students who had exhibition entries in multiple mediums.

Pifer's art gallery consists of a lot of three-dimensional art, two-thirds of which comes

from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa. While Pifer is not an artist herself, she said she has always wanted to sell and display art from the area, especially functional and three-dimensional art.

"There's not a gallery that specializes in the functional art," Pifer said.

To add to the exhibition, this year the University has selected two pieces to be added to the campus' collection and will be displayed predominantly on campus.

"This is a brand new tradition," Swenson said.

UW-RF students Garrett Bergemann and

See ART, Page 7

Walking in different shoes teaches new perspective

Sara Tischauser
News Editor

It may be hard to imagine what it is like to be African American, Native American, a rape survivor, someone from a rural area or any number of other characteristics, but some UW-River Falls students had the opportunity to see what it is like to be another person.

The Leadership and Training committee put on an event "Walk a week in a borrowed pair of shoes" to help raise diversity awareness on campus, said Jared Acker, Leadership and Training committee member.

"The purpose was to show a diversity activity [where you] really realize if they were a person in this situation, how things would be different," Acker said.

The week involved students from residence halls, fraternities, sororities and others who were interested in wearing a button that gave the person a characteristic he or she was supposed to consider having for the week, said Miriam Huffman, involvement coordinator.

Huffman said students were encouraged to go about their normal day, but consider how their life would be different if they were whatever their button said they were.

One example of this, Acker said, was someone whose button said "vegetarian" and was supposed to look at the choices available for food on campus as if they were a vegetarian.

Acker said the point of the event was to raise awareness and not offend people.

Nikki Peters, a speech communications major, participated in the week and wore a button that said Native American.

Peters said she participated in the program because she felt obligated to do so.

"As a white Christian, I've been in the majority most of my life," Peters said. "I wanted to see what others were going through."

Huffman said students were given guidelines to make sure students who were participating were not being offensive.

"This activity wasn't role playing, [it] was to raise awareness," Huffman said.

Huffman said students were told to think about what their buttons said, but not to try and become whatever their button said.

Huffman said about 450 students took buttons to wear, but she did not know for sure how many students actually wore their button every day of the week. However, she believed there was a benefit to any

student who took a button.

"If they thought about it just once, it was successful for them," Huffman said.

Huffman said there was one thing that was beneficial to her when she was wearing a button.

"One of the most educational things for me when I have this button and people around me are asking about [my] button and questioning if I am what it says," Huffman said.

Huffman said this might be a new experience for some students who have never had someone question who they are and discriminate against them based on whatever their button said.

See SHOES, Page 7



LOCAL

Dedication ceremony to be held

On May 9, the George R. Field South Fork Suites will be dedicated in a brief ceremony.

The suites are being named after George Field, who was a former UW-River Falls chancellor who served the River Falls community for 17 years.

Field's will be speaking at the ceremony, which begins at 3:30 p.m.

The new building will be open for campus housing starting in August when 240 students will move in.

Spring graduation ceremonies to take place

On May 14, two separate graduation ceremonies will be taking place. One will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the second will get underway at 2 p.m.

Nicole Smith and Nicholas Sirek were selected as students to give a commencement address.

Smith will give a speech entitled, "A Falcon's Eye View" and Sirek will give his speech, "My Wishes."

Both students have been extremely involved on campus through numerous types of volunteer activities.

The morning ceremony will be for the students in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science, the College of Business and Economics and the College of Graduate Studies. In the afternoon the students graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education and Professional Studies will receive their diplomas.

Book club takes place in the Breezeway

On May 11, the Lion's Paw Book Club will discuss the book *The Five Goodbyes*. Pat Ferguson Hanson, who is an instructor here at the University, wrote the book.

The discussion will take place between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. and will be located in the Breezeway of the Chalmer Davee Library.

Hanson will be leading the discussion on the book, which is a personal story of her and her family.

This is the last meeting of the Lion's Paw Book Club for the year, and club members hope to have a large turnout.

Faculty member plays with the best

On May 7 and 8 Craig Hara will be playing with some of the best trumpet players the country has to offer at the UW-La Crosse Spring Trumpet Festival.

This year at UW-RF, Hara taught students recording techniques and music appreciation but has taught trumpet lessons in the past.

Registration for the entire festival is \$75 for adults and \$35 for students. Tickets for the concert put on by the musicians are only \$20.

Parking still available for next year

Students who wish to have on-campus parking next year still have time to apply for a parking permit. Completed applications are due in the Parking Office by May 13.

After May 13, returning students' applications will only be considered by appeal and review after next fall's incoming freshman have an opportunity to apply for parking.

Changes in parking during finals week

May 11-13 there will be special parking available to aid in students moving out of residence halls. There will be various designated spots around campus where students, friends and family can park to be closer while loading up their cars.

Some spots include the meters in E lot, the Faculty Lot behind Karges, the metered spots in Hathorn and spots in the northwest corner of O Lot. All new spaces will be assigned for move-out parking.

All next week there will be seven spaces allowed for students to park in during book return. These spaces will be in B Lot behind South Hall. Students are allowed to stay in the spaces for 15 minutes. The spots will be strictly monitored and tickets will be enforced.

Internships in Japan available for all students

There are internships this fall for students interested in traveling to Nagasaki, Japan.

Students would be gone from September 13 through December 12.

Guy Healy, Japan is an education consulting and exchange agency located in Nagasaki and Fukuoka, Japan. This agency is looking for numerous students to intern for the fall.

There are three sections to the internship. Students will help at a USA Summer Camp Semester Program, a Japanese Language and Culture Program and they will also help in a project put on by GHJ.

All students are invited to participate in this opportunity. If there are any questions students can visit the Office of International Programs to talk with Kendall Huffhines.

Concert to rock campus

On May 7, The Talk Show along with WRFW will be putting on The Rock Show.

This concert starts at 2:30 p.m. at the Amphitheater located behind Hathorn Hall.

This event is free and will showcase six local bands.

REGIONAL

Mark Green starts campaign for governor

According to the *Star Tribune*, Mark Green has started his campaign for governor on May 1. Green's campaign started at his hometown of Ashwaubenon, Wis.

Green will face Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker in the Republican primary in September 2006.

Green has focused his campaign on reducing taxes and has blamed Governor Doyle for high taxes.

Green also made campaign stops in Madison, La Crosse, Eau Claire and Wausau.

NATIONAL

Young student tested positive for HIV

Earlier this week a third grade student took one of his mother's needles used to test her diabetes and pricked 19 children in her school with it.

According to CNN.com, health officials said that HIV could not be contracted from the needle.

The young girl pricked the 19 students at breakfast, lunch and during class time. After the incident occurred the young girl was suspended from school. When her suspension is over she will most likely not be allowed to re-enter the school, so she will have to transfer.

School officials do not know what caused the little girl to take part in this activity.

CNN.com said that a majority of the students involved in the situation were taken to the hospital to have tests run and treatments given. One student tested positive for HIV, but preliminary tests aren't always 100 percent accurate due to the fact that the risk of infection after being pricked by needle is very low.

Briefs compiled by Sarah Packingham
Assistant News Editor

A special goodbye to the
Student Voice seniors:
Micheal Foley, Eric Quade, Sarah
Tischauser, Derrick Williams, Bethany
Dobbs, Eric Henning, Bryan Harmelink,
and everyone else who is graduating
and has contributed. Thank you!

STUDENT SENATE

Outgoing, incoming Senates tag-team, pass 8 motions

Eric Quade
Co-Editor

Both the presiding Student Senate and the newly elected Senate voted on the plethora of motions present at the May 3 meeting.

President Matthew Schuelke's Senate was up first and passed three motions without a dissenting hitch.

The first motion proposed a bylaw change to grant both the Leadership Development and Programming Board (LDPB) chair and the Facilities and Fees Board chair full voting privileges, along with what the motion described as "all the rights and responsibilities"

of a Student Senate member.

Senate then used the second and third motions to reaffirm its devotion to the concept of student governance and to approve the allocation of \$7,500 for UW-River Falls annual Family Day, respectively.

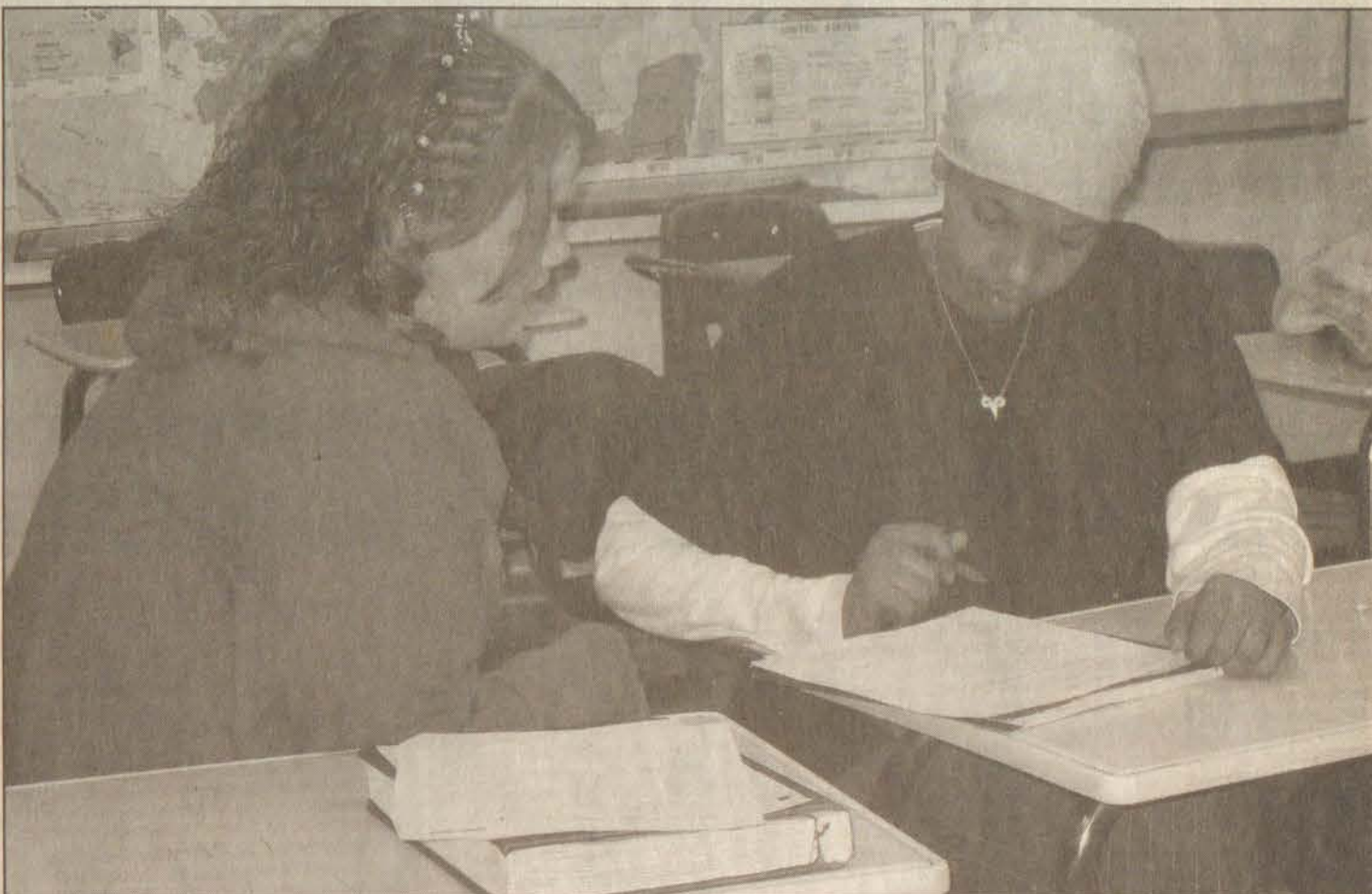
Once the first three motions were taken care of, Schuelke's Senate took their seats in the audience and allowed the newly elected Senate, headed by Senator Nick Cluppert, to take its place.

The first thing the new Senate did was suspend the bylaws so an introduction-only motion asking for \$20,000 in LDPB Summer Funding Requests could be voted on before

the summer break. The motion passed without a dissenting vote.

The new Senate went on to pass four more motions, including a formal statement opposing AB 343-dubbed the emergency contraception ban-and a motion to approve Carolyn Schenk as LDPB chair, James Vierling as Facilities and Fees Board chair, Jeremy Bonikowske as Shared Governance director, Lindsey Burdick as Student Affairs and Academic Services director and Joe Eggers as Legislative Affairs director.

Student Senate's first meeting of the fall semester will be Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. in the Student Center's Regents Room.



Heather Hackbarth tutors Ginni Ali at Arlington High School in St. Paul. UW-River Falls students are participating in the Upward Bound and Falcon Tutors program. There are 245 UW-RF students tutoring 800 students at Eastern Heights Elementary, Highwood Hills Elementary and Arlington High School.

RF students help schools prevent failing grade

Nick Koecheler
Staff Writer

Students at UW-River Falls are helping enrich the lives of others while learning what it's like to tutor students.

"It's not forced, so the students who want to get help can get help," said Elizabeth Schuler, an AmeriCorps volunteer who graduated from UW-RF last year.

Falcon Tutors was started in the spring of 2004 as a branch of the Upward Bound program that assists students at Arlington High School in St. Paul completing their secondary education.

Jill Moe, director of Upward Bound and Falcon Tutors, said there are 245 UW-RF students assisting approximately 800 stu-

dents in Falcon Tutors.

The pilot program, which began last fall, was incorporated into the TED 252, foundations of multicultural education course.

The three schools that benefit from the Falcon Tutors program are Eastern Heights Elementary, Highwood Hills Elementary and Arlington High School.

All three schools are failing schools according to the No Child Left Behind Act created by President Bush. If the schools are unable to show signs of their students improving over the next year, then these schools will lose federal funding.

"The kids look forward to you coming each week," said Renee Cutsworth, an AmeriCorps volunteer with the tutors.

UW-RF tutors Schuler and Cutsworth will be tutoring students in English to help non-native speakers progress in their English speaking skills. By the UW-RF tutors doing this, they are able to understand the difficulties and frustration of learning a new language.

"It helps make the learning situation better," Schuler said. "It shows you care about them and where they came from."

Schuler and Cutsworth agree that a highlight of the program is

that UW-RF students are able to experiment with teaching methods to try to educate the students. The tutors are not locked into traditional teaching methods.

"The kids feel important because someone cares about them and their education," Schuler said.

Generally, the tutors spend time each week observing part of a class and then assisting students with tutoring later.

"Many students are there to get their basic standards up," Cutsworth said.

Schuler and Cutsworth hope that the Falcon Tutors program can be used as a model for other universities to take after.

"It's a learning experience for everyone involved," Cutsworth said.

CAS replaces Hedahl with interim dean

Kari Johnson
UW-RF News Bureau

Terry Brown, associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of English at the UW-River Falls, has been named interim dean of CAS by Provost Virginia Coombs. Brown takes on this position effective July 15, 2005.

Brown replaces Dean Gordon Hedahl, who will teach theatre at UW-RF next fall.

On being selected, Brown said she is "honored and excited," and is focusing on continuing the work Hedahl began into the next academic year.

"Dr. Brown has gained much valuable experience as one of the college's associate deans for the past several years. I look forward to working with her in this new role," Coombs said.

Brown joined UW-RF as an assistant professor of English in

1989.

As associate dean of the CAS, Brown oversaw and promoted outreach activities for the college, administered to student record-keeping affairs, and represented Dean Hedahl when necessary.

Brown has taken on a number of responsibilities since joining UW-RF. This past year, Brown chaired the search-and-screen committee for the new chancellor. She is also chair of the American Democracy Project, a nationwide program designed to promote civic engagement on college campuses. In addition, Brown was also the coordinator for the women's studies program on campus for three years.

Brown represents the campus on the UW Institute for Global Studies Advisory Board, which promotes international programs. She is a member of the General Education Committee

and University Health and Wellness Committee at UW-RF.

Brown holds a Ph.D. in English (1989) from the University of Florida, Gainesville, and a M.A. in English (1984) and a B.A. in English (1982), both from Virginia Tech. This summer Brown will participate in the Management Development Program at Harvard University and will also participate in the Oxford Roundtable on Women's Leadership at Oxford University.

Brown's previous positions include assistant dean, outreach program manager, and administrative intern for CAS. Brown has also served as a professor, associate professor and assistant professor of English at UW-RF. Prior to joining the university, Brown was a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Florida and at Virginia Tech.

Brown has spoken at many national and international con-

ferences on topics such as women in literature and film, women's leadership, gender equity in the UW System, internationalizing higher education, international issues, technology in the classroom and women in the media.

Brown is co-editing *Women Writers in Context: An Anthology of Literature*, contracted with Houghton Mifflin and currently in progress. Her scholarly articles have appeared in *Feminist Collections*, *Teaching Forum* and *Literature Interpretation Theory*.

She is a member of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences, the American Conference of Academic Deans, the Modern Language Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English.

RIVER FALLS POLICE/PUBLIC SAFETY

Compiled by Sarah Gestson
Viewpoints Editor

April 25
Sara M. Sollard reported a missing mouse receiver (valued at \$50) from a roaming computer in Rodli Commons.

April 26
Shawn M Reiter reported the theft of an automobile (valued at \$3,000) at 117 W. Church St.

April 27
Garrett L. Larson was fined \$102 for loud and unnecessary noise at 950 S. Main St.

April 28
Benjamin M. Ramaeker reported the theft of a bike (valued at \$150) at Crabtree Hall.

Weesayma H. Kennedy reported the theft of a motorcycle fender (valued at \$300) at 108 S. Dallas St.

Jeffrey D. Crosby and Nicholas R. Markfort were each fined \$102 for public urination at 112 S. Main St.

April 29
Robert J. Hoock Jr. reported a burglary and property damage at 415 S. Wasson Lane.

April 30
Lynn M. Swanson was fined \$72.20 for an

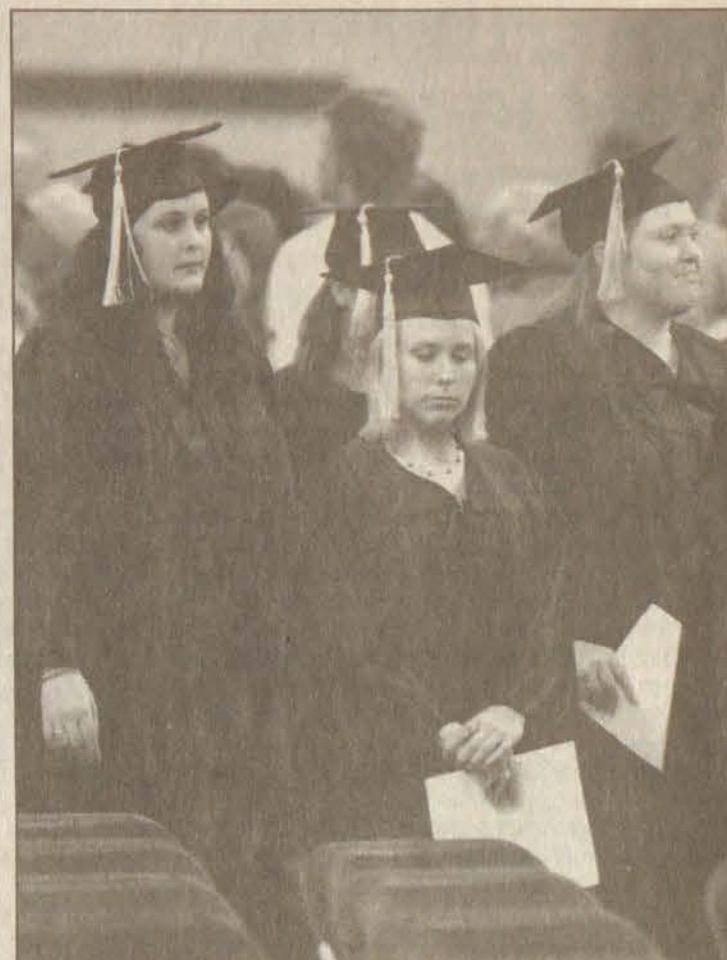
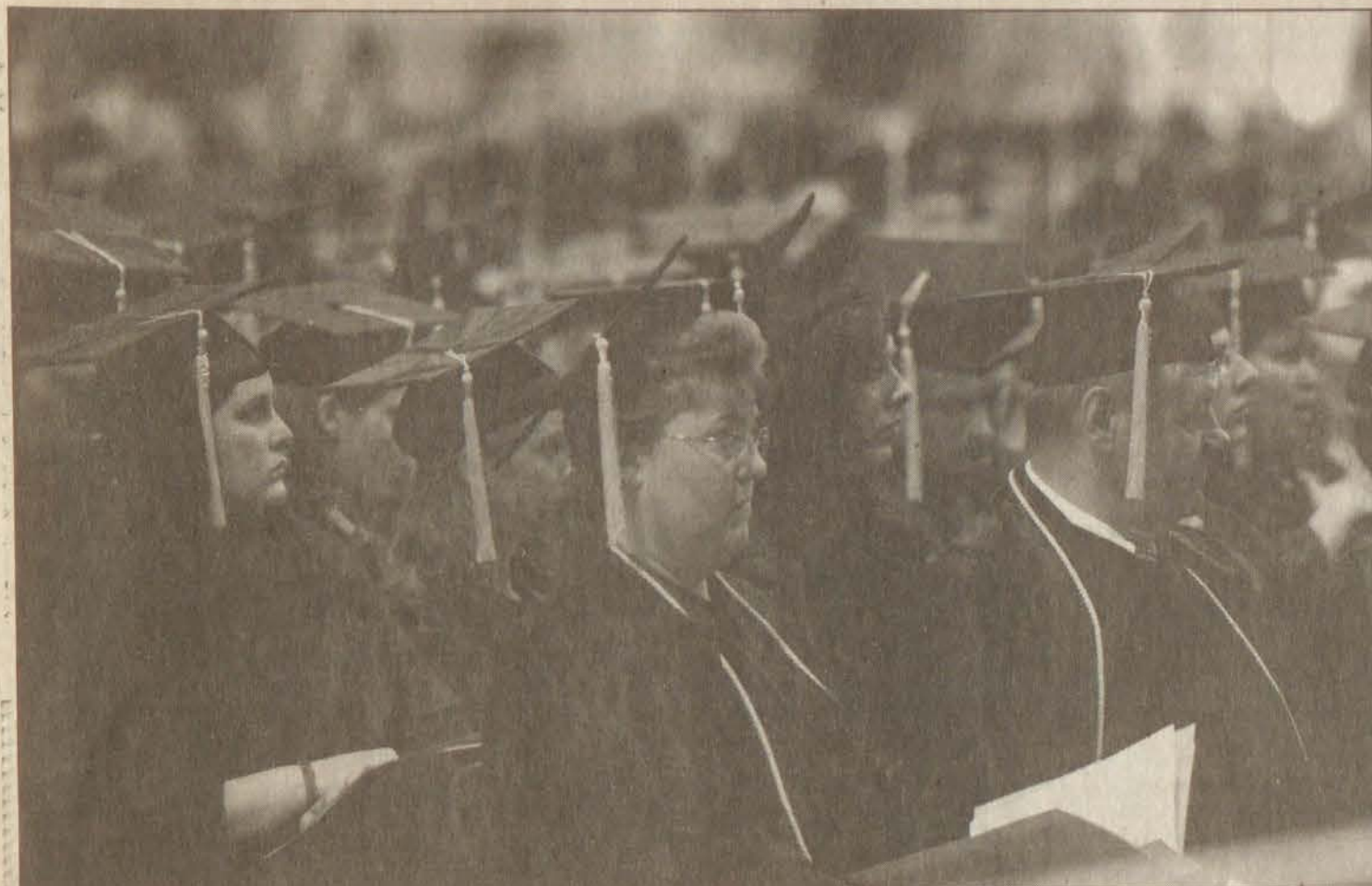
open container at the 100 block of Elm Street.

Matthew D. Kelliher and Jason A. Schultz reported an assault at Karges Center.

May 1
Jeffrey M. Poterucha reported criminal damage to two first floor windows (valued at \$200) of Grimm Hall.

May 2
Jennifer M. Morse was cited for an illegal U-turn.

Toni J. Hinz was cited for a seatbelt violation.



Photos submitted by Jens Gunelson

Graduating seniors are preparing for spring commencement on May 14. A few things to remember for graduation are to arrive at the ceremony early and carpool if possible because parking spaces are limited at the Knowles Center. If students need handicap parking or seating then they should notify the school as soon as possible.

Seniors prepare for final day at RF

Corey Hargreaves
Sports Editor

Graduation is very near for some students, but are they really prepared for the big event? At UW-River Falls, the staff and faculty help to make sure that the questions are answered for students who are preparing to walk across the stage May 14.

"As staff, we send out a letter to let the students know whether or not they have something missing," said registrar Judy George. "Even though we do this, it is important to check on your own in case we may have missed something."

Besides the papers and forms that need to be filled out before, the day of graduation has enough activities going on that one may forget about the little things.

When planning a way to the Knowles Center, George suggests carpooling to cut down on the amount of heavy traffic that fills up Main Street.

Also, George suggests that if you have family members who are handicapped or need accessibil-

ity, you should inform the school so that proper seating can be arranged, as well as handicapped parking. Student organizations will provide ushering and direction to appropriate seating for your family.

As for seating, the school plans on being fully prepared for big families.

"A while ago, we barely had enough chairs for direct family members to watch the students graduate," George said. "Since then, our idea is that if you want 10 people to watch you graduate, then there should be room for 10."

Graduates should be careful with their valuables during the ceremony.

"While at the ceremony, do not bring your purse," Linda Matzek from the Registrar's office said. "Although the area is locked up during the graduation, it is unlocked after and anyone can go in and take something, so it's best if you just leave it at home. If not give it to one of your family members to hold on to."

As for the women, make sure if you need them,

bring Bobbi pins, Matzek said.

"Too often the girls show up and their cap doesn't stay on their head," Matzek said. "If they bring pins with them, we can help them attach the cap before the ceremony begins."

While preparing to march into the Knowles Center from Hunt Arena, students must line up in the order that they appear alphabetically.

"The students will line up by their college, in alphabetical order," George said. "This way, their family members can follow along and be prepared to take their picture as they walk across the stage."

When seated inside Knowles, your last name may not begin with the letter row that you are sitting in. For example, if your last name begins with R, you could be sitting in row S, so don't feel like you aren't in the right spot.

While walking across stage, the university provides a photo opportunity. Each student has their picture taken as they shake hands with the chancellor, but often forget to do something that captures a great image.

"The students need to look into the chancellor's eyes, when they are shaking their hand," George said. "It makes for a great picture and it's something that students simply forget to do."

These have been some of the suggestions from staff members, but students like senior Nick Nardinger have already planned ahead for certain situations that graduation day will bring about.

"I've already checked to make sure my courses are all completed," Nardinger said. "I have also checked to see if any fines that I may have had are all paid off."

Nardinger has also prepared his family by ensuring that they will arrive early.

"I want my family to be able to watch me graduate," Nardinger said. "With them arriving early, they will have a better selection of seating."

At UW-RF the faculty wants to make sure that it is the best day of the student's college career. "It is a high energy day," George said. "We want to make sure that it is a pleasant day for everyone and that it all works out."

Congratulations Graduates!

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EDITORIAL

Year in review: editorial style

We at the Student Voice would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of our past editorials update our readers on developments that have transpired during the past year.

October 1, 2004

The Hunt/Knowles addition project had just gotten underway and many administrative bigwigs were rejoicing. Our editorial stance, though, questioned whether more students would be better served by giving a funding priority to the dairy learning center or even a new student union higher.

Seven months later, Gov. Jim Doyle has visited the UW-River Falls campus and emphasized how important keeping the Chiefs at River Falls is, while leaving very little vocalized support for the dairy learning center. Thankfully the project is funded, but there have been a few unfortunate snags along the way. One snag was that the administration went about soliciting bids from agricultural firms the wrong way, resulting in costly delays. In contrast, the student union project has had its groundbreaking ceremony and should be on its way to completion.

October 15, 2004

The Gay Straight Alliance had fallen on its face for a second straight semester, failing to get the word out about tolerance for the homosexual community. Coming Out Week, we had suggested, seemed a lot more like Staying In Week, in light of the lack of sidewalk chalkings and other ways of saying "Hey! This is important!" The previous spring semester had displayed an equally inadequate attempt at raising issue awareness. Thankfully, though, GSA turned its act around in the spring semester of 2005. They had lots of posters and general advertising of the event, and they did a great job of collecting more than a hundred volunteers to sign up and wear their signatory black T-shirts. We wish GSA the best of luck and continued success in the future.

February 4, 2005

Snowfalls left walking around campus tricky at times with several walkways unplowed. Specifically highlighted was the sidewalk behind North Hall that runs along the one-way. This sidewalk not being plowed forced pedestrians to walk in the roadway, which the sidewalk was specifically designed to avoid.

The day after the editorial ran, however, the sidewalk was cleared, along with a few other problem spots around campus. The maintenance crews should be acknowledged for listening to the students and fixing a problem they may have otherwise not realized existed.

February 25, 2005

Faculty and students had voiced concerns with the service they were receiving from the ITS HelpDesk, so we did an editorial giving these concerns a collective forum to be heard from. Criticism is part of many jobs, but some ITS members became very upset that the Voice had questioned their operation. Dan Peterson from ITS came to one of our Editorial Board meeting to voice his concerns with our editorial, but he also displayed an unquestionable dedication to his job and his clients-students. Thanks, Dan, for talking with us. We wish we could have convinced ITS to address the entire student body via a letter to the editor, but we respect your decision. An idea had been tossed around at ITS to run a survey to get student feedback about their service, and we hope that idea materializes in the near future.

March 4, 2005

Journalists take three things very seriously: the first amendment, plagiarism and freedom of information. When the public safety department began giving the Voice blacked out incident reports in December of 2004, it was clear that someone was trying to play the role of gatekeeper, trying to impede the flow of information to the student body. It was a clear violation of the Wisconsin Sunshine law that provides citizens with the right to obtain any public record, especially from a public institution. Moreover, it was a slap in the face of the federal Freedom of Information Act.

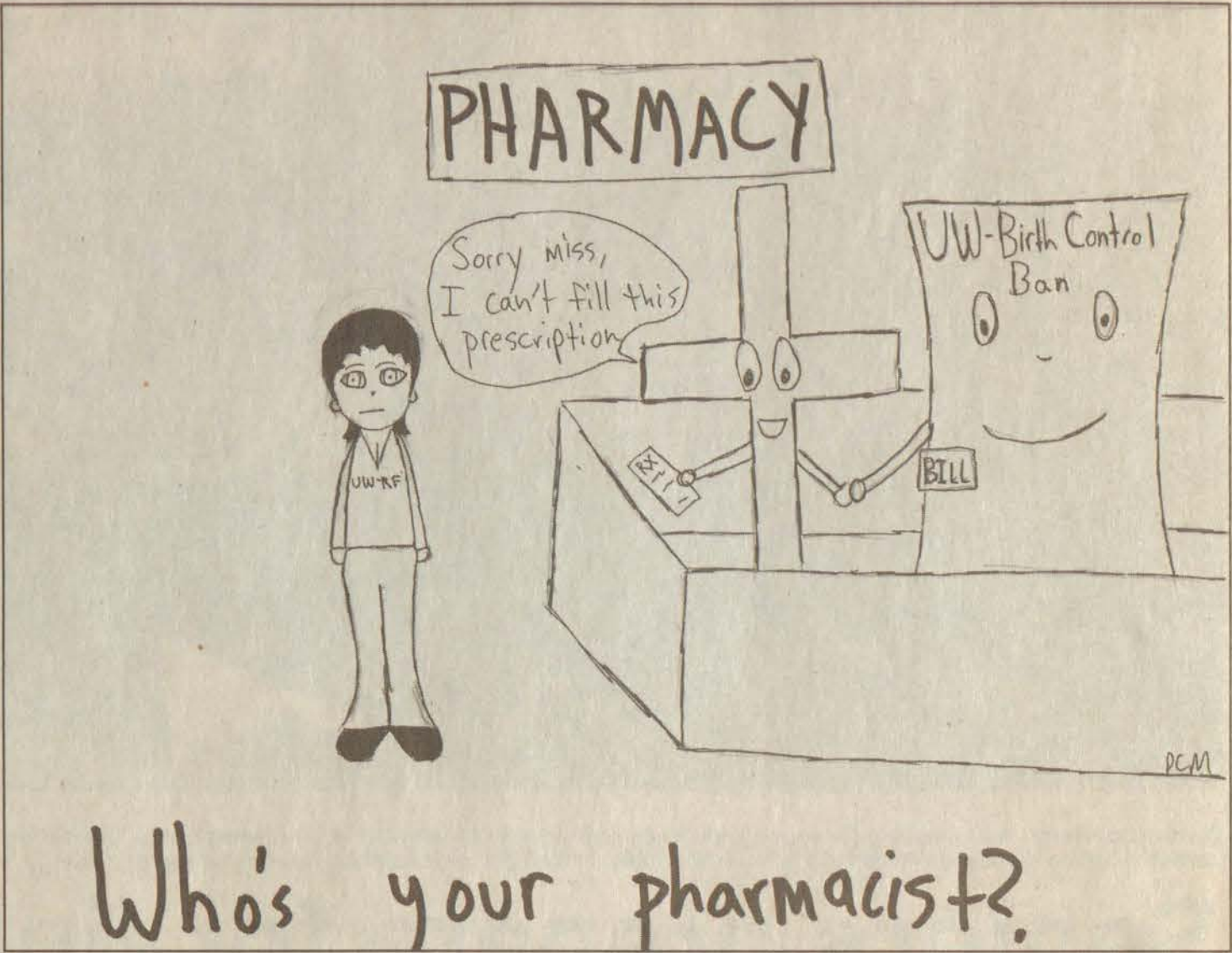
Following our editorial the director of public safety, Precilla Stevens resigned. While it is highly improbable that her resignation had anything what-so-ever to do with the editorial, incoming interim director, Mark Kimball took the Voice's stance to heart, did some research with his team, and ended the policy of blacking out records. Kimball should be recognized for going above and beyond, learning the laws and taking his new appointment seriously. It would have been very easy for someone to jump into the vacated position and live by the status-quo. This didn't happen.

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shoddy reporting misrepresents

I am writing to you with my concerns from an article in your most recent issue of the Student Voice. I am the Vice President of the organization "Campus and Community Fighting Hunger and Homelessness" and the article "Students volunteer for change" about the annual Volunteer Day was sadly misrepresented. This article was written by one of your staff members who I will acknowledge was a very in depth reporter. The introduction to the article was clear and well-written but after turning to page 7, I was far from pleased with the information given. Some of the information and quotes were very inaccurate.

The first thing I noticed was a simple grammatical error. "We painted a room and move some dirt that was mounting up by the fence." Not only is this a bad reflection of the person who was interviewed, but it shows a lack of copy editing in this publication.

Secondly, I was quoted as saying, "It's bagged in anything from grocery store Econo Foods to Tiffany's bags," and "We collected a lot of food items to be donated to the needy." First of all, not only is the reference to Econo Foods bags and Tiffany's bags completely irrelevant to the point of this article, but more importantly, I never said anything about this. In regards to the word "needy," that is not a word in my vocabulary, and as a person who is very passionate about issues relating to hunger and homeless, I am offended that I would be quoted using a word that I do not feel is appropriate to refer to people when commenting on their economic status.

I am disappointed in the fact that our volunteers are can not be quoted correctly when they are being recognized. As a student newspaper I feel that your journalists need to be as accurate as possible, and should take their position very seriously. In the future, I hope that events like Volunteer Day will be represented accurately in what I consider an outstanding student newspaper.

Lindsay Day
Vice President of Campus and Community Fighting Hunger and Homelessness

Liberal clear, Christian not

While I have some idea of what liberal or conservative means in the sphere of politics, I am perplexed as to what a "liberal Christian" might be. This is the term that Brian Hogenson applied to himself in his recent column. If his views are characteristic of a "liberal Christian," the liberal part is clear, but not the Christian part.

Now I know well what a Christian is. By longstanding definition, a Christian is one who follows Christ - one who follows what He taught and everything that He taught because He was God incarnate. What Christ taught was given to His apostles, in one form or another, so that it could be handed on to all succeeding generations for the good and salvation of all. The essential and sufficient Christian values were given to the world once and for all by Christ, safeguarded and taught by the apostles, and passed on through their successors to the present day. Being the truth given by God, these teachings are not changeable. Christians are precisely those who accept these authentic truths and strive to conform their lives to them.

One of the truths that Christ taught again and again is, as Hogenson pointed out in his column, that we are not to judge others; that is for God alone to do when one stands before Him. Christ taught very clearly that human acts can be good or bad, and that we are to avoid the bad and do only the good, lest we perish. We therefore must judge actions honestly and objectively so that we can do what is truly right.

Christ enjoined us to love God, to love our neighbor, and to obey the commandments. The fifth commandment shows the act of abortion is wrong, as is engaging in an avoidable war. The sixth commandment shows homosexual acts are wrong - as are indeed all sexual acts not between a husband and wife. The seventh commandment shows it wrong to pillage or pollute the environment, and it shows it is wrong to neglect the poor when one has the means to help them. Of course the commandments address other acts as well, but the above are only those raised

by Hogenson in his column.

As Christians, our political, social and personal actions should be formed and guided by true Christian principles. It should not be the case that political pressure or social consensus or media propaganda or subjective rationalization or individual feelings should influence us to abandon or modify what Christ taught and to call Christian what is not, and thereby be led to do what is beneath our intrinsic dignity as being made in the image and likeness of God.

James Senft
Professor of Mathematics

Call for support of multicultural center on campus

We are concerned about last week's article concerning a possible multicultural center. We feel that Dr. Ballou's remarks were uncalled for, as he is the Dean for Student Development and Campus Diversity. Ballou, better than anyone, should know the difference between separating people and bringing them together. He remarked, "We don't need to sperate people by these different 'isms.'" What 'isms' is Ballou speaking of? Multiculturalism? Racism? Multiculturalism celebrates everyone, it does not divide.

A multicultural center would create a safe place for discussion and would also include helpful resources open to all students. This space would allow for daily participation and celebration of diversity, not just waiting around for programming events that might not be well attended. The active exclusion of a multicultural center by the Student Union Core Committee shows the lack of effort to embrace our students and to create a truly inclusive environment. The administration isn't practicing what they preach. They ask us how we can embrace diversity, educate our student body, and how we can recruit and retain diverse students. However, when it comes to spending time and money on this issue, the overwhelming answer is no!

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is trying to produce competent graduates and prepare us for the real world. We are

issuing a call to students to demand a multicultural center as a vital part of your education!

Liz De La Torre
Kendra Plant
students

Discourage stereotypes, not promote them

Like many of you, I don't mind viewing a good party promotion, but there are times when a promotion crosses the line. On April 14, Crabtree Hall hosted a party, no problem. The promotional flyer was the only problem. The flyer depicted an image of a black male with lots of jewelry standing with two white females on both sides, dressed in short clothes. The title for the party was "Players and Party Girls." Although this title is far better than their original title "Pimps and Hos," the final image and title was still offensive.

My main concern with the promotion is the silent stereotype message it sent to readers. It's hard enough battling the negative images of minorities (especially black males) and women in our society and in the media. As college students, we should be fighting to change these stereotypes, not promoting them through images and phrases. There are positive ways to promote a party, this wasn't one of them. As part of this educational institution, halls should be held to the highest standard of integrity. The party title and image chosen by Crabtree Hall was absolutely judgmental, despicable, repressive and doesn't represent the standards of the university community.

I know the campus graphic artist made the image, but the ultimate accountability was the Crabtree Hall staff's to decide on a more appropriate illustration. I talked to Ms. Kerry Fealy of the Leadership Center who assured me that she and her colleagues will discuss plans to implement more checks and balances to monitor future hall events. I hope this sets precedent for future event planners, and sensitizes us to future issues of stereotypes on campus and in out society.

Leon Ghee
student

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Student Voice

The Student Voice is a student written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls and is published Thursdays during the regular school year, with the exceptions of semester/holiday breaks and the weeks of finals.

All editorial content in the Student Voice is determined by the newspaper's Editorial Board.

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

Letters to the editor must be legible, contain a first and last name and phone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Please limit letters to 300 words.

The Student Voice reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or space. It also reserves the right to withhold letters.

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, news releases, briefs, display ads, and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Tuesday at 11:59 p.m.

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State of the masses, relying on apathy to get night's rest

Praise the Lord! We have a newly elected ultraconservative pope, a president with a neo-conservative agenda a mile long, and super churches all across our great nation praying that W's judicial nominees get elected. The world couldn't be headed in a better direction. Church and state are finally strolling down that beautifully predestined path of American righteousness hand-in-hand. God bless America, and God bless George W. Bush.

Uh oh, still have an empty feeling in your stomach? What could possibly be bothering you in this, America's finest hour? We have terrorism on the run thanks to our preemptive strategy, and our foothold in the Middle East has finally been established. Maybe if we ignore those pesky Arabs with bombs for a

little longer they might just go away. Actually, if we topple only a few more regimes in the region, then America won't have to worry about its oil dependency or the Jihad for several years.

You don't trust this assessment? You don't have to and that's the great thing about our country. Even better is the lack of access to information and we have the news media to thank for that. They flood us with useless drivel about runaway brides so we can comfortably ignore the problems we are creating for future generations. Even when politicians are on the likes of CNN or Fox News, they wouldn't imagine receiving a query that is anything but scripted. Also, a question that gets to the point will never be asked of our leaders because they are pandering to panels that are sympathetic to their platforms.

Moreover, the easiest way around truly important social issues is to create a distraction. Just a

glance at the direction of America's education, health care and prison system should give even the staunchest conservative the sweats and make them run to their gun rack to chase out the liberals. But as I've mentioned in an earlier column, apathy and ignorance help this culture get a good night's rest.

Nevertheless, we cannot continue to overlook pressing issues such as the overcrowding of our prisons with non-violent criminals and slipping educational performance.

Furthermore, it seems like anyone who does try to find some reasons for society's woes just ends up following a finger. There are children minding their fellow classmates in cafeterias and the media and church groups go after "rock" bands; but the next week, those same

people are attending the NRA rally down the street. Thirteen-year-olds are getting pregnant and a lack of abstinence schooling is being blamed. Though we haven't thought to look at how sex is marketed in practically every aspect of our lives or that we have growth hormones used in virtually all our foods.

Sadly, I feel like there is little I can do to make a difference because politics are becoming increasingly elitist and are only serving special interests groups with big pocket books. I shouldn't really worry because at least I still have the freedom to speak out against the self-indulgence that is the American way of life. And after watching an afternoon of Fox News, I now have a long enough list of anti-depressants and E.D. meds to last me well into my imminent mid-life crisis.

They flood us with useless drivel about runaway brides so we comfortably ignore the problems we are creating for future generations.

Sly moves by conservatives on creationism

The Kansas State School Board will be holding hearings this week to discuss whether or not evolution should be taught in classrooms. This is the third time in the past six years Kansas will be discussing the issue. Six of the ten school board members, who describe themselves as religious conservatives, argue that the theory of evolution shouldn't be taught because humans and other organisms are too complexly designed to have evolved by random chance, thus deeming the theory invalid.

The controversy is showing up all over the nation. Religious conservatives are trying to find ways to accommodate both sides of the issue, but their solutions seem hardly plausible. A bill is currently on the floor of Texas' state legislature seeking to teach creationism along with evolution. It makes one wonder the motivation of these religious conservatives. Are they really concerned with teaching valid scientific theories, or are they looking to impose their religious beliefs into the legal and social systems of America? If these religious conservatives are genuinely concerned with the teaching

of an invalid theory, then they should attack the cell theory and the germ theory, too. They don't because they don't have a religious view that resists either.

When Charles Darwin first published his theory of evolution, it provided such irrefutable evidence that it remains a popular belief among scientists to this day. Look at the similarities between certain species. It has been proven that the genetic makeup of chimpanzees and humans is over 99 percent similar. If that isn't valid evidence, then I don't know what is. Teaching creationism would mean that we would be teaching a belief whose only source of supportive evidence is the Bible. Religious conservatives understand if they can make the government think

that evolution is an invalid theory, then they will be able to remove it from the classroom. As a result, creationism will have a better chance of being a mainstream belief among Americans. Sly move, religious conservatives.

Evolution is a scientific belief, and science should be taught in the classroom.

Creationism is a religious belief, and it shouldn't be taught in the classroom because of the importance of keeping religious beliefs and governmental institutions separate. If we were to start teaching creationism, then other religions would want some of their beliefs taught, as well. Pretty soon lunch ladies will be handing out corn dogs, tater tots, and a side of Communion. Buddhist meditations will take the place of badminton in gym class, and Muslims will want the end-of-the-year field trip to be to Mecca instead of the circus. That's like a four day trip, and it'll take at least a thousand car washes to raise enough money for airfare. Doubtful many parents would sign a permission slip for that one.

If you want your children to learn religious beliefs, either home school them or send them to a private religious school. The theory of evolution is a valid science, and it provides a basic understanding of nature. It deserves to be taught in classrooms across America. Creationism is a fine belief to have, and by all means, believe it if you want. The Bill of Rights allows you to do so. But please don't attempt to impose your religious beliefs on others.

Group healing and releasing past hurt: Taking Back the Night

Gender Equality Council event is eye opening for columnist, despite close-minded opposers

How could such a beautiful thing be used to represent such turmoil? Last Tuesday, I experienced the most moving vigil I have ever been involved with. I've only taken part in about two or three vigils, but this one in particular touched me.

As a member of Gender Equality Council, I was part of an event called Take Back the Night. This night was about victims of sexual assault, violence and abuse coming together in their despair to move on and educate others. The vigil occurred later on in the evening, as darkness was beginning to set in. Those of us participating walked downtown in silence to a wooden bridge above the river. We carried such signs as, "Hands are for Holding not Hitting," and "Men Against Sexual Assault, with pride." Once on the bridge, we broke our silence as we prepared to let go of the pain.

A pack of closed-minded teenagers met us with jeers of, "Let's go rape someone!" and "Violence is cool!" I felt a surge of anger boil up from my stomach to my throat as I stared at them. Their utter lack of respect made my hands shake with fear and disbelief. Our small group gathered together and placed small lit candles in paper bags around the edge of the bridge. Someone handed silky pink and white carnations to each aching person. My eyes stung as I watched each person struggle to articulate the pain they felt.

They talked about themselves or people they knew. The tears flowed freely as we came together for each other. I watched each carnation fall from the bridge and float down the current; they symbolized the hurt each person was finally willing to let go of. In the midst of all the anguish, I couldn't help but notice how pretty the carnations looked against the black watery background. I watched them until, at last, they were out of sight.

When the vigil was finished we made our way off the bridge again and picked up our signs.

It was time to celebrate - to take back the night and our lives. We were met once again by the pack of teenagers, still ignorant and unwilling to understand the powerful event that had just occurred. They were completely oblivious to the deep emotions our little group had just experienced. We

made our way past them, signs held high, and began to chant. "What do we want?" "Safe streets!" "When do we want them?" "Now!" At first I was a little shy to speak up and yell as we walked passed people on the streets or in their cars. My timidity was quickly overcome, however, and soon I was shouting just as loud as everyone else.

It's a great thing to speak up for something you know is right. It's an even greater thing to speak up for something you know is right in front of people who can't or won't understand. We continued on down the street and back to the campus, confident and unafraid to show it. As we passed lines of vehicles, we were met with honks and calls of support.



CAITLIN NIMM

Life is like ... a trip to White Castle

If you have not laughed or smirked even a little from one of my columns, then just stop reading now because I guarantee they haven't gotten any better in the course of this semester.

And seeing that this is the last paper and column of the year, everyone expects something special or unique, but the truth is that I am not going anywhere. All the people that got here four years ago with me are graduating, but I have two years left so this is nothing special.

I could do one of several things. I could rant Andy Rooney/Kyle Weaver style, but I have things pretty easy.

I could try to sound worldly and offer advice, but I am not someone that should be handing out advice. Trust me.

So, in light of the things I

can't do, I can take my best shot at an aggrandized final column.

People like metaphors, right? Here is my best metaphor: life is like a trip to White Castle - at

four in the morning. Here's why. If you are out on a weekend, whether it be drinking, playing poker etc. then try just once to go to White Castle when you are done. If you do it properly then it should be around four or five in the morning - seeing that it is almost an hour away.

The key to going to White Castle at dawn is the people, not the food. I went there on Halloween one year and encountered a nurse who went around and sat on the edge of every table and fully used her fart machine. Laughing until she fell over between every table. Her boyfriend/husband/random dude who was dressed like a

chicken, all the way up to the full-feathered head, followed her closely and made sure to ordain every table into the sisterhood, regardless of their sex. I was given the name Sister Mary Skinny Kid.

A couple weeks back I cut in line in front of a midget or short person or whatever they want to be called, and was shouted out in Chinese (this may surprise you, but that is one of the few languages that I don't speak). Seeing that I am built like Debra Messing, I ran away, resulting in us having to go through the drive through and sitting under the parking lot light, for safety purposes, to eat.

People tell me that there are other places that are open between here and St. Paul, and they are right. There are plenty. But none of them offer the spontaneity of the Castle.

And that is my little life metaphor. I suppose you could graduate and do the normal

thing and that is what everybody expects, much the same way you go home, or to someone's home, after the bar.

Or, you could do something different like go to White Castle. What that means for you, I am not quite sure. I think I am trying to convince you to do something other than get a job you hate just because it is the safe thing. You could end up with something fun or something scary. It is the bizarre happenings that make life worth living. No one has a good story about their bank account getting bigger.

What that means for me is to avoid graduation as much as possible, like Van Wilder with less chicks.

Just please don't end up being the chicken that ordains me like an English knight with a mini cheeseburger then, to seal the deal, take my pop from me and treat it like an egg you recently hatched.



AJ OSCARSON

Piece by piece, college completes the puzzle of adulthood

You know, I had this cute column prepared about cleaning dorm room messes in a cheap and efficient way. It was a fairly good column, by my standards anyway, especially since I was doped up on several cold and allergy medications at the time I wrote it. But Jesus tap dancing Christ, I've been thinking about graduating. I graduate in two weeks. WTF!? Where did the last five years go? Did I learn anything? I did. I have proof. I kept all my notes from classes. But did I really learn anything? There's more to college than classes because high school was all about classes, and high school sucked monkey balls.

And I sit here, and think, and listen to '80s power ballads, and try to figure out what I've really learned. I think I learned how to survive. College teaches you how to leave your parents safe, secure home and gives you a place where

you can transition from kid to adult. Which means when you get to the point where I am, you have to ask yourself if you've really learned how to be an adult. I learned how to get my car fixed without Dad's help (even though Dad is still a guru when it comes to most things. Thanks Dad.), balance a checkbook and to cook more than frozen pizza and macaroni and cheese. It might sound silly, but this day-to-day stuff adds up.

I think I've also learned how to make friends. High school friends dropped off like flies, but I get the feeling my friends from college will last. We'll keep in touch. We'll hopefully get back together and see each other again. Each and every one of my friends from college is precious to me. Can I say the same about friends

from high school? The only friends that have stuck by me from early on are my sisters (and later on brothers-in-law). They cheered me on and spent hours talking to me over the Internet about nothing. Thanks Beckie/Tim and Josie/Brant for making this experience less daunting and teaching me that college brings family closer. Especially the further away we all get.

I learned how to carry on a real relationship. I thought after losing a gorgeous high school boyfriend I moved right into cat lady mode. Heh, well, to be fair, it was my fiancé's dogged persistence paid off. Who thought I'd get such a handsome, sweet, wonderful guy?

That was a stroke of pure luck. Who thought we'd be such a stable and fun couple. (Thanks Eric (Buki) for being my Everything. Thanks

Mike and Donna for raising such a fantastic guy).

I learned how to get a job that doesn't involve gas stations or burger joints. I think I can do more for the world than that. All those times my Mom told me "Bachelor's, masters, PD." I swear Mom, I really did get it. Mom also recently cheered me on as I sent out my first resume and cover letter. Thanks Mom.

I look at people who spend their whole college time here drinking and partying and shake my head in wonder. I almost feel bad for them. How many lessons did they miss out on? How many lessons did I miss out on? I guess we'll never know. But for those of you who come back in the fall, pay attention. The lessons in college are some of the best in life you will ever receive. Why do you think they call this the best four years of one's life? Cheers.



AMY SCHOBERT

What are you doing to prepare for the end of the year?



Michelle Baxter, senior
"Studying in groups ... at Bo's."



John Kittinski, junior
"I'm not doing anything."



Tina Lu, senior
"I'm studying and sleeping."



Nick Nardinger, senior
"I'm having more beers to relieve stress."

Photo poll
by Corey Hargreaves

Eggy awards make guest appearance

Well it's that time. The annual Eggy awards are here for your reading pleasure. For those of you who have no idea what I'm talking about, the Eggy awards are given to those who have stood out above all the rest to shine in their sport. So here they are:

Rookie of the year
This year's rookie of the year had big shoes to fill. The team that he played for came back this season as conference champs, but with a whole new squad. Ryan Thompson, however, managed to guide the men's basketball team from the point position, in what was obviously a rebuilding year. Leading the team in assists, Thompson managed to play the role of the modern day Micah Helfrey but stepped into the position as a freshman. For this I congratulate Thompson.

Bounce back performance
While the swimming teams showed skill bouncing back on Jan. 28 to win at St. Mary's from a not-so-successful week before, I can't quite hand them the Eggy award.

However, if you are anything of a hockey fan and happened to be at a particular men's hockey match against UW-Stout, then you'd know where the award is headed. Congrats to the men's team for dealing with a loss on their ice, forcing a playoff mini-game that same night and winning to send them into playoff contention. The team left their fans with the memory of the greatness of Falcon hockey, even if it wasn't the best of seasons.

Best team performance for the season
Since we're on the topic, way to go again Falcon hockey. You've managed to impress us yet again. Way to finish third in the NCHA playoffs. Come on guys, you were out early in the playoffs; it's the ladies' turn to shine. With returning to the NCHA playoffs for the fifth consecutive year, the women's team took their third place finish ending the season with a 13-12 record overall.

Best team performance (event)
Despite my earlier column this year, Ramer Field shined for a Saturday. For the fans' amazement, the football team managed to get this win on homecoming weekend. Thanks to a second half surge, the team sealed the deal, controlling the ball for nearly 22 minutes in the last half. UW-Stout was no match for the ground control that the Falcons acquired through freshman Nathan Anderson leading his team with 127 rushing yards during the match. Even though people might enjoy the flight of a football for a long bomb, rushing led the team to the victory. I

stand corrected ... victories feel pretty damn good, regardless of how they are earned. Congrats guys.

Coach of the year
For this award I will turn to the men's basketball team to honor one of their coaches. Assistant coach Jeff Berkhof has made his mark as a great coach. Unfortunately, his performance is best outside of the Karges Center. Berkhof brought his golf team up to finish third at the end of the season. After the first round of the WIAC tournament, the team was leading. Pretty good considering the program is young. So for this I give a shot out to Jeff on his stellar performance, and I look forward to next season when he continues to climb the totem pole as one of the WIAC's elite coaches.

Athlete of the year
While Garrett Larson impressed the heck out of the hunting grounds out at Hunt Arena, bringing his St. Cloud State experience to the Falcons for his last eligible season, one might call him worthy of an Eggy. However, one of our athletes at UW-RF jumped her way to nationals in her first indoor competition and is all set for nationals in the outdoor track and field season. Jill Crandall is this year's winner for athlete of the year. Jill has presented herself as a dominant jumper and currently is ranked sixth in NCAA Div. III. Props to Jill, and we wish you the best.

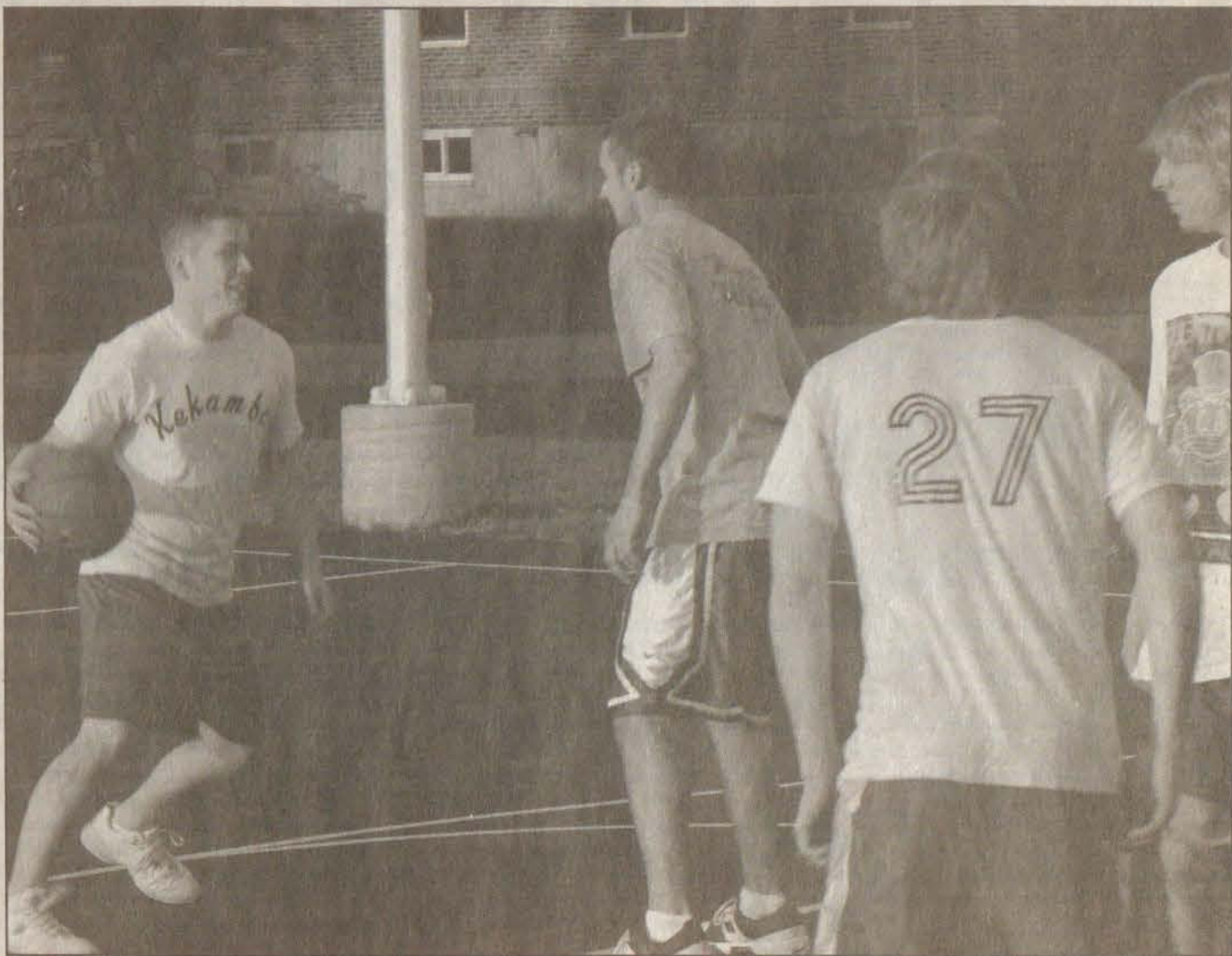
Farewell readers
For all of you that didn't receive an award this year, we appreciate your effort day in and out, and wish you the best of luck in your sports. Like the NCAA says, some athletes are going pro in something other than sports, but I like ESPN's saying a little better where if there weren't sports, there'd be no fans.

In closing I wish you all the best of luck in the future and look forward to watching from the stands next season. I've enjoyed the ride from the sidelines but my time has come to an end, and I must pass on this section of the paper that I have considered my home away from home for the past year.

While some of you have hated reading what I have said, and chose to approach me and let me know, you are my favorite readers because it was my way of knowing that you took the time to waste two minutes of your life on something that I wanted to be noticed. Again, thanks for the support and the cooperation and I wish all of you the best. Corey Hargreaves over and out.



COREY HARGREAVES



With the arrival of nice weather, UW-River Falls students take advantage and enjoy a pick-up game of basketball on May 2. The courts are located behind the dorms on the east end of campus and provide eight hoops for students to get out and enjoy the last few weeks of the school year with a little sporting activity.

Crandall and Christy represent at Drake relays, team prepares for WIAC meet

Jenna J. Campbell
Sports Information

The Falcon men's track and field team competed at the Macalester Twilight on April 27. There were no team scores kept. The women's track and field team placed sixth at the Macalester Invitational on April 30. Clint Christy and Jill Crandall competed at the Drake Relays (Des Moines, Iowa) on Thursday, April 28.

Leading the Falcon women, was Vicki Cooper placing first in the discus throw, with a toss of 36.47 meters. Cooper also placed third in the javelin throw with a toss of 30.95 meters. Amy

Piersak placed fifth in the 100 in 13.42, and fifth in the 200 in 27.17. In the 800, Sara Rudesill achieved her personal best and placed sixth in 2:24.31. Brittany Smith placed fifth in the 100-meter hurdles in 16.88. Smith also placed fifth in the 400-meter hurdles in 1:09.21. In the pole vault, Hannah Miller accomplished her personal best and placed third with a leap of 3.06 meters.

Holly Kromray placed fourth in vault with the same height of 3.06 meters. In the long jump, Kiah Sagami placed fourth with a leap of 4.80 meters, and eighth in the high jump with a leap of 1.49 meters. Taking the team

title was St. Benedict with 175, followed by St. Olaf 126, Macalester 114, St. Thomas 82, Carleton 74.5, UW-RF 74, Bethel 65, Hamline 54.5, St. Catherine 31 and Augsburg finishing with 30.

For the men, leading the Falcons was Darrin Young who achieved personal bests in the 110-meter hurdles and the 400-meter hurdles. Young placed second in the 110 in 15.31, and sixth in the 400 in 58.03. In the 3000 meter Steeplechase, Jeremy Olson placed third in 10:05.97. Rick Stewart placed fourth in the 400 in 50.54. Michael Zander placed fifth in the 200 in 23.03. Kevin

McDonough placed fifth in the 800 in 1:59.37.

On April 28, Crandall and Christy competed at the Drake Relays (Des Moines, Iowa). Crandall placed fifteenth in the heptathlon with a score of 4538, which will qualify Crandall for nationals.

Christy placed fifth in the decathlon with a score of 5799. "This is a very solid score for his first decathlon," says head coach Martha Brennan.

The men's and women's track and field team will next compete at the WIAC meet at UW-La Crosse on May 6 and 7. Action will begin at noon on Friday and at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

Fastpitch closes out cluster tourney with victory over UW-Stevens Point

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The softball team ended its two day cluster tournament with a 3-2 loss with Oshkosh and a 6-2 victory over Stevens Point.

In the first game, the Falcons had two runs on six hits and made two errors. They scored both their runs in the fifth inning. Oshkosh had three runs on six hits and made two errors. They scored single runs in the second, third and seventh innings. Emily Evans was the big hitter in this game. She was 3-3 and had two RBIs. Brittany Rathbun started the Falcons off in the fifth with a single to right field. She then advanced to second on a passed ball. Amanda Wojnowiak singled to the shortstop. Megan Blakeley pinch hit for Breamer Syverson and walked, filling up the bases. Evans then hit a single that scored Rathbun and Wojnowiak. Ashley Bertrand started and pitched four innings. She allowed three hits and two earned runs.

She walked two and struck out three. Rathbun pitched the last two and two-thirds innings allowing three hits and one earned run. She walked one and struck out three.

In the second game, the Falcons scored six runs on 13 hits and had three errors. They scored two runs in the second and fifth innings and single runs in the sixth and seventh innings.

Stevens Point had two runs on seven hits and made two errors. Both of their runs came in the first inning. Evans was the big hitter again. She was 3-4 with one RBI. In the second inning, Evans hit a single to left field and Sonia Madlon came in to pinch run for her. She advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt from Rathbun and made it to third on a single by Leah Vanderploeg. Jessamy Schwartz hit Madlon home with a single to right field. Vanderploeg scored the other run when she stole second then made it to third and finally home when Emily Rodgers grounded out to first. Syverson started the

scoring in the fifth inning when she hit a single to left field. She advanced to second on an error and made it to third on a single to center by Evans. Stahl had the other run. She made it to first on an error by the third baseman and advanced to second. She went to third on the Evans RBI and was sent home by a single to right by Rathbun.

Syverson hit in James in the fifth and Rathbun scored the final run in the seventh inning with a single to center field by Vanderploeg.

Rathbun pitched five innings to take the win and improve her record to 5-5. She allowed five hits and no runs. She walked one and struck out three. Bertrand pitched two innings and allowed two hits and two runs, one of which was earned. She struck out one and walked three.

The Falcons now have a record of 17-21 overall and are 8-8 in the conference. They play next weekend at the WIAC Tournament in Whitewater.

Varsity Sports Week

Friday, May 6

Fastpitch at WIAC Tournament (at Whitewater) vs. Stout, 11 a.m.

Track & Field at WIAC Meet (at La Crosse), 12 p.m.

Saturday, May 7

Fastpitch at WIAC Tournament (at Whitewater), TBD

Track & Field at WIAC Meet (at La Crosse), 9 a.m.

Top Performers



Jill Crandall
Track and Field



Brittany Rathbun
Fastpitch

Crandall was named WIAC Track Athlete of the Week after competing at the Drake Relays.

Rathbun won two games for the Falcons at the WIAC Cluster Tournament and picked up the save in their other win.

Scoreboard

Fastpitch

WIAC Standings

	W	L
Eau Claire (30-9)	13	3
Oshkosh (22-13-1)	10	6
Stevens Point (23-13)	9	7
Superior (23-14)	9	7
Stout (19-18)	9	7
River Falls (17-21)	8	8
La Crosse (16-19)	6	10
Platteville (15-20)	4	12
Whitewater (15-22)	4	12

May 1 Results

UW-River Falls	020 021 1 - 6 13 3
UW-Stevens Point	200 000 0 - 2 7 2

Name (Pos)	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO
Wojnowiak dh	4	0	0	0	0	0
Syverson 2b	4	1	3	1	0	0
Stahl 1b	4	1	1	0	0	1
Evans 3b	4	0	3	1	0	0
Madlon pr	0	1	0	0	0	0

Rathbun dh/p	3	1	2	1	0	0
Vanderploeg lf	4	1	3	0	0	0
Schwartz ss	4	0	1	2	0	1
James c	1	1	0	0	0	0
Blakeley ph	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rodgers rf	2	0	0	1	0	0
Bertrand p/dh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	30	6	13	6	1	2

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	AB	BF
Bertrand	2.0	2	2	1	1	3	10 11
Rathbun	5.0	5	0	0	1	3	21 22

UW-River Falls

000 020 0 - 2 6 2

UW-Oshkosh

011 000 1 - 3 6 2

Name (Pos)	AB	R	H	RBI	BB	SO
Wojnowiak lf	4	1	1	0	0	0
Syverson 2b/pr	2	0	0	0	0	0
Blakeley ph	0	0	0	0	1	0
Stahl 1b	3	0	0	1	0	0
Evans 3b	3	0	3	2	0	0
Kelley pr	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanderploeg dh	2	0	1	0	0	0
Schwartz ss	2	0	0	0	0	1

James c	2	0	0	0	0	0
Guisinger ph	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bertrand p	1	0	0	0	0	1
Rathbun ph/p	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rodgers rf	3	0	0	0	0	2
Falck cf	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	25	2	6	2	2	7

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	AB	BF
Bertrand	4.0	3	2	2	2	3	13 17
Rathbun	2.2	3	1	1	1	3	10 12

Track and Field

Macalester Invite Results April 23
Women

- Cooper, Discus - 119.65 feet
- Cooper, Javelin - 101.54 feet
- Miller, Pole Vault - 10.04 feet
- Krakra, Discus - 115.26 feet
- Kromray, Pole Vault - 10.04 feet
- Liesch, Shot Put - 36.78 feet
- Sagami, Long Jump - 15.75 feet
- Piersak, 100 m - 13.42
- Piersak, 200 m - 27.17
- Smith, 400 m hurdles - 1:09.21

MASH, from Page 1

Root beer floats, buzz cuts abound

ammunition boxes, shirts, jackets, army meal kits, sleeping bags, army duffel bags, canteens and tents.

Students in a time crunch and unable to stay for the games can stop by for a free root beer float and other goodies funded by the United Postal Service, which has been the corporate sponsor of M*A*S*H since it first started.

"I've stopped by in the past; it really adds a festive feeling to the campus during finals week, and the free root beer floats rock," said senior Kirsten L. Nesse, who is graduating this

month.

In honor of true army tradition, free buzz cuts will also be offered to students sponsored by Hastings Beauty College, and students will have the opportunity to make personalized dog tags as a keepsake. The St. Croix Center for the Healing Arts will also be offering stress-relieving massages.

"The whole idea is to do something fun and relaxing for students, faculty and staff," said Alice Reilly-Myklebust, director of Student Health Services and co-creator of M*A*S*H.

High turnouts in the past have prompted organizers to hope for a high turnout this year as well.

"This seems to be pretty successful on campus," Berkholder

said. "This is a more healthy and proactive way to get through finals week."

Students agree that it is a great way to get one's mind off finals for at least a little while.

"It's a really nice time to just get finals off of your mind and think about something else and kind of preview the summer a little bit, you know, the fun factor," said Student Health Services intern Liz

Ablett, who has also participated in M*A*S*H for the past four years. "I've always had fun at it. It's a nice time to get away from the stress that you have on your mind, even just taking five or 10 minutes out of your day to get away from studying can make a huge difference, so that's what we're trying to do for students."

"This seems to be pretty successful on campus."

**Sally Berkholder,
UW-RF career
counselor**

ART, from Page 1

Jeremy Balfanz were selected as this year's recipients of the campus recognition. Swenson hopes the University will make this a mainstay of the Juried Art Show.

While only two pieces were selected for campus display, the juror issued other pieces exhibition awards for their creativity.

Balfanz, an art major specializing in ceramics, said he has submitted work before and won smaller awards.

"She really liked it," Balfanz said. "I look at it as a huge honor."

Pifer said the quality of piece was very good and possessed a good sense of mature artistic style.

Balfanz has been working with ceramics for about 10 years, dating back to high school. This is Balfanz's last semester at UW-RF, but he plans to

continue his work and eventually attend graduate school.

"I would like to set up a studio as soon as possible," Balfanz said.

What the juror usually sees in a piece that is chosen for an award is some sort of "sparkle," Swenson said. A lot of times the pieces that are accepted into the exhibition are the most personally engaging.

What makes the Juried Art Show unique is its objectivity. Swenson said it is important to have outside voices reiterate the points professors make in class. The show is also an opportunity for art students to take their first step into a professional platform.

"I would say all the students I've talked to are very proud of this show," Swenson said.

Although the juror is completely objective, Swenson reserves her right to be subjective about the show.

"It represents the studios in a really good way," Swenson said.

AWARDS, from Page 1

"I want to commend all of the students for doing such a great job," Rathburn said.

The winners received a plaque and a check for \$50.

UW-RF students Ed O'Keefe and Kris Unise won the poster award for best presentation about salsa business.

"We took it seriously, but we also had fun," O'Keefe said. "It was interesting to compare and contrast the different business plans that other teams developed."

Alfonso Grunauer won the best business plan presentation for his business concept, called the Alerter.

The award for the best written plan went to UW-Eau Claire students Andrew Mullvain and Rachel Olson for their business, Avella Nets.

Mullvain said he was tired of hearing all those stories about the "big one" getting away so he invented the first net for ice fishing.

"The conference totally energized us about our idea," Olson said. "We got really good feed-

back from people."

The five-member team that won the Lydecker trophy for Best Overall Business Plan, for their business called Functional Fashions, was comprised of UW-Stevens Point students Fred Bubolz, Tom Stanislawski, Maryani Liauw, Shane Kole and Rachel Leach.

Leach said she got the idea to develop a clothing line for special-needs children when she could not find clothing to meet the sensory needs of her 4-year-old autistic daughter who, too often, takes off her clothes in public.

"I needed to find clothes that have both a front and back zipper to prevent this," Leach said.

Leach said the team felt very knowledgeable and devoted a lot of time to developing their business plan.

"The conference was an excellent opportunity for us to put our business plan into reality," Leach said.

The two panel discussions, Finding Resources and Financing Alternatives, provided students with expert advice such as the importance of networking, finding an inner circle of experienced people who want to help, and finding a mentor to bounce ideas off of.

"Assemble a team of people who want to work in your best interest," said Executive Director of St. Croix Economic Development Corporation Bill Rubin.

Contacting the right agencies to aid with specific aspects of business, finding a banker and an attorney, and the various financial plans and programs available for funding a business was also stressed.

"Don't go to a loan officer for financing," said Director of the Small Business Development Center Christopher Bye. "Speak to a banker. This is the best financial resource for a small business."

UW-RF alumnus and President and CEO Pierce-Pepin Cooperative Services Steve Healy gave students a final piece of advice.

"Network as much as you can," Healy said. "Don't leave any stones unturned because there is help out there for you."

CBE Dean Barbara Nemecek thanked Xcel Energy for making the conference possible.

"We look forward to Xcel's support for another year," Nemecek said. "I hope more students will enter as the conference continues to grow each year."

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

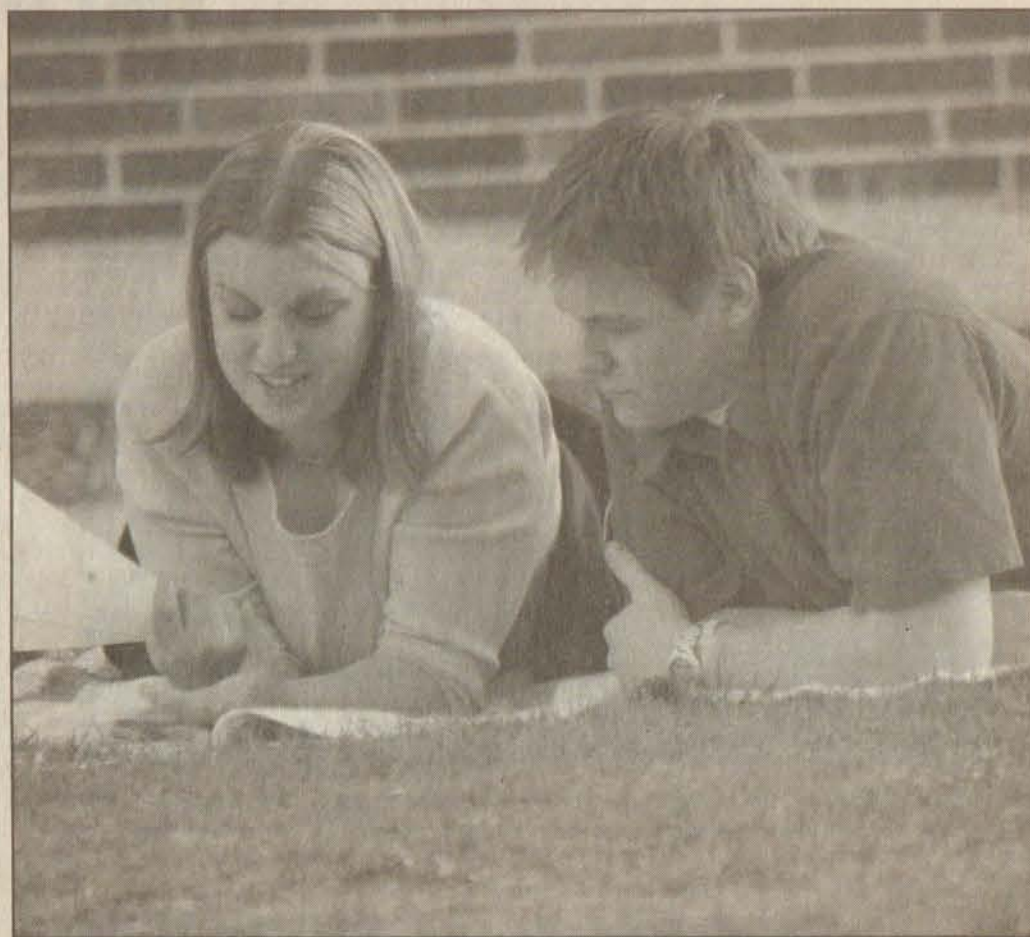


Photo by Micheal Foley
Troy Woullet helps Laura Schultz, an elementary education senior, study for her senior science capstone May 4. Finals week starts May 9.

SHOES, from Page 1

Peters said she gained a new awareness for what it may be like to be a minority on campus. She noticed comments by people around her that she realized would probably be offensive to a Native American. She said some comments were made as

jokes and some were not. Peters realized sometimes jokes can go too far.

"You only can be funny for so long before it gets offensive," Peters said.

Acker said the week concluded with students being invited to two of the Greek houses. At this time, Acker said, students were told about misconceptions of Greeks, while the other houses helped get rid of some of these stereotypes.

"It's not like Animal House; it is just a house and constructive things get done," Acker said.

The *Student Voice* would like to thank you for reading, and be sure to pick up a *Voice* next semester to stay informed about your campus.

M*A*S*H

Finals week
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reduction
center



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Farewell...

Final words from the *Student Voice* staff



Rachel Gaynor, Advertising Manager and Sarah Gestson, Viewpoints Editor
"With no *Student Voice* in the summer we're going wild! F*** censorship."



Mike Klees, Assistant Sports Editor
"I'm going back to Eau Claire where it doesn't suck."



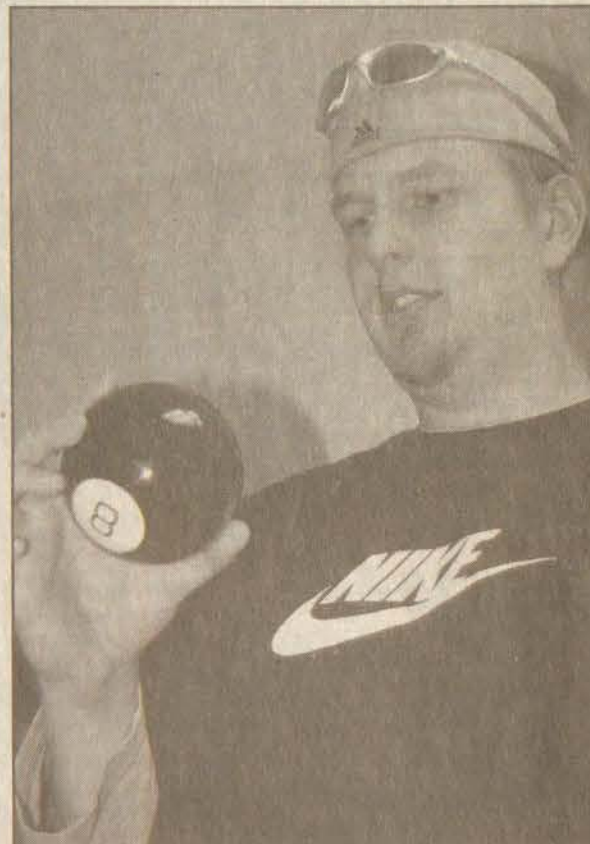
Maria Hall, Online Editor
"Aogah, Aogah! Everyone leave QUICK!"



Eric Quade, Co-Editor
"Arrrr! Me ship, cannon and ample booty say pirates be better than ninjas. Now be off, mateys, me gypsy belly dancers be below decks ..."



Neng Yang, Graphic Artist
"You guys want how many more graphics?!!"



Derrick Williams, Co-Editor
"Ooo ... a magic eight ball! Lemme ask it a question. Ohh magic eight ball, will I get a high paying job as a major market newspaper columnist? 'My sources say no.' Pigeonholed again as an exceptionally tall ninja."



Micheal Foley, Photo Editor
"I can't wait to get out into the real newspaper world and use all this knowledge of cutting-edge technology I learned at UW-RF."



A.J. Oscarson, Front Page Editor
"Now that I won't be bathing in North Hall anymore, maybe the fountain water won't taste like hippy ski bum."



Beth Dobbs, Proofreader
"I'm off to see the wizard."



Eric Ebert, Assistant Editor
"I put my name, face and stamp of approval on my opinion. I ain't scared of no bad apples."



Bryan Harmelink, Columnist
"I'm moving to the South Pacific to make radios out of coconuts."



Cassie Rodgers, Proofreader
"So many letters to the editor ... Bible banging writers suck, Gosh."



Trista Seitzer, Proofreader
"Have a great summer, see lot of freinds and make lots of money. Or find yourself a sugar daddy, or sugar mama."



Katie Bild, Business and Circulation Manager (left) Sarah Packingham, Assistant News Editor
"Oh my gosh, did you know that Ron Jeremy has a masters degree in special education? Banana phone!"

Summer Rental Special

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entertainment

- Lifehouse**
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7 p.m.
Fine Line Music Cafe
Minneapolis
\$18.50 - \$38.50
- Jesse McCartney**
Monday, 5/16
7:30 p.m.
State Theatre
Minneapolis
\$31
- Keane**
Tuesday, 5/17
7 p.m.
Northrop Auditorium
Minneapolis
\$25
- The Killers**
Saturday, 5/21
6 p.m.
Quest Club
Minneapolis
\$20
- Hank Williams Jr.
with Trace Adkins**
Saturday, 5/21
8 p.m.
Hiackley Amphitheater
Grand Casino
Hiackley, Minn.
\$38 - \$45
- Dave Attell**
Sunday, 5/22
7:30 p.m.
State Theatre
Minneapolis
\$30
- George Thorogood &
the Destroyers**
Thursday, 5/26
7:30 p.m.
Mystic Lake Casino Hotel
Prior Lake, Minn.
\$25 - \$35
- Alanis Morissette**
Friday, 6/10
8 p.m.
Orpheum Theatre
Minneapolis
\$36-\$56

News articles, columns, editorials all different

If you read a newspaper on a semi-regular basis, you probably have noticed a difference in the way articles are written, depending on which section of the paper you are reading. There are three primary types of articles: news articles, columns, and editorials.

News articles are written by a "reporter", who reports on what is going on in the world. This reporter runs all over the place trying to find out what's going on. When he finds something going on, he asks questions of people, known as a "source," who might know something about what's going on. "Hey, what's going on?" is a typical question a reporter might ask a source. This is usually followed up by "How do you feel about that?" Assuming the source agrees to talk, the reporter now has a story. He types it up, detailing what his source said about what's going on. This is then printed and the whole world now knows what is going on, at least according to the reporter's sources. So basically, a news article is obtained when a reporter regurgitates a source's information in written form.

Of course, a news article is only as good as the reporter's source, and the reporter's ability to regurgitate what the source says. This means that a) the



ERIC HENNING

source has to be willing to talk, and b) the reporter has to take good notes.

Some sources are extremely suspicious of reporters, and will tend to clam up when asked if they'd mind answering some questions about what is going on. This means the reporter has to use his puppy dog eyes to win the

source's pity, while assuring the source it will only take a minute or two. This usually works. But even still, at the end of an interview 15 minutes later, when the reporter asks the source to spell his name, the source will refuse, saying he doesn't want his name appearing in the paper. It could be that the source is simply an asshole. But it could also be that the source noticed the reporter wasn't taking many notes, and was afraid of being misquoted.

Misquoting occurs when a reporter mistakenly puts quotation marks around a statement attributed to a source, even though the source didn't actually make that statement. For example, lets say there is an outbreak of "crabs" at the local high school. The diligent reporter interviews a teacher, who says, "Crabs are itchy, and it is distracting students from their studies." What appears in the paper is, "My crabs are itchy, which I got by distracting students from their

studies." Both statements contain nearly the same words, but say two very different things. This reporter did a poor job of regurgitating what his source said, and might want to consider a new career as a columnist.

Columnists are paid to share their opinions on how they feel about what is going on in the world. What columnists do is read news articles or otherwise find out what is going on in the world, form an opinion about it, and write at least 500 words eloquently trying to convince readers to feel as he does. Unless the columnist is writing humor, in which case he just makes stuff up for the explicit purpose of entertaining readers.

If you flip to the "Opinion" section of the paper, you'll find headlines like "Bush chosen by God to lead," a piece written by some smarmy conservative, or "Bush in bed with oil executives, Satan," written by a pissed off liberal. Generally a columnist is either a conservative or a liberal, which creates a polarizing debate among readers through the Letters to the Editor section of the paper.

An editorial gives a forum for the editors to express their opinions. This is traditionally the most boring part of a newspaper, because it is usually written by some crotchety, grouchy, gray-haired editor whose idea of a good time is to fire a reporter. It is so boring that most people would rather read the comics

three or four times, than read the editorial.

Basically, to write an editorial, what happens is, the grouchy editor calls an editorial board meeting with all the other editors at the paper, and finds out what is going wrong in the world. Then they pick the best problem (or worst, if you are not a journalist) and throw out some solutions, while making snide comments indicating that if the public officials in charge of this problem had half the brains the editorial board did, it would be fixed by now.

For example, the Student Voice is required by law to write about the parking issue at UW-RF in some way every year. The Voice editor writes a bunch of paragraphs describing the parking problem and saying how this isn't the way it should be. Then at the end, he will suggest the University just build a parking ramp already, or put a parking lot on the mall, or fill in the Kinnickinnic River and put a parking lot there, or something like that. The great thing about editorial solutions is they don't have to be practical. This is good, because as journalists, we don't have any qualifications to know how to solve the parking problem. To actually know how to solve the parking problem, we would have to be a campus planner or some such thing.

In case you're wondering, this is a column. Barely.

MITCH

Did you get the 120 credits required to graduate?

Yeah

Did you buy the graduation hat and gown? Did you invite your family?

Already taken care of.

How come they didn't call my name, and how come I'm not on the graduation list?

Did you pay the graduation fee?

What graduation fee?

Graduation day

By:NengYang

Look for the
Student Voice
graduation issue
May 14
You don't want to miss it

If you drink ONE less drink per week for a year,
you will save enough for a night out in a new outfit!

ONE DOLLAR A TIME...

FREE
MONEY

What can you buy with \$143?

A pair of Gap Jeans

\$60

An AE Shirt

\$30

An Old Navy Tank

\$12

Necklace

\$12

Applebees for two

\$24

A Starbucks Latte

\$5

What to buy with the extra \$156?

Jeans from Old Navy

\$26

Fossil Watch

\$80

Abercrombie Shirt

\$12

Tank of gasoline

\$30

Twins tickets for two

\$8

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Are you not sure where you want to live?
Would you like to search for places right from the comfort of your own computer?

RIVER FALLS HAS THE PERFECT SOLUTION FOR YOU!

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HERE ARE THE ADVANTAGES:

Available 24/7

View listings online

Smart Search

View photographs

E-mail family, roommates, and friends

Constantly updated listings

View all listings from one link

Find roommates

HOW DO I FIND THE LISTINGS?

Go to 'www.uwrf.edu'

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Graphic by Neng Yang

A student's ethical decision

Internet makes cheating in school easy to do, get away with

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Co-Editor

Five hundred dollars and a B+ later, John still hasn't suffered buyer's remorse.

Stressed out and facing the prospects of not graduating, John, an alias for a student at UW-River Falls who wanted to remain anonymous, described his situation as precarious. He had six days to write a major research paper for a class he needed a C in so he could complete his major and graduate college.

"My parents wouldn't understand if I was too busy," John said. "I need to graduate. Everyone in the family is looking at me to be the one, the first to get the degree."

John's situation is like that of many students. He is the oldest child from a big family that comes from small-town USA. He was the first to go to college, not to mention the first in the family who will get a degree.

With six days till the due date, John realized his research project wasn't going to get done.

"I hadn't worked on it at all," John said. "I have 18 credits and I work 30 hours at my job so I can pay my school bills and car bills. So I jumped on the Internet and tried to come up with something."

What John found was something many students have: cheating.

Cheating takes many different forms and most people can't say they haven't done it at least once. Plagiarism, crib sheets, writing answers on your hand, having your best friend write a paper for you, writing on the brim of a hat, looking at a neighbor's test and planting information on a calculator are all popular ways students can cheat.

Interim Chancellor Virgil Nylander thinks one reason, among a laundry list of possibilities why students cheat, is because it is easier than doing the work necessary, especially when a student is busy.

"There are many different reasons why an individual may cheat," Nylander said. "They are stressed, short of time, their grades are suffering and they want to improve their performance."

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Gorden Hedahl agrees.

"It is a faster way to do something," Hedahl said. "It sounds easier. Unfortunately, they are short cutting themselves. If you're desperate and haven't done the work, sometimes people resort to these things. It is like stealing. They think that they can get easily something they would normally have to work hard for. That is the motive at least."

Dean of Students Roger

Ballou is a bit less diplomatic about why he thinks students cheat.

"Students get themselves into situations where they have managed their time poorly," Ballou said. "I think that mostly it is because they are afraid; afraid of the consequences. It is fear that drives people to cheat."

John didn't seem to agree with the administrators.

"I just got bogged down," John said. "There are professors at this campus that think students got some easy ride. Like school is too easy. It isn't that easy."

John's knee-jerk reaction is similar to that of a lot of students. The Internet is a playground for college-age people, with information pouring out from everywhere.

Hedahl thinks that the introduction of the Internet has changed the face of the cheating landscape.

"With the age of the Internet, there is access to so many papers and so much information so easily," Hedahl said. "Before it took a great deal of research to find material to plagiarize, that you may as well do your own research. Now all you have to do is cut and paste and put your name on it."

Nylander agrees the Internet has changed how cheating is done. It isn't limited to copying a neighbor's test anymore; it has become bigger than that.

"As an instructor, I remember giving multiple choice tests and when I would I could see the wandering eyes," Nylander said. "When I saw that I made a habit of staring the student down to make them so uncomfortable they wouldn't dare move, much less look to their left or right. They got the message, but that is harder when people are grabbing things off of the Internet."

There is another interesting modernization occurring within the sphere of cheating that John discovered as he was frantically surfing the internet trying to find an answer to his research paper dilemma.

Students can now hop online and hire people to write their research papers. At \$49 per page, Erik Stork, owner and Web master of termpapers.net will write anything a student asks him to write.

"I write about six or seven papers a month for stressed out kids," Stork said. "The good thing for the kid is that it isn't plagiarism because it is original work."

Stork admitted that it isn't a very good way for a student to go through college, but it will work in a pinch, something John agreed with.

"It isn't like I cheat all the time," John said. "But I needed something fast. I don't think I had much choice."

While the Internet has paved the way for students to creatively cheat their way through classes, it has also allowed educators a way to fight back.

English department chair Marshall Toman is one of many professors at UW-RF that is advocating the Web site turnitin.com to help detect plagiarism.

"It really works the way it is supposed to work in that it identifies material that can be found elsewhere," Toman said. "It will help detect plagiarism cases."

The main idea behind turnitin.com is simple. According to their Web site, they can detect plagiarism by comparing a submitted paper to billions of pages of content located on the Internet and on their own databases of submitted papers. Results are then compiled into a report and sent back to an educator with plagiarized material highlighted.

At UW-RF, if a student is caught cheating, it is usually something that the student and the faculty member hammer out on their own, Ballou said.

"Faculty members have a great deal of discretion," Ballou said. "About 85-90 percent of the time they handle the matter."

In the event that a student wishes not to deal with the faculty member, they can bring the issue to a hearing committee, Ballou said.

"The student can't change horses in mid-stream," Ballou said. "So if the student agrees to negotiate with a faculty member then suddenly doesn't like what the faculty member is doing, the student can't then ask for the hearing committee."

Most of the time, in the event a student is caught cheating, the punishment can be failure of the assignment or test. In some more serious instances, a student can fail the class, which more often than not requires taking the class again, Ballou said.

The only time a student can be expelled is when the student is a repeat offender.

"At that point the committee will meet and decide what to do," Ballou said. "A member of the faculty cannot suspend or expel a student. I can't either. That is up to the committee."

John, meanwhile, didn't seem very concerned that he would get caught. His paper wasn't plagiarized, making it pretty much impossible to prove it wasn't his work.

Hedahl acknowledges that this kind of cheating is difficult to police.

"It is like other crimes," Hedahl said. "It happens more often than it is caught."

John understands the consequences for cheating and thinks that the once clear lines of cheating are becoming a bit faded.

"I can go online and take a paragraph from some guy's Web site and make it mine," John said. "Is that plagiarism? What if I change some words? Students do that all the time."

Results from a survey performed by the Center for Academic Integrity at Duke University show that John is right.

In that survey, 41 percent of students questioned during the 2001-2002 academic year thought plagiarism on written assignments occurred often or very often, 30 percent thought the same thing about cheating during tests or exams, and 60 percent when it came to collaborating on assignments professors instructed students to work on alone.

While research indicates that cheating is a growing problem around the nation, John doesn't seem to think that cheating is a big problem at UW-RF.

"I don't know. I never cheated much before this," John said. "I mean, I never really hear about it."

Nylander echoed those sentiments saying he doesn't recall hearing about anything too egregious or epidemic sized.

"Some people say it is rampant, but I don't see it," Nylander said. "It is difficult to get a handle

The logistics of cheating

With advances in technology such as the Internet, academic impropriety has come a long way

•Numerous Internet sites such as termpapers.net offer students access to thousands of research and term papers on a multitude of subjects.

•If plagiarism is a concern, there are more Internet sites that allow students to pay people to write papers for them. Prices for this service vary from as little as \$20 per page to as much as \$100 per page depending upon subject matter and deadline.

•Educators have developed technology to fight back against unethical students with plagiarism detection services like the one at turnitin.com which can cross check a student's work against a database of published sources.

on. I hope that is good news. I don't think instructors are ignoring it."

Ballou agrees and thinks that is a result of the kind of students that attend UW-RF.

"I think that students here have a fairly high degree of academic integrity," Ballou said. "Students want to be able to live with themselves. Cheating isn't rampant here. I don't think cheating is crisis or anything here."

Plagiarism is an especially big problem, but is one that seems to be somewhat easy to detect. Whether it is sophisticated search engines on the Internet or, as Hedahl says, good old fashioned teacher's intuition.

"If you're writing papers, professors get used to the writing of students," Hedahl said. "They can tell if someone starts writing with a different style and a different vocabulary than they usually do, but students still try. There are people who will change a couple of words and they think it is their own. We are in an age when borrowing movies and music isn't a bad thing over the Internet, so they do the same thing with papers."

John realizes that what he did is wrong, but he doesn't regret it.

"I got mine," John said. "I'll get my fancy piece of paper. I'll get my job, but most importantly, my mom will get her graduation ceremony."

While students may take a more philosophical approach to cheating, administrators and educators do not.

"It is not something that should ever be taken lightly," Hedahl said. "It is a serious issue. It is so disappointing, it is really frustrating. Faculty members don't like to find students cheating, they really don't. They want students to learn what they are teaching."

Nylander agrees, saying that cheating is something he'd rather not see.

"The fact that we'd rather not see it doesn't mean that it doesn't exist," Nylander said. "Humans are human and we make mistakes. That isn't to say that everyone cheats, but there are a lot of temptations especially when students are under stress. It is unfortunate, because students are here to learn, to generate their own work and take responsibility for it. When they do things that are not in line with that they are just cheating themselves. That is just a waste of money. They are throwing their money away."

For Ballou, cheating is just the beginning when it comes to misconduct.

"It's the seeds of Enron," Ballou said. "If you walk around this place and cheat your way through college, in 25 years I wouldn't be surprised to find you in some office tower somewhere cheating on income reporting for some company."