



Strong outing at Portsmouth tournament boosts Rich Melzer's NBA draft stock
See B1

Administration given a facelift

Recently retired Nylander to assume interim chancellor duties June 1; Coombs to retain provost position, Halada named VCAF

Mike Longaecker
Front Page Editor



Ginny Coombs

In the latest change in UW-River Falls administration since the March 25 death of Chancellor Ann Lydecker, Provost Ginny Coombs announced April 12 that she will relinquish her post as interim

chancellor June 1.

Virgil Nylander, former vice chancellor for administration and finance, was appointed by UW System President Katharine Lyall to take the reins until a permanent replacement is named.

Coombs also formally announced that Mary Halada

will be the new vice chancellor for administration and finance. The position was vacated in January when Nylander retired.

In a campus-wide e-mail, Coombs said she won't be a candidate for the chancellorship when the search committee begins narrowing the field.

Coombs had been named interim chancellor by Lyall immediately following Lydecker's death.

The new leadership will reunite the three administrators who had all previously served under Lydecker.

"I am very pleased that Dr. Ginny Coombs, Dr. Virgil Nylander and Ms. Mary Halada have agreed to form the senior management team to lead UW-RF during the coming transition," Lyall said in Coombs' e-mail.

The addition of

Nylander as interim chancellor will bring "a calm, stable force" to the position, Halada said.

"I look forward to working with Virgil again," Halada said. "We make a good team."

Halada said she was happy but melancholy to be named to the position for which she and three other candidates had been competing.

"I'm pleased," Halada said. "But with Ann's death, the tenor of things have changed somewhat."

She said her primary goal as vice chancellor for administration and finance is "just to get through the year."

"The three of us have worked well together," Halada said of the re-assembled team of administrators. "This will really be a year of transition with the new chancellor coming, but



Mary Halada

"Mary has proven herself capable and ready," Coombs said. "She has great experience in the financial area. She understands detail and sees the big picture."

Coombs, who had previously said she would consider a chancellorship, said she will remain at UW-RF through the 2004-05 academic year.

The e-mail did not elaborate on Coombs' plans beyond the 2004-05 school year.

See CHANGES, A6

we'll be able to do it."

Coombs cited Halada's experience both at UW-RF and with politicians in Madison as assets she'll bring to the job.

Car crash claims another from UW-RF

Senior business administration major was to graduate in May

Tiffany Shelman
Editor

UW-River Falls student Clay Vannet died of head injuries sustained in a car crash April 11.

Vannet, 23, was found at the intersection of Highway 29 and County Road MM just after 6 a.m. According to the Pierce County Sheriff's Department report, Vannet was traveling north on Highway 29 when his vehicle left the road and overturned. He was taken by ambulance to the River Falls Area Hospital and then by helicopter to Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. Vannet died Tuesday.

The accident remains under investigation.

A senior majoring in business administration, Vannet was scheduled to graduate with honors in May.

Ellen Schultz helped Vannet with his internship at TLC Seeds. She said he was a productive young adult and his death is quite a loss.

"Any student we lose is one too many," Schultz said.

She said Vannet was looking beyond a bachelor's degree.

"He was enthusiastic about what he was doing," Schultz said. "He wasn't just going through the motions; he had a purpose."

Vannet, son of Jim and Debra Vannet of River Falls, was planning to attend graduate school at the University of Minnesota-Duluth next year.

Funeral services will be held April 16 at 11 a.m. at the First Congregational Church, 110 N. Third St., River Falls.

Staff writer Sarah Day contributed to this story.

Campaign finance reform, voter turnout focus of Feingold visit

Micheal Foley
Assistant Editor

April 12, U.S. Sen. Russ Feingold visited UW-River Falls to speak to students, faculty, staff and members of the community about several issues from campaign finance reform to voter participation, but he named the fight against terror his top priority.

Feingold said President Bush was doing a good job with the war on terror at first but has become distracted with Iraq.

"Something's terribly wrong," Feingold said. "There is no evidence of a tie between 9/11 and Iraq. The White House has lost focus. They have taken their eye off the ball — off of Osama bin Laden."

Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, sponsored the event, which was held at the Abbot Concert Hall in Klempell Fine Arts. The near-capacity crowd included an almost equal mix of Feingold supporters and opponents as only half the audience welcomed the Democrat senator with a standing ovation.

Feingold said he only won one of his first elections by 37 votes out of about 47,000 and that Al Gore only won Wisconsin by 5,000 votes in the

2000 presidential election. He urged everyone to vote in the upcoming presidential election.

"Your votes will have an enormous impact," Feingold said. "If George Bush wins Wisconsin, he'll be president again. If John Kerry wins Wisconsin, he'll need it to stay in the running."

He also spoke about the campaign finance reform bill he co-authored with Sen. John McCain, a republican from Arizona. Since the McCain-Feingold Bill passed, politicians can no longer collect large sums of money from special interest groups. The bill made the regular practice a federal crime.

"It doesn't solve all the problems," Feingold said. "It's only a step in the right direction - a significant but modest step."

In the future, Feingold said he wanted to see public financing for campaigns. He said that there is no way an average person can run for the federal legislature unless public financing was available for campaigning.

Feingold also talked about was the USA Patriot Act. He was the only senator to vote against the bill in 2001 and has worked to repair the bill. He said he wasn't the only senator opposed to the

See FEINGOLD, A6



Photo by Eric Ebert

U.S. Senator Russ Feingold addresses the audience at an April 12 speaking engagement at UW-RF. Feingold spoke about campaign finance reform and the war on terror.

PUT YOUR BACK INTO IT



Photo by Teresa Schmitt
Massages were one of the attractions at the April 14 health fair held at Karges Gymnasium. The fair featured health-related testing, demonstrations and prizes.

Destruction of Ames building to cause classroom crowding

Micheal Foley
Assistant Editor

Taking care of one problem this summer will create another one next fall.

Many courses will be relocated to other buildings, because the Ames Teacher Education Building is set to be demolished late this summer. Assistant Registrar Richard Kathan must find homes for each course offered in fall 2004 and into the future.

Losing Ames means losing six large classrooms. Five of the rooms seat between 40 and 50 students while one can hold up to 84. Campus Planner Dale Braun said.

"There are only so many classrooms to go around, and there are only so many large classrooms to go around," Kathan said.

Braun said there are 74 classrooms available at the University. As many as 65 of those rooms will be occupied during peak class times next semester. At less popular times, fewer than 25 classrooms will be occupied. Peak time blocks are at 9 a.m. with time blocks slowly getting less popular later in the

day with a big drop-off around 3 p.m.

Classroom availability was confounded when Braun chose the same time to make the campus more compliant to building codes that reduce most room capacities. Braun said the codes specify that in rooms with moveable furniture, each student must be allocated 20 square-feet of classroom space. Space requirements are smaller for rooms with tables and chairs or fixed seating.

"This has been in effect for decades, but the campus, in varying degrees, has been complying and not complying," Braun said. "Of course the code is a law and as the campus planner I have to be promoting our compliance with the law."

Braun said the 20 square-foot space allocation is not based on each student having enough breathing room while in class but based on safety standards for emergency evacuation.

"That number is based on calculations so if you have a floor of classrooms and all those were full at 20 feet per person and all those people had to get down stairwells and out exits," Braun said.

Kathan and other administrators are still working to find rooms for nearly 20 courses next semester. Kathan said they hope to finalize the schedule in the next few weeks.

Once the classroom schedule is completed, Kathan said it will affect students and faculty by spreading the day out. More classes may have to be offered at night.

"We're looking at utilizing more of the early slots, like 8 a.m., and later afternoon slots, like 3 and 4 p.m.," Kathan said. "It will affect some students to not have everything at 9 a.m., but they can only take one 9 a.m. class at a time anyway. Spreading out the day may make it easier."

Scheduling will affect faculty in another way as well. Professors may have to teach further from their offices than they have in the past. A professor with an office at Centennial Science Hall may have to trek across campus to the Ag Science Building to lecture a larger number of students.

Two colleges will be affected the most by these classroom

See CLASSROOMS, A6

Student Senate election results

President

Matt Schuelke (86 votes)
Vice President
Emilee Driscoll (75)

Senators

Nicholas Cluppert (86)
Mara Bryan (74)
Joseph Eggers (73)

Samantha Hanson (72)

John Gavin (69)
Katherine Leisch (67)
Joanna D'Amelio (66)
Adam Koski (63)
Emily Taubel (59)
Louis Muench (58)
Jeremiah Zitzow (56)
Angie Drinkwine (14 - write-in)

Special week caters to adventurers

Anne Cloeter
Viewpoints Editor

Equine majors know how to rope calves. Culinary art majors know how to cook masterpiece meals. Broadcast journalism majors get to be on TV.

These are the typical skills each major learns. But what if an astronomy major suddenly wants to learn to play the Congo drums?

This week students of all majors at UW-River Falls were given the opportunity to take part in events they've always wanted to do through the "I've always wanted to" week.

"At one of our past [Leadership and Training Committee] meetings we were all talking about things we wish we could try that other people always get the chance to do within their own courses," said Leadership Training Coordinator Emily Ronning. "We figured if we wanted to, I'm sure others did, too."

Many other students were thinking along the same lines as the Leadership Committee.

More than 60 people showed up for learning how to swing dance Monday night and many other demonstrations were also had high attendance.

These other events included how to play an instrument, make cheese, rock climb, see the stars, draw a picture, rope a calf, ride in an ambulance, cook a fancy meal, plant a garden, be on TV and milk a cow.

Faculty and staff in each department were eager to help students with little knowledge of the events participate.

"People were really excited to

help out," Ronning said. "Faculty participation has been awesome."

Students didn't have to worry about a registration or course fee like they normally would if they learned these skills in the classroom.

"This gave people a chance to experience these things for free without having to take a whole semester of courses," Ronning said.

At the event where students learned how to cook a fancy meal, students donned aprons and hairnets as they learned how to cook and eat their desirable dinner.

Executive Chef Angel Alcantar gave a step-by-step demonstration of how to cook a meal that was "less labor intensive with a nice presentation."

Though Alcantar knows the recipes from memory, he let the participants do all the hands-on work in creating chicken alfredo, roasted vegetables, salads and raspberry blossoms.

Alcantar has been featured on the RF Live TV broadcasts and also enjoys teaching his own kids how to cook.

"Any opportunity for students to learn more about cooking is great," Alcantar said. "This is just a larger audience."

One of the perks of the event was that students got to eat what they made.

"I wanted to do this [cook a fancy meal] because I figured it was like eating Rodli food but fancier," said Maggie Hewitt, a freshmen conservation major.

Hewitt also participated in playing an instrument and drawing a picture earlier in the week.

Other students opted for more



Photo by Rachel Gaynor
Sophomore Angela Wadzinski (on stretcher) and sophomore Megan Danielson experience an ambulance ride as part of the 'I've always wanted to week.'

intense events such as riding in an ambulance.

Participants were given a tour of the ambulance bay, shown all the parts of an ambulance and taken for a ride around town.

"We always have fun showing off our ambulances," said Lance Ross, recreational leadership coordinator and assistant director at the River Falls ambulance department. "We're very proud

of the service we provide and the people who are involved here."

Ross, along with other EMT workers, used the defibrillator to check students' heartbeats and other equipment to check blood pressure. Those at the event were also given the opportunity to lay on the gurney as Ross drove the ambulance around River Falls.

"It's important for people to see and experience this," Ross said.

HABITAT from A2

The women went on the trip because they applied for open spots in the Habitat affiliate. All around the country there are Habitat affiliates and people call up where they want to go and are able to help if there is an open spot during the specific dates they request. Frank said these "Collegiate Challenge trips" are from February through April and are open to college students who want to help build a house. The houses are paid for through fundraising, donations by major companies and through student donations. All the labor for the houses is donated as well.

Frank said the trips are fun for all and she enjoys seeing how people are changed by them.

"I know what an amazing

experience it would be because I have gone on one of these trips before," Frank said. "I know what an impact it makes on people, especially meeting the family."

She said she enjoys seeing people working together for a common goal.

"It's fun to see that the women know what an impact they are making," Frank said.

Although it was a lot of work, the women did have a chance to have some fun.

Hawkinson said on the trip out to Calif., the women stopped to see the Colorado mountains. The women on the Long Beach trip spent two days in Las Vegas. The group got to see Hollywood, spend time at Manhattan Beach and visit Universal Studios. Some went clubbing and others went to Santa Monica Beach, the Hollywood Wax museum and Manns Chinese Theater.

CULTURES from A2

The event allows students to break the barrier of discomfort, Kreibich said.

"Students get a chance to meet people from a different culture and even learn something new about themselves," Kreibich said. "The world will seem a lot smaller."

Feda became interested in the Bazaar and international students when she first went abroad and got the opportunity to experience a different culture. She wants other Americans to experience what she did. She said the best way for students to do that besides going abroad, is attending the Bazaar.

"If we were all the same the world would be boring," Feda said.

This paper is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press

PUBLIC SAFETY Underage drinking fines, ID citation

Anne Cloeter
Viewpoints Editor

A River Falls police officer saw four males walking on East Cascade Avenue April 4 and one appeared to be carrying part of a broken white picket fence. When the officer turned his car around, they fled. Nicholas C. Hall, 20, Derek W. Tuttle, 20, and Justin D. Frieburg, 19, were later found in O-Lot. All three admitted to drinking at an off-campus party and were each issued \$164

underage consumption citations. Frieburg also received a \$164 citation for an altered ID.

Eric X. Tarman-Ramcheck, 19, was given a \$243 underage consumption ticket in Prucha Hall April 7. An RA called Public Safety after suspicions of underage drinking in one of the residents' rooms. An officer arrived, knocked on the door and was let in. Tarman-Ramcheck was then issued the citation and numerous bottles of alcohol were removed from the room.

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I go to smoky restaurants

I'm in the same car with someone smoking

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EDITORIAL

Childcare center more fitting as Lydecker memorial

At its April 6 and 13 meetings, the UW-River Falls Student Senate tabled a motion to support naming the new Student Center after a chancellor who has spent only three and a half years in the campus community. Though Ann Lydecker is referred to as the students' chancellor, she was not even at UW-River Falls as long as most students.

Lydecker's death was certainly a tragedy. It has blanketed the entire campus community with sorrow. But that doesn't mean she should be memorialized with the most important building on campus. Buildings' names should reflect significance and longevity in the campus community. Lydecker's time here was brief compared to UW-RF's more than 130 years of existence. Naming the student center after her now would be an "in the moment" sort of decision that doesn't capture the essence of the University's tradition.

Naming the childcare center after Lydecker would be much more appropriate. Lydecker made the new childcare center happen. The building truly is the stamp she put on UW-RF.

"When naming the new student center, students must think of those who came before them and who will come after them ... It belongs to every student — past, present and future."

As a single mother who earned her degree, Lydecker empathized with students who need a safe place for their children to play and learn while they pull themselves on the rope of higher learning.

Even her grandchildren, Mitchell and Clayton Favor, attended the current childcare facilities. She made the childcare center a reality, not only for these two children, but for every child with parents struggling through their studies.

Imagine Lydecker's warm face smiling from a wall plaque at generation after generation of children whose care-giving facility she made possible.

When the Senate referendum takes place April 27 and 28 to decide which building should bear the Lydecker name, students should vote for the childcare center.

Not only was Lydecker a staunch proponent of the new childcare center, the symbolism of the building's architecture reflects the caring nature in which she interacted with the students and their families.

The roof of the building was designed at a split level, symbolizing two interlocking hands sheltering the children inside from harm's way. It seems fitting that Lydecker's name be attached to something meant to protect the children of UW-RF's future.

The completion of the childcare center is expected to be June 2004, less than a year after the death of Lydecker. The ground-breaking of the new student center has yet to happen and could take at least a year before completion. Naming the childcare center after Lydecker would reinforce the students' commitment to a timely, respectful and permanent memorial of her.

When naming the new student center, students must think of those who came before them and who will come after them. It should not be named after the biggest donor, like Hagstad. It shouldn't even be named after just one individual. It belongs to every student — past, present and future. It's the name that should reflect that.

A student center is the focal point of campus life. It is where the University truly becomes a community and where everyone belongs. It's where all people come together, bridging the gaps between English, business, education and agriculture majors.

A suitable name for such a place would be "Alumni Hall."

When students pass through the main entrance faces and plaques commemorating the University's distinguished alumni would look them in the eye every day. Students couldn't help but be absorbed into the tradition of excellence that their predecessors have laid before them.

Perhaps walking the gauntlet of business leaders, astronauts, surgeons and other fine people who roamed campus hallways would inspire students to achieve and leave their own footprints for future students to follow.

SENATE REPRESENTATIVES

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Vice President:	Brandon Bruder
Finance:	Joan Wierzba
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Legislative Affairs:	Katie Kneissel
Diversity Issues:	Lisa Weinreich
Shared Governance:	Emilee Driscoll
Parliamentarian/Ethics:	Adam Koski
Student Affairs:	
Academic Services:	Nick Cluppert
Senators at large:	
Jessica Erickson	Samantha Hanson
Angela Drinkwine	Joe Eggers
Mara Bryan	Leon Gbee
Johnathan Gavin	Katherine Leisch

Student Senate meetings are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Regents Room of the Student Center. The Senate office is located in the Leadership Center. For more information about student governance call 425-3530 or 425-4911 or visit www.uwrf.edu/student-senate

A couple of weeks ago Roger Ballou read a poem that supported "all students"



"If you pride yourself in morality, and you don't tolerate when people do wrong, you are mistaken"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Separation of church and state fallacy, not right

I feel it necessary to question and clarify some things after reading Jen Cullen's Good Friday column. First, if you're an atheist doesn't that make Good Friday of very little concern to you? That argument can get complicated, so I'll stick more to factual inaccuracies and other ignored things. Such as the fact that the United States is still, by a large majority, a Christian population. This is why Christian holidays are often recognized by the nation as a whole, because if the majority of the population is observing a holiday, there's little point of having work go on. As for non-majority faiths, being of non-majority status, they are treated more on a need-to-know/as-it-comes basis. That's why we have the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) as an organization in America.

Religious holidays are not set aside so we can make it to church. A holiday, by definition, is a day to commemorate an event, it's not all that meaningful of an observance if it's done while you're still carrying on with your usual routine. Personally, I would have appreciated it if Good Friday were given off to all, considering that it is one of the holiest days on the Christian calendar.

Further, separation of church and state, as many people define it, is not a right, it is a fallacy. The constitution guarantees that there will be no "state religion" enforced and the government will be ruled independently from the functions of the church. If members of a government decide to coincide decisions with the church or the like, that's their own business. In no way does this mean that the government is not allowed to recognize or respect religions or those of given faith.

I'd like to ask moderate conservatives to disregard columns such as Cullen's calling out Good Friday, she does not represent the majority of liberalism. This is just an example of the extremism that drives some liberals to the right and some moderates to the far right.

Finally, I'd like some clarification. We had class on Good Friday, so what's the problem? Do you want us to abolish the discussion of it as a possible

school holiday? Do you want everyone to work a double shift just to assert how independent they are? And why didn't you complain as a white person at the recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day?

Anyway, I hope this cleared up some things and I plan to see you at work bright and early Christmas morning.

Jonathan Stefonek, student

'If' poem does not reflect ideals of University

On March 30, I spoke at a rally in front of the Student Center which was organized by our students. Like everyone who appeared on the stage that evening, it was at the invitation of the student organizers.

I read a short statement which I titled "If." My words have stirred a degree of controversy. Part of me sincerely regrets that some people were hurt or offended. I did not intend this. On the other hand, part of me is very content in the fact that I spoke my mind and others agreed and felt my support.

"If" was my own work, my own creation. I wrote it and take full responsibility for its contents. It did not represent the University's position. It was my position.

The context was the rally; the fact that a number of faculty, staff and students at UW-River Falls have felt under attack this year; and my view that people who feel superior in what they know or possess are many times mistaken.

Some have come to see me and asked whether or not "If" represented the formal stand of the University. It did not.

Roger Ballou, dean of students

Accommodations made for student absences on Good Friday

I need to make a correction to an article from last week's *Student Voice*, otherwise my students might think it is OK in my book for them to miss class because it is sunny outside or a great day to go skiing, etc. Whereas the article about Good Friday states that I said it was a stu-

dent's prerogative to miss class for any reason, what I said was that the University tries to accommodate the religious observances of students, faculty and staff.

Along those lines, I make accommodations for students who miss class for Good Friday. For the official policy on students' absences due to religious observances see section 8.8.11 of the UW-River Falls faculty/academic staff handbook. This can be easily found at <http://www.uwrf.edu/policies/>. Click on the topic "absence" and then "8.8.11 religious observance."

David Alperin
associate professor

Lydecker family expresses appreciation

On behalf of the entire Lydecker-Favor-Ruesink family, I want to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to all of you for the tremendous outpouring of respect and affection for Ann. We have been overwhelmed by literally hundreds of letters, cards, e-mails, phone calls, flowers and offers of assistance. We would like to express our appreciation to each of you personally and individually; the sheer volume may make that impossible.

I know from talking with Ann that there were two periods in her life when she was happiest. One was the exhilarating first four to five years of our marriage, which were also her first years as a college faculty member, when by teaching future teachers she could have a large impact on the education system.

The second period was her three and a half years at UW-River Falls. For Ann, it was literally love at first sight, starting the day she first set foot in River Falls for her first campus visit as a chancellor candidate. The main reason she put so much of herself into campus events and activities was that she loved the campus and all its people, which for her were the same. Coming here for her was like coming home.

There were difficult issues faced during these three and a half years, such as budget cuts, which, in her typical fashion, were not disastrous but challenges to be met, so that UW-RF could go on to become an even

better institution. We can only speculate about what UW-RF would have become if she had remained chancellor as long as she intended.

There will be something, as of yet undetermined, on campus in memory of Ann, which will give her a permanent, physical presence, to remind those of us who knew her and help others yet to come, to know what a remarkable woman she was and how she made her life better for all of us.

She left us much too soon.

Bill Lydecker
Ann Lydecker's husband

New pro-choice organization hosts kick-off party

On April 20 in the Falcon's Nest of the Student Center, the campus and community are invited to stop by and join Advocates for Choice from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for our kick-off party. We will be celebrating two important events. First of all, we'll be celebrating our introduction to the campus and community. Our organization aims to educate the University community about reproductive health rights issues in the political arena, to engage in pro-choice activism on campus and to increase voter turnout for candidates who will support family planning, responsible sexuality education and a women's right to choose.

We encourage anyone who is interested in supporting choice to stop by the Falcon's Nest for free handouts, watch a short video, stop by the bake sale and learn more about our organization.

E-mail us at uwrf_advocates4choice@yahoo.com with questions or for more information. Stop by and join the party.

Kendra Plant, student

Do you want to design this page next semester? Applications are due Wednesday.

Student Voice

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The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper's adviser, 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

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All letters to the editor, news releases, briefs, display ads, and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

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Attacking Iraq contradicts war on terror Teachers act like UN negotiators, not educators

If you compare it to, say, major league baseball, which has a twenty-five man roster for each team and thirty teams (750 players), or any other sport for that matter, the U. S. Senate is a pretty exclusive club. One of those senators, Wisconsin Senator Russ Feingold (D), graced our campus Monday thanks to Pi Sigma Alpha. Feingold, who I would call a progressive Democrat, touched on several issues, the most prominent being campaign finance reform and the war in Iraq.



the eyes of Feingold, is necessary to remove corruption in our government today. Legislators are given huge campaign contributions from corporations and these corporations, in turn, expect legislation in favor of corporate profits. The argument made against campaign finance reform is that it violates the

AARON KENEALY

First Amendment. If you want to have hundreds of commercials for your campaign and you can afford them, don't you have a right to spend that money and have your voice heard? I can't give you a definite answer on that but I do know that we have a government of the people, for the people, not a government of the corporate for the corporate, which is exactly what we get

when corporations are allowed to buy legislation in the form of campaign dollars. Another issue Feingold touched on was the current situation in Iraq. To paraphrase, Feingold asked why there is a commission on Sept. 11, but not on the reasoning to attack Iraq. It seems attention has been pulled away from this issue, which to me is very sad. I am not trying to offend anyone in the service or have people close to them in the service by saying they are fighting the wrong war but why, with the majority of the evidence saying Iraq had no connections to Al Qaeda, and other countries and organizations being more of a threat to the U.S., did we attack Iraq? I keep hearing references to how bad of a guy Saddam was. I don't believe that, because a

leader is a bad guy, we should attack his country. If that were the case we have just opened a Pandora's Box of wars we have to fight to take out the "bad guy" dictators. As Feingold said, the White House got way off the war on terror track when they attacked Iraq. Now we could possibly be sunk into a quagmire in a proud country that has a western power telling it how it should be run. As Iraq overseer L. Paul Bremer recently said when asked about what was next for Iraq, "Good Question." The truth is, Bush didn't really have a plan and if he could just admit that he may have made a couple of mistakes along the way, I think some of us could forgive him. But of course that won't get him re-elected.

Teachers act like UN negotiators, not educators

Unlike the 1960s anti-Vietnam War folk song that used flowers as a metaphor for young men, I am going to be more straightforward in asking my question: Where has all the money gone? In this case I'm writing about the \$80 million of state education funds Minnesota has allocated this year for school desegregation programs. We're in a time when you can't swing a dead cat around your head without hitting some advocate screaming for increased school budgets and property owners who are continually forced to fight increasing property tax levies to fund K-12 education. Along comes the Minnesota Department of Education with yet another feel-good scheme.

stop there, come and see me. I'll give you a great deal on some rare African art. What is happening to K-12 education? High school students are graduating without the ability to read and drop-out rates in some districts are at all-time highs. Gangs, drugs and sex are prevalent at many grade schools and in the Minneapolis school system more than 160 different languages and dialects are spoken. It has gotten to the point that Minneapolis teachers are finding themselves acting more like United Nations negotiators than educators.

How do school administrators try to solve these problems? They hang paintings on the wall. It's little wonder that Americans are getting dumber every day.

The median income in Minnesota for K-12 teachers is \$42,527. How many full-time educators could be hired for the money being spent on desegregation and diversity programs?

How many more schools could be built? How many classrooms could be filled with state of the art teaching aids?

I'll let you do the math. Perhaps, every student could have their own laptop and

DAVE MISSELT



maybe even a textbook or two. English-speaking students are being taught Spanish so the Spanish-speaking students will feel more connected. This was a comment made by a school district diversity coordinator while she was attempting to justify the new K-4 foreign language requirement.

Does anyone else see the irony in this? Wouldn't the Spanish-speaking students be better served and consequently feel more comfortable if all that effort was made to teach them English rather than teaching native English-speakers Spanish? After all English is still the predominant language in America. It is outside of Florida, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and parts of California. This perverted thinking reaches farther than just the borders of Minnesota. The Wisconsin legislature has approved funding to award illegal aliens residing in the state scholarships to attend UW System Universities. Think about that the next time your tuition goes up. Adios, hasta luego, carry on.

"Of course no school district is complete without diversity coordinators and integration specialists who are paid at the expense of educating students in the three Rs. If any of you think the diversity/integration brainwashing will stop there, come and see me. I'll give you a great deal on some rare African art."

St. Paul-Mapplewood-Oakdale School District will spend around \$70,000 this year on more multicultural artwork and cultural artifacts. This district alone received almost \$2 million in state diversity funding. In the West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan district, every student in kindergarten through fourth grade has 20 minutes of Spanish class twice a week. This little excursion has cost \$160,000 for three full-time teachers and supplies. Of course no school district is complete without an army of diversity coordinators and integration specialists who are paid at the expense of educating students in the three Rs. If any of you think the diversity/integration brainwashing will

Students know how to handle stress

I read an interesting article in the Star Tribune April 10. It was a front page article titled "Hyper-enriched' college life can be too much for some students." It explained how stressful college students' lives are, and discussed Audrey Seiler, the UW-Madison student who faked her own kidnapping, and what caused her to do this sort of thing.

The article stated that college students are stressed by their "hyper-enriched lives," which includes cell phones, computers, classes, jobs, sports, travel, volunteer work and more.

I found this article amusing because everything said was old news. I found it funny that all these so-called teachers and mental health experts were weighing in on why our lives are so stressful. Though they did talk to some students, I feel the whole article should have been student-focused. It should have been a panel discussion on what we, as college students, feel are the reasons for our stress. After all, not only are we the subject of the article but we are the authorities because we live it everyday.

I agree there is a place for "experts" and they can offer helpful advice, but why not go to the sources, who actually know what

college students' problems are, not "old" people who haven't been in school for 14 years. Just because you are a teacher, does not give you license to assume you know what we struggle with or how we feel.

The article discussed how we have such tremendous stress in our lives; we are finding our identity, we feel disconnected from our parents and we take on too many things at once. Many of us are expected to pay for our own school and graduate in four years. Some of us have no idea what we want to do. We are expected to have a major and know what we want to do with our lives as first semester freshmen and balance newly-found social lives. We are expected to have a job, go to school, map out our lives and try to make friends even though we don't know where we fit in. Then, once we graduate, we are thrown into trying to find a job and pressured into doing anything that makes money regardless of whether it's something we even care about. We also go from an active social life to having nothing at all. We take on so many activities because we assume, via our parents moaning about no free time and their jobs, that we will never have time to do anything we want.

We find it hard to relate to parents because they are not in touch with our lives. We want them to be, but they don't get everything we do. Parents want us to look good

to the 'public.' They love to brag about their children and we feel compelled to fill that need. We also strive to look better than our siblings. Then there are parents who have unrealistically high expectations for their kids. I am proud to say my parents never pushed me too hard and they let me go at my own pace. But that breeds new problems because I felt they didn't care enough about what I was doing. High school helps shape this pressured lifestyle. Students are told we have to do every activity under the sun to get into college and then in college we are told in order to get a job we have to be President of 14 different clubs and get four internships before we graduate in four years. Now that's stressed.

This article was attempting to 'be helpful' in educating parents and laughably, college students, on why we are so screwed up. The article did what it could, but it barely touched on the most important source, students themselves.

I don't think there is a solid reason why college students are the way we are. You can blame society, our peers, our teachers, our environment, the media or our parents. We are all different and you can't lump us into one neat category and expect all of us to fit just like you can't do that with any age group. All we ask for is some respect in spite of our age, for society to take our problems seriously and understanding of who we are and what we represent.



SARAH DAY

Support troops now; Ask questions later

There are those who support the war and there are those who are opposed, but it shouldn't even be the issue.

War in its context is not about what the citizens of the United States feel. People of all ages did not go to a poll and vote yes or no to go to war with Iraq. Officials, elected by the people, were given authority to make those kinds of decisions. Our elected officials made a decision. They decided to go to war. The "why" is out of our control. The decision was made and there is no turning back. There is no calling "timeout," deciding it's not a good idea anymore, shaking hands and then calling the soldiers home. It would be nice but it doesn't work that way.

one feels the need to speculate on the war in Iraq. Hindsight is

20/20 and people should remember that. The past cannot be changed. Hopefully, future officials will learn from what transpired and not make all the decisions that were made precedent. To go or not to go to war shouldn't even be an issue right now and neither should the opinions of those for or against it. Our country is at war and it doesn't matter what anyone says or what political beliefs they have. The issue should deal with

support. One can choose to support or condone government officials that make the decisions, and can be shown effectively in one way. It's called voting. Citizens should, however, sup-

NELS THORESON

port the men and women in the armed forces that protect and fight for our country. It might not be what they want to do; it is what they have to do. Iraq may seem like a far-away place for some, but for others there are always things that hit close to home. I sat on a counter in my kitchen and listened to a man who is going to be shipped out. He didn't want sympathy. It is just what he will have to do. Orders will come down, and he

will have to leave River Falls and enter hostile Iraq. He will leave his family, friends and fiancé to help protect and liberate other people's families, friends and fiancés. He is fighting for us. He is protecting us. All our soldiers are fighting for us. They are protecting us.

The decision for war has been made. The energy of our country should be directed in support of our soldiers. The questions that need to be answered can be at a different time, and can be used in decisions in future occurrences.

I am very grateful for my friend who serves our country. He and the other service men and women display honor, respect and dignity. For them and for what they do, I am very thankful.



What would be an appropriate memorial for Ann Lydecker?



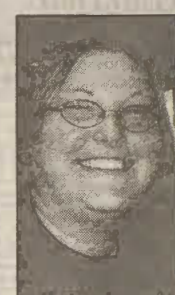
Talee Vang, freshman

"An appropriate memorial for her would be a statue or monument of things she's done. Something that lets everyone know what she did."



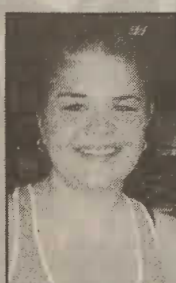
Jon Hill, sophomore

"I believe the new student center should be named after her because she was the 'students' chancellor.' I think the new student center reflects the vision she had for the University."



Sara Gliniany, sophomore

"I agreed with naming the new student center after her. She was the 'students' chancellor' and that's kind of the center point."



LeAnn Wakey, freshman

"Maybe find something she was really interested in and put it on a monument in front of North Hall or something."



Bryan Harmelink, senior

"I think maybe they should reconsider naming the suites the Lydecker Suites or naming the new student center the Lydecker Student Center."

CLASSROOMS from A1

scheduling changes. The College of Business and Economics (CBE) has several large class sections that Kathan may have trouble finding rooms for. The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) is the biggest college and has far more class sections than any other college.

CAS Dean Gordon Hedahl believes the problem will be solved soon because Kathan is using new software to help the scheduling process.

The Ad Astra program allows Kathan to enter specific information about each classroom and then it analyze that data to find the best fit for each course at each time block.

"I've been playing with it and

it's pretty amazing what it can do with the information it has," Kathan said. "It may not know other things. There's a human element that's making this a challenge, but we are making progress."

When searching its databases, Ad Astra's number one priority is classroom size while room location ranks second. Hedahl said while classroom size is important, its location can be just as important in many circumstances.

"In some fields, it's very hard to get around," Hedahl said. "For chemistry professors, it's difficult to take your chemicals across campus. That's not safe either. It can be more than just inconvenient for geology professors to carry their rocks and materials they need to lecture all over campus. Some classes can just move more readily than others. Everyone just needs to be flexible."

"There are only so many classrooms to go around."

Richard Kathan
Assistant registrar

FEINGOLD from A1

Patriot Act II bill.

Feingold also touched on the poor state of the Wisconsin economy and the loss of the state's manufacturing jobs. He said the best thing to do right now is to create a well-educated and well-trained workforce for when

the lost jobs begin to come back.

Toward the end of his visit, Feingold fielded a few questions from the audience. Three questions dealt with the U.S. military occupation of Iraq and possibly reintroducing the draft. One person asked about government corruption in Wisconsin and one asked about National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice's recent testimony to the Sept. 11 commission. He said he believes there is no way Bush could have known about Sept. 11

beforehand. Despite the devastation of Sept. 11, Feingold believes much good will come from it.

"It's very healthy that we're going through this now," Feingold said. "Now people have the capability to do a lot more harm. It's forcing us to face the challenge of people using things like computers and cell phones to hurt us and our kids."

CHANGES from A1

In her e-mail, Coombs said the decision to remove herself from chancellor candidacy was based on "careful consideration of my future professional plans and discussion with President Lyall."

Halada's former position — assistant to the vice chancellor — remains vacant.

BON APPETIT



Photo by Rachel Gaynor
Angel Alcantar, Chartwells executive chef, takes time to teach students how to cook a fancy meal. Students clothed in aprons and hair nets learned how to prepare alfredo, roasted vegetables and raspberry blossoms for dessert. The students got to test their tastebuds as well as their kitchen skills when they got to eat the food they made.

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The University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UW-RF) proposes to construct a 14,365 square-foot addition to the Hunt/Knowles athletic complex at 1110 South Main Street in River Falls, Wisconsin. The project site is located in the southwest corner of the UW-RF campus. The Hunt/Knowles athletic complex accommodates track and field events, football, men and women's hockey, physical education training, campus and community events, and is home to the National Football Kansas Chiefs summer training camp.

The new addition will be connected to both the Knowles Center and Hunt Arena buildings and will include two locker rooms, a training room, and offices. Air conditioning and remodeled laundry facilities will be provided at the existing Knowles Center. Associated site work will include site excavation, utility relocation, and landscaping.

The University has made a preliminary determination that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required for this action. Copies of the University's Environmental Impact Assessment that led to this preliminary determination will be available at the UW-RF Library and City of River Falls Public Library. Comments should be directed to:

Mr. Dennis L. Johnson, P.E.
Ayres Associates
P.O. Box 1590
Eau Claire, WI 54702-1590
(715) 834-3161

OR

Ms. Terri Reda
Environmental Affairs Officer
Capital Planning and Budget
UW System Administration
P.O. Box 8010
Madison, WI 53708-8010
(608) 263-4410

A 15-day public comment period begins on April 22, 2004 and will conclude May 7, 2004.

Mr. Johnson or Ms. Reda should receive comments on the proposed project no later than 5:00 p.m., May 7, 2004. Comments can take the form of either verbal or written communication.

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April 16, 2004

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Section B

WIAC win still out of reach for fastpitch

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls fastpitch team lost both games in a conference doubleheader played

Tuesday afternoon at UW-La Crosse. In the first game, the Falcons (15-13, 0-6 WIAC) were held scoreless on only four hits. UW-RF committed a season high five

errors in the contest. UW-L scored three runs on five hits and played errorless ball. Anna Poulter was 1-3 at the plate, Leah Vanderploeg and Michelle Heuser were both 1-2.

Vanderploeg took the loss on the mound pitching six innings and allowing two earned runs, and striking out one batter. She is now 6-3 on the year.

In the second game the Falcons scored three runs on nine hits, while UW-L scored four times on six hits. UW-RF scored a single run in the first and two in the fourth. UW-L scored once in the first and three times in the third. Emily Evans and Heuser were both 2-3 at the plate.

Heuser had two RBI when she knocked in two runs in the fourth with a single. Poulter was 2-4 and stole two bases giving her 40 this year.

Devanie Bigalk went the distance on the mound. In six innings she allowed four runs, walked two and struck out four. She is now 8-9 this year.

On April 8, UW-Stout destroyed any hope for a first conference victory early in the first game putting up five runs in the first three innings and ending with a 7-1 victory over the Falcons. Vanderploeg

gave up seven runs, on 14 hits while striking out four in a complete game effort. In the second game Stout would again take another victory in a 3-1 match up.

"Am I concerned? Absolutely, but the conference is still up for grabs we just have to play both sides, offense and defense. We have been playing offense one game and defense the next. We just have to put it together," Falcon coach Faye Perkins said about the team's conference start.

The Falcons' offense helped defeat Hamline April 9 putting up seven runs, five in the second inning, to pull out a one run victory.

Vanderploeg not only pitched four innings giving up three earned runs on three hits while striking out one but also led the Falcons with two RBI on 1-2 hitting.

Bigalk earned the victory pitching three relief innings striking out three while allowing three earned runs on seven hits.

Hamline scored a run in the seventh to cut the River Falls lead to one but then stranded two runners on base to close out the game.

In the second game on April 8 the Falcons started strong with a Poulter lead off triple and then Schwartz drove her home to take

a 1-0 lead.

St. Scholastica responded by putting up three runs in the second. The Falcons answered right back in the third when Carolyn Guisinger scored an unearned run on an error by first baseman Missy Erickson to make it 3-2. Scholastica would put up two runs in the fifth to secure the 5-2 victory.

Bigalk started for UW-RF and got the loss pitching three innings giving up three earned runs on four hits and striking out two.

The Falcons split again on Sunday, winning the first game 1-0 over Northland College in a pitchers duel. The only run came in the third inning when Poulter reached base on a single and then stole two bases to get to third and then was driven in by an RBI single by Melissa Turbak. One run was enough for Bigalk, who pitched a complete game shutout allowing only two hits and striking out nine.

The Falcons out hit St. Scholastica in the second game but failed to score any runs, resulting in a 4-2 loss.

This week River Falls will travel to Platteville to play a WIAC Cluster Tournament versus UW-Stevens Point and UW-Platteville Saturday and then UW-Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater on Sunday.



Melissa Turbak (center) and Emily Rodgers (right) are flanked by teammate Michelle Heuser in an pursuit of a loose ball. The Falcons are still looking for their first WIAC win after starting out 0-6 in conference play with an overall record of 15-13.

Photo by Eric A. Page

Gwozdecky success in hockey world

The UW-River Falls men's hockey program has built a legitimate WIAC and NCAA title contender on a yearly basis. Every great program, from hockey to hoops, needs to be built in stages. One of the big mountains in college hockey a program has to climb is achieving a 20-win season.

The Falcons did that for the first time back in 1981-82, their number 18 season of play. Their head coach at the time was George Gwozdecky, a 1978 UW-Madison graduate, who also earned his master's of education from UW-RF a year later. This past Saturday the former Falcon led the University of Denver Pioneers to an improbable NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey championship in Boston, Mass. Gwozdecky, a member of the Badgers'

NCAA title team in the 1976-77 season, spent a total of three years at River Falls. In those three years he averaged 22 wins per year. Before that the most wins the Falcons' had accumulated in a season was 18, done twice in the 1970s. In the 1982-83 season, he led the Falcons to a 24-6-1 record and a NAIA Championship. UW-RF also earned three straight WIAC first place finishes in Gwozdecky's three years, and would continue the streak after Gwozdecky departed, winning another four in a row from 1984-85 to 1987-88.

After his third year at UW-RF, Gwozdecky went east to be an assistant coach to the legendary Ron Mason at Michigan State, one of the best Div. I programs in the country. He earned himself another NCAA Championship ring as well

in the 1985-86 season, as the Spartans topped the Harvard Crimson in the title game.

Gwozdecky departed East Lansing, Mich. for greener pastures to become head coach of the Miami (Ohio) University Redhawks. In his second season there the team went 5-29-3. Ouch.

Just two seasons later, Gwozdecky headed one of the biggest turnarounds in college hockey history, leading the Redhawks to a 26-7-5 mark and their first ever NCAA Tournament experience. He used that performance to take over the Denver Pioneers in 1995, another one of the storied programs in the nation with five national titles at the time.

He took over the sliding DU program and put them back on the map, but could not quite get over the hump and reach the

See CARDINAL, B2



RYAN CARDINAL

Students need to support fastpitch

As I walked the back paths near Ramer Field, I couldn't help but hear the commotion coming from the near by playing fields.

Figuring it was an intramural game, I chose to keep walking, since I'm 50 miles of walking from being somewhat in shape.

Get in shape or watch a game? I love watching ball games, but the promise of getting into shape had an edge today.

As I continued I heard organized cheers as certain players made their presence in the game. Pretty intense, I figured, since it sounded like all were participating from the field.

Then shortly after that, the field was out of sight and I journeyed back to my apartment.

It wasn't until later looking at scores online that I figured out it was a UW-River Falls fast pitch game going on and not an intramural game. I should have stopped to see the team play, since they are doing better this year, with a 15-15 record compared to at 12-14 record last year at this time. There I go, letting my Health 108 class take over again, when I should have stopped and rooted for the only UW-RF team on a diamond this year.

I figure, baseball or softball, it doesn't matter. Both of them are, in my mind, a great American pastime. They may be different, but both provide the same great

ballpark atmosphere and level of intensity equally throughout the innings. Baseball, missed by many, has unfortunately been removed from the campus, so for all the tailgaters, they must resort to softball for their source of ballpark fever.

Whether it be a stellar performance by Leah Vanderploeg at the plate, or the fast running of leaders like Anna Poulter, the Falcon fastpitch provided a full seven innings of all-out entertainment. Big hits from Emily Evans encouraged cheers from the crowd as well as the bench. The cheers that make the nicely-designed field out at Ramer erupt with roars and celebrations.

One thing that is lacking is stronger student support.

If people do not support the team, the program will be lost. Losing yet another team is not something we on this campus need to have happen again.

Getting out and supporting is not always easy with the year winding down, but with the weather getting nice, why pass up the opportunity.

With our support, we as a student body can help encourage success to our fast pitch team. All we need to do is take a few minutes and devote our time to someone else's goal, even if it does, like in my case, put the goals I had in mind on hold for a few more minutes.



COREY HARGREAVES

Chasing a dream Melzer preparing for shot at NBA career

Eric A. Page
Sports Editor

In many ways, former UW-River Falls basketball player Rich Melzer is like any other college senior.

He spends his days in class and his nights working to prepare himself for a career. He worries about the future but is optimistic of limitless possibility. He quarrels with his fiancé and fraternizes with his friends. Like all who are finishing their collegiate careers, Melzer is looking for a job. He wants to play in the NBA.

"I don't know where I'll end up," Melzer said of his chances at playing in the NBA. "I have very high expectations. I have always had dreams and goals and I plan on achieving them. I think I can make it."

Others agree. With an impressive résumé that includes being named NCAA Div. III National Player of the Year by two publications and a host of other recognitions and accomplishments, the 6-foot-8-inch, 235-pound Melzer has impressed NBA scouts.

Last weekend, after having his wingspan measured at 7-feet 2-inches, Melzer scored 11 points in 19 minutes in the first round of the Portsmouth Invitational in Portsmouth, Va. He then suffered a hip-pointer injury that sidelined him for the final two games of the tournament which left scouts wanting to see more. This is something that may help Melzer down the line.

"The numbers that he put up make him intriguing," said Chet Kammerr, director of player personnel for the Miami Heat. "The scoring average, the rebounding and the shooting percentage; the versatility he showed in college make you want to stop and take a look at this guy."

Kammerr said Div. I players have been scouted their whole collegiate careers so the scouts know their potential. Melzer has not been exposed and has not played against top competition so his potential is viewed as untapped.

Melzer's lack of like competition is something that has skeptics shaking their heads when hearing the NBA mentioned in the same sentence as the former Falcon's name. That is something he uses as motivation.

"Playing in the WIAC has humbled me because I am from a small

school," Melzer said. "The people that doubt me and say, 'Rich isn't going to do it,' or 'I don't think he has it in him,' make me hungry. I want to get to that next level and point my finger back at them."

Since completing his career as the WIAC's second all-time leading scorer, Melzer has been working tirelessly to assure himself the best chance possible at a professional career. He is working with former NBA player Trent Tucker to improve his perimeter game and training with former Timberwolves strength coach Sol Brandys to build strength and agility.

"He played with his back to the basket in college so he is already a good post-up player," Tucker said. "I think he can play as a two-guard in the NBA and have a very strong inside-outside game being guarded by smaller players."

Melzer is represented by Dan Greene, an agent for the Minneapolis-based Summit Sports. Greene also represented Devean George of the Los Angeles Lakers when he became the first Div. III player ever drafted in the first round out of Augsburg College in 1999.

Melzer has drawn comparisons to George with similar size and playing style but NBA scouts have said Melzer is a more polished player than George was coming out of college. The knock on Melzer is his ability to play perimeter defense against the quicker players at the professional level. Tucker doesn't agree.

"He is a good defensive player, his quickness is improving and he can shoot the ball," he said. "When you can put the ball in the hole you can get noticed."

Melzer has been nursing his leg since returning from Portsmouth and will resume regular workouts later this week. Greene has quickly turned his attention to the next step.

"A lot of scouts at Portsmouth said that he helped himself immensely, that he didn't need to play any more than he did to show he was a player," Greene said. "We need to get him invited to the Chicago pre-draft camp now and it will all depend on his performance there."

See MELZER, B2

