

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS Student Voice



Men's basketball bounces to Seattle for start of new season
See B2

November 21, 2003

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UC referendum passes with large voter turnout

Jen Cullen
Editor

With what some said was the highest voter turnout at UW-River Falls, students passed a referendum Tuesday and Wednesday 728 to 417 to remain part of the United Council.

Approximately 19 percent—more than 1,100—of students at UW-RF voiced their opinion on the highly controversial move to pull out of UC.

The referendum was set in motion by Student Senate a few weeks ago after some controversial issues surfaced surrounding UC.

By remaining a member school, UW-RF students will be able to voice their concerns to the UC.

In the end, supporters of the UC were glad students looked past those issues to the bigger picture.

"I was very happy with the vote," said Matthew McFeeley, UC organizing and communications director. "Students saw past a couple small, controversial issues and made the right decision."

Those on the opposite end of the spectrum, however, see the passage of the referendum as a step in the wrong direction.

Andy Parrish, one of the students who spearheaded the movement to disband from the UC, said the fight is far from over.

"Everyone in the Senate office was shocked," Parrish said. "I've come up with a contingency plan to go around and get as many people to request their \$1.35 back as possible."

Members of the Senate agreed with Parrish: They said this won't be the last time students at UW-RF hear about United Council; the fight is far from over for them as well.

McFeeley stressed the importance of other larger issues UC focuses on. He said now is the time to regroup and get students involved in more prominent matters. The first step after the referendum, McFeeley said, was to patch damaged relationships between UW-RF and the UC.

"Now it's time for us to repair some of the relationships with the student body here and the Student Senate," McFeeley said.

But for some Senate members, the

relationships are far beyond repair.

Questioning UC members' campaigning techniques, Senate Academic Affairs Director Katie Kneissel and Student Affairs and Academic Services Director Nick Cluppert said using class raps was an unfair tactic.

Kneissel said the raps didn't give students both sides of the picture. Since many opposing the UC had an obligation to attend class, they weren't able to educate students about the disadvantages of remaining part of United Council.

Kneissel added that the professors who allowed UC members into their classroom had a huge impact on the final outcome of the referendum.

"Professors allowed a bias into their classroom by letting UC members come in," Kneissel said. "I think the professors pushed the election."

Not only were the tactics unfair, Kneissel and Cluppert said, the venomous attitude of those with opposing viewpoints did nothing but give Senate a bad name. The bitter attitude, Cluppert said, led to squabbling and left a bad taste in many senators' mouths.

Kneissel agreed.

"They [UC] pretty much killed any relationship they had with Senate," she said.

Problems with the UC still are held in high regard by Kneissel and Cluppert, who said "we tell them [the UC] the same thing all the time and they never change."

Though neither Kneissel nor Cluppert plan on another referendum anytime soon, both said they will be taking proactive steps to ensure UW-RF students are properly represented at the UC general assemblies.

Some students felt, however, that one of the reasons the referendum surfaced was because Senate wasn't doing an adequate job of sending enough students to the UC general assemblies.

"This referendum should not have happened because I think that our student senators—not all—are not doing their jobs informing the students of the opportunities of going to the general assemblies," said Gay/Straight Alliance co-chair Eric

See REFERENDUM, A3

Accidents don't warrant lights



Photo by Eric Ebert

In three weeks there have been two traffic accidents on East Cascade Avenue. Despite the accidents, officials from the city and the University do not expect any additional safety measures to be taken. Due to the current pedestrian and vehicle volumes on East Cascade, Dale Braun, campus planner, said a stoplight or signal light is not warranted.

Mike Longaacker
Staff Writer

UW-River Falls students better stay on their toes and look both ways.

Despite two traffic accidents involving students on East Cascade Avenue in two weeks, city and University officials said not to expect any additional traffic control measures placed along the heavily foot-traveled street in the near future.

"All that can be done has been done on Cascade," said Campus Planner Dale Braun.

Braun said the current pedestrian and vehicle volumes do not warrant a stoplight or signal light going up.

"Based on what we've seen in the past, there just has not been enough traffic to warrant an actual stoplight," Braun said.

He said the warrants—or engineering thresholds—are determined by examining the levels of traffic and comparing them with state guidelines. If the volume exceeds a certain threshold, measures such as crosswalks, signal lights and traffic lights can be put in place.

On Oct. 27, UW-RF sophomore Richard Wamboldt Jr. was struck by a car while crossing East Cascade at Oak Street. The driver, UW-RF

student Jennifer Ann Baker, was cited \$77.20 for failure to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

He was transported by ambulance to River Falls Area Hospital and released the following day. Wamboldt said that his attorney advised him not to discuss his injuries, but said he is "still under physician's care."

Witness accounts stated poor visibility and Wamboldt's dark clothing may have been factors in the accident. The accident occurred in the dark while it was raining.

Wamboldt, 22, called the attire worn the night of the accident "rather light colored." He said he was wearing light gray pants and a light brown khaki jacket the night of the accident.

Wamboldt, who said he has seen "three or four" other people nearly struck by cars on East Cascade since his accident, said that signal lights "would be a great idea."

"And more lighting added, especially around North Hall," Wamboldt said.

On Nov. 3, UW-RF freshman Andy Kolstad rear-ended a vehicle on East Cascade at Sixth Street while driving a mo-ped.

The crash projected Kolstad from the mo-ped, throwing him onto the car he struck. Kolstad, a quarterback for the UW-RF Falcons, was trans-

ported to the hospital by ambulance.

According to state data, 10 pedestrian-related accidents occurred on East Cascade between Main Street and Valley View Drive from 1997 to 2002. The intersection at Oak Street was host to three accidents during this period.

The accidents on the nine-block stretch of East Cascade represented 28 percent of all pedestrian-related accidents in the city during the period, according to the data.

But, Braun said putting up traffic lights or stop signs won't stop pedestrian accidents. He said several measures have been taken to improve visibility along East Cascade.

"Stoplights are not always the solution," Braun said.

River Falls City Planner Reid Wronski agreed.

Wronski called the idea of using stop signs to control traffic on East Cascade "a false observation."

"People racing from one stop sign to the next is what typically happens," Wronski said.

Placing a signal light along East Cascade would be the "most effective" means of traffic control, Wronski said. He said the dilemma of which

See SAFETY, A3

Students gain life experiences

CAFES students supervise lab farm; UW-RF saves money

Karyn Nelson
Staff Writer

A few years back, CAFES faced a dilemma on Lab Farm 2. One of the state-employed managers was leaving, and an experienced farm manager is tough to replace.

Instead of hiring from outside, the University turned to an abundant asset in River Falls: students.

Brent Vorpagel, now a senior majoring in agricultural business, was hired as the first student manager of the 60-sow swine operation three years ago. Though Vorpagel has a small herd back in his hometown of Walworth, Wis., managing the larger University operation provides both a challenge and an opportunity.

"It's better than class," Vorpagel said. "It's a chance to learn without having your nose stuck in a book."

Students like Vorpagel benefit from the experience, and the pigs have never been happier under student supervision. Since turning over many management decisions to students, UW-RF saved money on labor and increased productivity, particularly in the swine operation.

In the last three years, the swine operation has prospered, Vorpagel said. Sow conception rates are up more than 20 percent and 180 more pigs were marketed last year than in previous years. Litter size at wean-

See PIGS, A3



Photo by Teresa Schmitt

Brent Vorpagel, the first student manager of UW-RF's 60-sow swine operation, breeds pigs at Lab Farm 2.

Orgs help fill food pantry shelves River Falls church caters to 100 families during holidays

Brianna Biebighauser
Staff Writer

As the weather turns colder and the holiday season creeps closer, many people begin to think of the traditional meals they will share with their families. But for some Pierce County residents, the traditional holiday fixings of turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing will be substituted for non-perishable items they receive from the local food pantry.

"As the weather changes and holidays draw near, people start thinking more about hunger and homelessness," said Loyd Ostness, supervisor of the River Falls food pantry. "But people need to remember that regardless of the season, there are people in this town that are going without food."

The River Falls Food Pantry is located in the basement of Ezekiel Lutheran Church in downtown River Falls at 202 S. Second St. Ostness said each year the food pantry caters to approximately 100 families in the River Falls community.

With so many mouths to feed each year, Ostness said donations usually come in waves with no real rhyme or reason to the timing of each wave.

"About six weeks ago our shelves were pretty empty," Ostness said. "But with a couple of food drives in the last week, we've been able to stock our shelves and continue to provide for the community."

Since food drives won't operate without help, Ostness relies on groups and organizations throughout the community to keep the waves of food pouring in.

"Fraternalities, sororities and other organizations from the UW-River Falls campus are helpful in collecting food for the pantry throughout the year," Ostness said. "By making substantial donations, they've really been helping us out."

Stephanie McLaughlin, chair of the Campus and Community Fighting Hunger and Homelessness Committee, agrees with Ostness.

"I have personally known people that have had to use food pantries. It has made me more aware of the problem, so I am more likely to take the time to donate food."

Sara Peabody, senior marketing communications major

Through her experiences, McLaughlin said it's mostly organizations getting involved because it is rare for an individual to take action.

"I really wish that more individuals would get involved with this cause," McLaughlin said. "Most of the people that use the food shelf are just like us; they have jobs, they have places to live, but after paying all of their bills they don't have enough money left to pay for food."

Sophomore physics major Mandy Lundgren said college students need to take the time to think about others' misfortunes.

"For most students, college is just a haze," Lundgren said. "We often get too busy and forget to think about the issues that affect our community."

Although community issues tend to go unnoticed for most college students, Ostness said people need to "take action" and remember the less fortunate.

"Unless people get involved with church organizations or other groups they're not going to go out of their way to donate food," said Sara Peabody, senior marketing communications major. "Without the extra push, people tend to forget that there's a need."

McLaughlin said there are plenty of options for students to get involved, whether it's a food sculpture contest, working at a soup kitchen or dropping off non-perishable items in one of the many boxes located around campus.

"I have personally known people that have had to use food pantries," Peabody said. "It has made me more aware of the problem, so I am more likely to take the time to donate food."

So as people gather around the table this Thanksgiving and ask for a second helping of mom's mashed potatoes, Ostness urges everyone to remember that every donation—big or small—is a step in the right direction.

BRIEFS

December Graduates

Chartwells invites students to celebrate this special day with a brunch for graduates, their family and friends. On Dec. 20 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the food court in Rodli Commons. For more information contact Molly Magestro at Thompson at 425-3536.

Insurance Seminar

On Nov. 19 at either 10 a.m. or 3 p.m. in the Falcon room of Hagestad Student Center. The seminar is free and refreshments will be served.

Student Reading

The Student Reading Series presents a student reading, Nov. 21 at 3:30 in the Chalmers Davee Library breezeway. For more information contact Molly Magestro at molly.a.magestro@uwrf.edu.

Class Rings

A class rings representative will be in the Student Center on Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Caps and Gowns

Student caps and gowns have arrived at the University Bookstore Stop by during regular business hours and get yours.

Poinsettia Sale

The Horticulture Society is having a Poinsettia sale. Contacting Dana Johaneck at 425-4160 to receive an order form.

Scholarship Sale

The Art Department announces its Annual Scholarship Sale. The event is scheduled to run Dec. 3-14. It features a unique selection of quality artwork including ceramics, jewelry, fibers, painting, glass, prints, photography and mixed media. A portion of all proceeds from the sale are used to fund scholarships for continuing art students as well as providing the Art Society with funding for varied activities. Gallery 101, KFA is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4

p.m. For more information contact the Art Office at 425-3266.

Thank You

The Latino Student Organization and the Community Action Theater Troupe (CATTS) would like to thank the campus community, the River Falls community, and the dentists and merchants of the area for their generous support of Operation Christmas Child. Three hundred and fifty children will have school supplies, hygienic supplies, clothing and toys to help make their lives a little brighter.

Turkey Sale

Order a smoked turkey processed by the Food and Science Technology Club. The cost is \$25 for a 12-15 lb. turkey and \$32 for a 18-22 lb. turkey. Payment is due at the time of pick up, but pre-paid orders are welcome. Make checks payable to UW-RF Food Science Club and return order forms to Food Science Club, Dept. of Animal and Food Science, UW-River Falls, WI 54022. Pick up is located in the Falcon Food Store in the basement of the Food Science Building. For dates and times call 425-3702.

Media Convention

Join hundreds of college media editors, staff members and advisors and attend the College Media Advisors National Spring Convention, March 8-20 at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. There will be more than 200 sessions by media professionals and keynote speakers from network television and print media. For registration information contact Ron Spiegelberger, CMA Executive Director at rpslbrg@memphis.edu, or 901-678-2403.

Taco Dinner

The Dairy Club will host its annual taco dinner Dec. 4, 5-8 p.m. at the America Legion. The cost is \$5.

STUDENT SENATE

WCCO security story reviewed

Senators say hall council members dislike possible 24-hour lockdowns

Eric Quade
Chief Copy Editor

Guest speaker Roger Ballou, UW-River Falls dean of students, played the infamous WCCO undercover story on campus security before Student Senate and solicited their reactions afterward.

In the security story, WCCO's I-Team, tested residence hall security measures at four area universities: University of Minnesota, Macalester, St. Thomas and UW-RF. In order to highlight allegations of security holes, the I-Team gained entry into various residence halls at UW-RF and succeeded six times out of six attempts.

The method of unauthorized entry the I-Team highlighted was "tailgating," which is following a resident into the building once they opened the door with their own key. The I-Team also remarked on the lack of shower security measures, such as a key to enter the shower, when they alleged students were "the most vulnerable."

Senator Barb Lind, the only senator who commented on the story immediately after the viewing, said she was amazed by the security breaches.

Ballou commented that members of the administration had already met twice in regard to the WCCO story.

But Ballou also said there was some misinformation in the report that he wanted to clarify. Most notably, WCCO's claim UW-RF was implementing a 24-hour-a-day lockdown for its residence halls in response to the story was incorrect. Ballou said there are no such measures currently in the works; the only foreseeable security change involves a card key entry measures, but even those are years away from campus-wide implementation.

Later in the meeting, multiple senators giving hall council reports,

including Nick Cluppert and Jessica Erickson, said they brought up the WCCO story issue to residence hall students, and a majority of students do not want 24-hour lockdowns, nor do they see current security measures as an issue on this campus.

In other Senate related news:

Legal Services has signed two more lawyers onto their legal advising team, bringing the total lawyers available for students to three. Joe Boles will be at the Student Center Dec. 4 from 3-4 p.m. taking legal questions from students.

Faculty Senate granted its general education committee another extension on drafting a new proposal for students' general education requirements. Once the general education committee finishes with the proposal, it will be passed on to the Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) committee and finally to the Faculty Senate for final ratification. Faculty Senate does not expect to see the proposal until after J-term.

Senate discussed a new IT policy regarding how students now receive student emails. Previously, student email was sent to each student's inbox by default. But a new IT policy requires all student-wide emails to go to the "students" folder in each Squirrel Mail account.

Senators displayed frustration that they would have more trouble getting their message out to students under this policy.

Senate President Matt Schuelke said IT made the "students" folder a public folder to lighten the demand on their resources. Being a public folder, students will not be able to delete these messages; IT will manage the folder and delete old messages, Schuelke said.

Erickson suggested IT place a notice on the Squirrel Mail page about the change in policy, much like it did regarding the phasing out of TWIG email services.

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, Senate will not meet next Tuesday evening; the Senate will reconvene the following Tuesday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. in the Regents Room of the Student Center.

UW-RF receives diversity award

Danielle M. Garvey
Staff Writer

It began in June 2003 when Wisconsin's Council on Affirmative Action invited UW-River Falls to participate in the fourth annual Diversity Award Program.

That invitation turned into a reality Oct. 30 when UW-RF received the award in Madison.

The award is more than a plaque, said Suzanne Hagen, UW-RF equity and compliance officer.

"It's a recognition of the good work we do, and the initiative we take to provide services for people of color," Hagen said.

The award program was established in 2000 by Wisconsin's Council on Affirmative Action to recognize the achievements of outstanding equal opportunity and affirmative action practices among state agencies and UW System campuses.

This year the council added a new Educational Diversity Award to recognize the efforts and achievements of institutions of higher learning in preparing minorities, women and persons with disabilities for employment within the Wisconsin civil service program.

Chancellor Ann Lydecker submitted an application in June which highlighted UW-RF's initiatives designed to encourage students of color to attend UW-RF, support them academically and personally while enrolled at the University and prepare them for success after graduation.

"I am proud of the fact that UW-RF has received this recognition," Lydecker said. "It is a tribute to the many

"... (The award) is a collaboration of hard work and ambition brought forth by many groups and organizations within the University."

**Suzanne Hagen,
UW-RF equity and
compliance officer**

faculty, staff and students on this campus who have committed themselves to creating an environment that is welcoming and supportive of diversity." UW-RF competed against 13 state agencies and UW System campuses to win the award.

UW-RF beat the Department of Health and Family Services, Department of Revenue, UW-Stout, UW-Lacrosse, UW-Parkside, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Madison, Department of Transportation, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Workforce Development, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, Public Service Commission and Office of the State Public Defender.

This year 364 students of color are enrolled at UW-RF. This is more than a 62 percent increase since the 1997-98 school year.

Lai Wong, equal employment opportunity specialist for the state of Wisconsin, staffs the State Council on Affirmative Action and coordinated the annual Diversity Award Program.



Photo by Teresa Schmitt

The Native American Club sponsored a dreamcatcher making event Wednesday afternoon in the Student Center for Native American month. Diversity groups like the Native American Club are part of the changing culture at UW-RF.

Wong said UW-RF successfully demonstrated comprehensive outreach programs, including various multicultural pre-college programs.

These programs include its Trio Upward Bound program designed to assist students in building their academic skills, identifying career interests, exploring colleges and preparing to take the ACT. Another successful program is UW-

RF's collaboration with Vincent High School in Milwaukee to offer a summer environmental science program for minority student populations.

UW-RF also translated school admissions materials into Spanish, Hmong, Somali, Oromo, Amarec and Vietnamese and offers translation services on campus.

"UW-RF demonstrated a commitment to the value of a multicultural, multi-ethnic experience for students at all levels of academic pursuit," Wong said.

Hagen said the award recognizes UW-RF's practices in preparing students to work effectively in the 21st century workplace.

All programs, initiatives and practices that enhance University efforts to support affirmative

action and diversity are eligible for consideration.

"What's impressive is that it is not a single group or initiative that earned the award," Hagen said. "It is a collaboration of hard work and organization brought forth by many groups and organizations within the University."

The College of Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES), Career Services, the Academic Success Center, the Admissions Department, the College of Business and Economics, the library, faculty and staff all helped earn the award by offering services and projects aimed at cultural diversity.

"It's really something to be proud of," Hagen said.

Programs offered on and off campus "enrich the campus culture and educational experience for all our students," Hagen said. "The award recognizes these programs."

The library collections and exhibits expand the University's resources and are offered to every student on campus.

"This award is recognition that we have made progress," Lydecker said. "We are on our way, but it in no way means that we have attained our goals."

Future goals Lydecker has for diversifying UW-RF include: developing and implementing a model for diversity in the curriculum, focusing on partnering with parents/community and recruiting and retaining a diverse student body.

USDA grant funds new CAFES courses

Shannan Allen
Staff Writer

Agricultural students at UW-River Falls will have an exciting class option this spring that may give them an advantage once they hit the job market. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science (CAFES) will be offering Experiential Learning, an interdisciplinary class allowing students to gain real life experience in problem solving, group work and communication.

The innovative structure of the class is very appealing to Stephen Ridley, CAFES interim dean.

"A lot of people come to college thinking they're going to sit in classes, listen to lectures and get their degrees," Ridley said. "These classes are what we're all about, combining book learning and experiential learning."

The class, which is on its second run, brings hands-on learning to a whole new level. Students are presented with real life problems they may face on the job. They also work in groups to solve the problems.

Students, for the most part, work independently. Instructors are mainly there to mentor or advise and to put out disputes that may flare up throughout the semester. The groups send memos to their mentors every week, updating them on what goes on outside the classroom.

All sections taking the course sign up for the lecture and will split into three students each mentored by two faculty members. One section will focus on field study of air quality in local equestrian facilities.

Another will focus on grain and feed handling and storage requirements for the UW-RF lab farms. The third examines environmental research related to the urbanization of agricultural land.

These sections will then break into groups of three to five students guided by faculty mentors.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ramer banners stolen

Anne Cloeter
Staff Writer

Three banners were taken from a fence near Ramer Field Wednesday. The banners were 8' by 4' and displayed local advertisements. There are no suspects.

A Public Safety officer was called to Parker Hall Friday for suspicion of underage drinking. When he arrived to the room and knocked, resident Jennifer L. Kersten, 18, allowed the officer in. Kersten received a \$367 underage consumption citation for her second offense. Chapin E. Turner, 18, and Alexandra J. Kuhlman, both received \$243 citations for their first offense.

Steven J. Cross was issued a \$102 citation for public urination and a citation for his second underage consumption offense Friday. When a patrol car saw Cross urinating in an alley behind an S.U.V., he quickly walked into the Tux Shop of Tanlines. The officer escorted him and issued the citations.

A Public Safety officer was called to Hathorn Hall Friday after an RA called with suspicion of underage drinking in one of the rooms. When he arrived, the officer went to the room where the door was open. There was a crowd of people and bottles of alcohol on the floor in plain view. Sara E. Paless, 18, Mindy M. McCann, 18, Rebecca A. Michel, 18, Bethany E. Morken, 18, and Cory L. Lindenberg, 18, all received \$243 underage consumption citations. Lorraine A. Knudson, 18, and Michael T. Hovestol, 19, both received \$367 citations for their second offense.

There were two complaints of damage to property Saturday. A lamp post near Ames Building was found knocked on the ground with the glass globe and bulb broken. It is estimated to cost \$850 to replace the post. A fire alarm pull station lever was also broken in Johnson Hall Saturday. There are no suspects for either of the damages.

At an after bar party near West Cascade Avenue early Sunday morning, Joel J. Probst, 22, and Christopher G. Lavigne, 23, were arrested for disorderly conduct. Probst was issued a \$164 citation.

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Asbestos found in KFA's hot glass studio annealers



Photo by Teresa Schmitt
Senior Janet Schmit opens an annealing oven in the Fine Arts Building's hot glass studio where asbestos was found.

Lucas Pokorny
Staff Writer

About two weeks ago art professor James Engebretson and his students cleaned out their annealing ovens in the hot glass studio located in the Fine Arts Building (KFA). It was then the students discovered the ovens contained asbestos.

Asbestos is dangerous because it has microscopic fibers that, when inhaled, get lodged in the lungs and can cause cancer, UW-River Falls Environmental Health and Safety Manager Mark Kimball said. He added that asbestos occurs naturally in firewalls, floor tiles, brake pads and ovens.

Kimball said Engebretson and his students got approval to remove the asbestos from UW-RF Facilities' Engineer Jim Murphy. Murphy supplied special bags for the students to put the asbestos in. The asbestos was then dropped off at a certified landfill by facilities management.

"They contacted us, wrapped it in plastic and we handled the material as well as stored it," Murphy said.

Murphy said as long as asbestos stays in its solid form it is harmless. The asbestos in the art oven was solid. He added that the only way it could be harmful was if someone chipped away at the asbestos causing it to go airborne.

A person needs to be exposed for a long period of time, Murphy said, to be affected by the asbestos.

"The period of time that they were exposed to the asbestos is well lower than what it needs to be to get affected," Murphy said.

A few years ago, Kimball said tiles in the Ag Science Building were replaced because of asbestos. Because the asbestos was airborne,

building had asbestos around its pipes.

"It's wonderful insulation," Kimball said.

However, because of health reasons asbestos is no longer used for insulation.

"As long as it is encapsulated there isn't a problem with it," Kimball said.

Murphy said the greatest hazard on campus was the spray on the ceilings. The spray has been removed however.

The second greatest risk on campus is the installation in the mechanical room. The mechanics are all certified and aware of the asbestos, Murphy said.

The Student Center, Hathorn Hall and the Ames Teacher Education building all previously had problems with asbestos until it was removed.

If students have a concern about asbestos, they should contact Murphy.

"I'm the everlasting catcher," Murphy said. "It's like the movie 'The Sandlot.' Nobody wants to be the catcher, but when someone becomes the catcher he is the catcher forever."

Murphy said he has to make sure he follows regulations set by the Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA) because the regulations keep changing. Murphy said in the past that tile has never been considered hazardous but now OSHA has added tile to the materials affected by asbestos.

For 12 years Kimball has been making sure the campus is safe and follows rules and regulations of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Kimball's job requires him to deal with OSHA related things as well.

Besides working with asbestos, Kimball has also helped in many other ways to keep the campus safe.

One of the most dangerous tasks Kimball had to deal with was in the science department. He had to deal with chemicals that were shock sensitive. Kimball said he had to handle the chemicals in a certain way or they could explode. Kimball said to prevent the chemicals from exploding, he added moisture.

Kimball said his main job is to take precautions and deal with safety issues. Kimball needs to find out why incidents happen and then find ways to prevent them from happening in the future. Some of those incidents involve students who stumbled on stairs or eye injuries.

"I try to keep the facilities as safe as possible," Kimball said.

certified workers used special equipment to remove it. Murphy said they built a plastic housing unit where the material was airborne and allowed air to come into the building. They also worked under wet conditions. The wet condition was formed by a fine mist of water. These conditions helped prevent the asbestos from being airborne, Murphy said.

Certified workers, who have gone through four days of training and are certified to use respiratory systems, are responsible for removing the airborne asbestos.

"The building is well managed of who can and can't be allowed in the space," Murphy said.

However, Engebretson and his students didn't use protective equipment because the asbestos was not airborne and they had a little chance of being affected.

"They have a better chance of being affected if they were standing on the crosswalk because of the brake pads on the cars," Kimball said.

Murphy said when dealing with asbestos in its solid form, one doesn't have to be certified to pick it up, but it must be hauled to a regulated and certified landfill.

"We're the owners and responsible for the life of the material. When we take it to the landfill we are still responsible for it," Murphy said.

For the last 20 years, Murphy has been working with asbestos and making sure the campus is cleaned of it. Murphy took a survey 20 years ago on where asbestos is located on campus and what kind of asbestos it is. (From the survey Murphy concluded that most of the asbestos was in the tiles and pipe material.

In the 1970s, Kimball said every

SAFETY from A1

intersection to place such a device poses a big hurdle.

However, he said if the University decided to have signal lights put up, the city wouldn't be adversarial to the change.

"If the University would ask for a signal light, I don't think the city would stand in the way," he said.

Wronski said the city has plans to reconstruct East Cascade, in what looks to be a four-year project.

PIGS from A1

ing increased by two pigs and breeding is done primarily through artificial insemination. Student interest and involvement in swine is also growing.

Vorpapel said the lab farms are moving toward more student management.

"The goal is to have the students running pretty much everything with a small handful of managers helping out," Vorpapel said.

CAFES Interim Dean Stephen Ridley said the student management experiment worked out better than he imagined.

"It really gives students a very rich real-world experience," Ridley said. "I would like to see it taken even further."

With the success of the past two years, several CAFES faculty members are planning to do just that. An extension of the swine operation is in the works that would market pork products directly from the farm to consumers. The project is called "Pig to Plate."

Animal Science Professor Gary Onan, Meat Plant Manager Steve Watters and Farm Director Bill Connolly presented the concept to the CAFES Advisory Council Oct. 23. Ridley said the council was "extremely enthusiastic."

"I thought they would be interested, but I wasn't quite prepared for how enthusiastic they were," Ridley said.

With the council's blessing, Onan, Watters and Connolly are laying the foundation for the program. It will include three areas: production, processing and marketing.

"It's still just a vision," Onan said. "We're a long way from actually pulling it off."

Processing of the meat will be done on campus with the existing facilities managed by Watters. Onan said students would take over some of the management duties in the plant.

With production and processing facilities already in place, the biggest obstacle to the project could be marketing.

"The most challenging thing—like any business—is the marketing aspect," Ridley said.

For successful marketing, students will need to determine who the mar-

ket is and what their needs are. They will then design a marketing plan to meet those needs.

Students will need to design a plan to meet several challenges, including one that bars the campus meat processing plant from shipping meat into Minnesota. The plant is state inspected, but not federally inspected. Though Minnesotans could cross the border to purchase UW-RF pork, the University cannot deliver meat outside the state of Wisconsin.

Though the plant could become federally inspected, it would require money to meet federal standards, Onan said.

However, several markets do exist for UW-RF meat. UW-RF pork is currently sold through Dick's Market, and a limited amount is sold to individual consumers. Farmer's markets could be another marketing outlet, Onan said.

Current marketing trends in agriculture favor the project. According to the USDA Web site, direct farm-to-consumer sales are increasing. Consumers buy directly because they like buying locally and believe the product is fresher and of higher quality.

Another marketing angle involves the new swine finishing hoop barn completed this summer. Documented interest and improvement in the swine herd made the building possible. Vorpapel was involved in the process of obtaining funding and the construction. Although he said he was skeptical at first, the building turned out better than he imagined.

"We've had hogs in the hoop barn for a little over two weeks now," Vorpapel said. "It's very management friendly."

Friendly is the marketing angle students may take. The new barn is not a traditional confinement facility and is "more animal welfare friendly," said Onan.

Many studies have shown consumers are more concerned with how meat animals are treated. With the new hoop barn, pigs have more room to move, unlimited access to

clean bedding and fresher air.

Pig to Plate is not the first idea of its kind on campus. Since 1983, the Falcon Foods store has sold dairy products made by students from lab farm milk. Nine students work under the direction of Dairy Plant Manager Rance May and produce a variety of products including cheese, ice cream and spreads. Two other students work in the store and a third works in bookkeeping.

Some student-workers are food science majors, and the plant experience can be especially beneficial.

"Food employees take on a huge responsibility—both having a quality product and the safety issues involved," said May.

Working in the plant teaches skills any major can use, she said.

"We try to foster critical thinking and decision making along with leadership and customer service," May said.

The plant is self-supporting and requires no additional University funds to operate. In addition to product sales, the University holds short

"We probably won't make money, but that's not really the idea anyway."
CAFES Interim Dean Stephen Ridley

courses for industry people and rents the facilities to companies for product development and research.

Pig to Plate will also have to support itself if the plan makes it into practice.

"It's hard in any operation, but it's especially hard around here," Vorpapel said. "The student turnover and balancing all the departments will make it difficult to get off the ground."

Once Pig to Plate begins to roll forward, the enterprise could make money.

"The probability of turning a little profit is actually decent," Onan said.

Ridley said profits are not important to the value of the idea.

"We probably won't make money, but that's not really the idea anyway," Ridley said.

Developing skills in students is the real goal behind Pig to Plate.

"Twenty-first century education is not always going to be 'sit in the classroom and teach me,'" Ridley said. "This project reflects current trends in education."

REFERENDUM from A1

Dodge.

This is something Senate Women's Initiatives Director Barb Lind hopes will change in the future.

Lind said she wasn't sure what the next step for Senate would be, but hoped it would be proactive since many students still voted to pull out of the UC.

"Sure, we're gonna be doing something," Lind said. "There was still 400 people—even though that's a minority—who voted no. We still want them to get

involved with GA's."

Though a high voter turnout impressed all involved, many questioned the impact the heated debate and contentious UC issue would have on Senators and students alike throughout the year.

Both Cluppert and Kneissel said tension and bitter feelings have already begun between senators.

Parrish has noticed the same thing as well.

"I think this will divide Senate," Parrish said. "Topics like this tend to divide people the rest of the year."

UW-RF's membership in UC will again be up for a vote in two years.

Reality Check

Ever hear that college students drink all the time?

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RADIO (PG)	(12:00, 2:20)
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EDITORIAL

United Council wins the vote, at least for now

As the storm of United Council members, Student Senators and students subsides with a final vote on the UC referendum, many unanswered questions and unsolved problems remain.

Senators and students alike noticed that this referendum had the highest voter turnout in recent UW-River Falls history. More students voiced their opinion on whether or not to remain in the UC than voted earlier this semester for the 10 new senators who represent the student body at a local level.

Somebody must have been doing something right to yield an almost 20 percent voter turnout at UW-RF. Getting that many students to take the time and care about anything was previously next to impossible.

There are still at least 400 people who, for one reason or another, felt it was a better idea to pull out of the UC. And if things don't change like they should, that number could, and probably will, keep growing.

Whether it was the class raps the UC members did throughout the day Monday and Tuesday, the informational pamphlets about UC or the debate held between Andy Parrish and UC President Jeff Pertl, a something got students' attention. That's a good thing. It's too bad it took five full-time lobbyists spending a majority of their time and some vast financial resources defending their cause. That's something senators, at UW-RF simply can't do; they don't have the time or the resources.

While it seems UC members' lobbying worked, their use of class raps was questioned by many. Students each pay \$1.35 for UC members to be in Madison working on important issues, lobbying legislators and making sure our voice is heard.

Instead, our money paid for them to make a more than 200 mile trip here to lobby us to support them. In addition, our tuition dollars paid for the classroom time they used to lobby us, taking time away from the valuable instruction we pay to receive.

As Senate Legislative Affairs Director Katie Kneissel said after the vote yesterday, "they doubly wasted our money."

If those five UC representatives had made a trip here to find out why some students are upset it would have been worth while. Instead, they spent their time telling us who they are and why we should support them with our \$1.35, thus saving their funding and their jobs.

There are still at least 400 people who, for one reason or another, felt it was a better idea to pull out of UC. And if things don't change like they should, that number could, and probably will, keep growing.

Many who voted down the referendum saw more bad coming from UC than good. They realized that UW-RF would reap the benefits of decisions made by UC by simply being a UW System school. While pulling out would nullify the seven potential votes UW-RF students would have at UC general assemblies, Senate rarely sends that many delegates anyway. Even with a full delegation, the dent UW-RF makes in an important vote is minute compared to most other schools in the UW System. Without a full delegation, it's a waste of time and money.

Those 400 or more students who may be distraught by the referendum's final outcome are not without hope, however. Students still hold a lot of power because of the \$1.35 mandatory refundable fee. Get enough people to request their money back, and students at UW-RF could make a decent dent in the UC's budget. More importantly, if UC has to write 400 checks for \$1.35 plus postage, they will be forced to take notice.

UW-RF student Andy Parrish, who vehemently opposed UW-RF's membership in the UC, said he already has a plan to use that money for a more important cause. Providing stamps and envelopes, Parrish said he will be getting as many students as possible to request their \$1.35 back from the UC. He then plans to donate it to a worthy cause.

Students should seriously consider this option. Not only will they have a direct say about where their money goes, they know it will be used for a good reason.

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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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

University buying into fear culture

All it took was a sensationalist ratings-grabbing, small-market TV news crew to force our campus community to surrender to the culture of fear. I feel nothing but shame and despair for the sheep mentality that has caused this pathetic rush to strict security procedures that will accomplish only two things: needlessly increase student paranoia and greatly inconvenience us all with paper tiger safety procedures. Honestly, common sense, pride in our campus and community and the good nature of our students hailing from small towns to big cities has been enough to keep us all safe.

WCCO wants us to be afraid. That's how they get ratings. That's how they make money, playing us for suckers all the way to the bank. Whatever money is wasted by the University to pay for the new uber-security will only fatten the pockets of those who feed off of the culture of fear we have so gullibly given into. What's next kids? Barbed wire fences? Guard towers? German shepherds? I entered this University feeling safe and proud of our campus community. The foolish rush to lock away students in dorms like jails is a greater crime than any that could possibly be committed by criminals, no matter how ridiculously unlikely. This is a university, not a prison. We are students, not inmates. Stop this foolish mistake. Do not give into the culture of fear.

Steve Nurmi, student

Sexuality, religion still hot topics for letter writers

Well, Amy, I must say I was slightly impressed by the fact that you even chose to attempt to battle your way out of the devastatingly bottomless hole which you dug yourself into.

First of all, I will present my argument against sexuality being more than sexual acts. Let us examine a typical scenario that all can relate to.

When you drive down the road and someone cuts you off, a thought of anger and maybe a personal vendetta against this person may enter your mind. However, until you take action upon that thought, by worldly standards you are not guilty of this. Because I may think about stealing at a store, can you try me as a thief? No, the

action itself of physically removing the object from the store without paying is what gets me into trouble. Now, I understand that scenarios can never represent a perfect example, but I do believe that homosexual tendencies do enter the minds of many people without sexuality ever being implemented. That is quite a definitive line.

Next, your attempts to show the validity of your standpoints remain questionable by the way you continue to misrepresent sources by faulty implications. Let's not beat around the bush. What you implied about the magnificent President of the United States is a blatant lie. In no way has "W." ever tried to regulate the activities relating to sexual acts between consenting adults. In fact, I have a quote from CNN.com-one of the more liberal news channels-about Bush's stance on the issue.

"When asked if Bush considers homosexuality a sin, McClellan responded someone's sexual orientation is 'personal business in the president's view.' He added, 'The president is not someone who believes in casting stones. He is someone who believes that everybody ought to be treated with continuing respect.'"

If you were referring to the marriage bill proposed by Bush, take a look back to 1996 and understand that the Defense of Marriage act was signed into law by President Clinton in the first place.

Finally, on to religion. You imply that I use Christ as a shield for "war, bigotry, hatred, prejudice and discrimination." Unfortunately, you say this even though I never stated my own personal take on these issues. Now, it is true God is about love. However, this does not mean He cannot take a stand against evil. The hatred of a person is a far cry from the belief in the wrongness of one's actions. It is just too bad that you are so bent on equality that you twist these until they stand side by side.

In conclusion, I would like to say that you are entitled to your own opinion. I do believe that morality should be the backbone of life and this is an opinion I will never back down from. You can say what you wish about religion, but I know who can give all peace with a simple prayer.

Jeff Olson, student

Look around, see the diversity here

Let me tell you what you don't know that I do know. Let me tell you what's not in our history text-

books that should be. Let me tell you my story. Mai is my name, the most common Hmong name. I was born and raised in Wausau, Wis., and I am one of the very few Hmong women who made it to college. Though I am enjoying my first semester at UW-River Falls as an incoming freshman from high school, I am appalled by the students' lack of diversifying themselves here at this University. I thought high school had its own issues, but I guess it's the same at college. Do the students of UW-RF recognize Hmong students walking around this campus or why they are here in this country? More than 95 percent of the student's probably won't because it wasn't in our textbooks and it wasn't open to the public; it was ignored.

My ancestors originated in the lower part of China. For thousands of years China left the Hmong people alone as long as they paid their tributes to the country. However, the last dynasty, the Qing, followed a different policy, which lead the Hmong to rebellion and exploitation. This left the Hmong people with nothing except to migrate to the upper mountainous regions of Laos, Vietnam, Thailand and Burma. For hundreds of years the Hmong people farmed day after day before the sun rose and after the sun set. Hmong people placed labor into their hands to survive. This would explain why Hmong families have so many children because the more children the parents had, the better chance they had to survive.

In the mid 1900s the United States of America was not only fighting against communism in Vietnam. They were also fighting with the Hmong and Thai in the jungles of Laos where chemical and biological warfare began to be the solution to stop the rage, and surely at the end of this war, it was. This was the secret war that the United States themselves couldn't possibly defeat. Having the Hmong people help them fight was another resolution. They said that should they succeed in pushing the North Vietnamese Community forces back, the Americans would help the Hmong as much as possible, and if the Hmong should suffer defeat, then the Americans would "find a new place" where they could help the Hmong. Days turned to weeks, weeks turned to months, months turned to years. Laos was drawn inexorably into the Vietnam War. In fact, whenever there was a pause in the American bombing of North Vietnam, the bombing of Laos intensified. Despite official denials, countless numbers of civilians were killed and entire villages wiped out by this unpublicized war. It was esti-

mated that 17,000 Hmong troops and 50,000 Hmong civilians perished during the war. The U.S. government hid this war from the American public-indeed, from Congress itself-because reporters were forbidden to interview pilots who left on bombing missions over Laos from American air bases in Thailand. The secret war was so fatal that after the American pull-out, Hmong villages were burned, young women raped, children murdered, livestock slaughtered and young men killed. After the great defeat and desertion in Laos, the Hmong people had to escape from the only place they called home. Like the Trail of Tears for the Indians, the Mekong River was for the Hmong. Hundreds, even thousands, of Hmong people tried crossing the Mekong River to Thailand for freedom. Most of them drowned.

Considering that years had gone by and still the United States had not kept their promise, refugee camps in Thailand started growing and problems began rising. At last, some United States' churches began volunteering to sponsor Hmong families immigrating into the Americas. Was this what some Hmong people dreamed of? To finally live in America and have a free and happy life? No, this wasn't the case at all. Instead, our parents suffered and sacrificed their lives to keep themselves alive and raise their children like other American children. Today, the Hmong individuals that work their way up to college are stronger than ever. They experienced what their parents did not and shed tears because they were tormented and harassed.

I guess we could say at the same time the parents and children went through the same hell. The shade of our skins, not having our own country and being inexperienced with the American culture made us vigorous. It was the pain and failure in Laos that kept our families going for years to survive in the United States. Hmong students who live the second generation, which is today, have lived two lives; the American culture and the Hmong culture.

Being trapped between both cultures meant higher expectations and harder work to succeed in this country. If you were too much of one culture, you weren't appreciated and if you were the other, it would be the same. Sometimes for one person it was too much to handle and they gave up. This is why I said I was one of the many lucky young Hmong women to have made it this far. I could have defi-

See LETTERS, A5

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Don't blame all Greeks

I was shocked the other day to see an article in a British woman's magazine: "Sororities: the terrible hidden secrets of American universities." If people don't have enough reasons to think Americans are a little bit "off," I think that article just gave them another one.

There are several things I'd like to point out that are being far overlooked by the media and society's portrayal of fraternities and sororities. First of all, you can't judge all Greeks based on the actions of one or two chapters of a fraternity or sorority that get a bad rap in the press. If you get bad service at a Mexican restaurant, are you going to think that all Mexican restaurants in the nation are bad? No. So why are we placing this judgement on our Greeks? Just within in the National Panhellenic Conference, 26 sororities are recognized. In the Interfraternity Conference there are 66 fraternities represented. Then you have to figure in how many others aren't recognized by these organizations and how many tens or hundreds of chapters are included in each sorority or fraternity. It's a lot. So why are we judg-



ing all Greeks on the actions of a few? People like to point fingers and place the blame on other people for everything that goes wrong. Perhaps it is just human nature but it can damage the reputations and integrity of various otherwise innocent people and organizations. One of the latest "fraternities and sororities are evil" stories to come out was that of two bright young women attending California State. They were pledging a well-known African American sorority. They were tied up and led into the ocean where they drown. The families of the two women are now suing the sorority for \$100 million. Terrible Greek tragedy huh? Excuse the pun. Well let's look at (insert Paul Harvey voice) "the rest of the story." According to the Los Angeles police department, there was no evidence of hazing. When autopsies were done there was nothing to suggest the women were tied up or blindfolded in any way. It is believed that one woman got hit by a wave and the other went in to save her. Yet, the grieving families refuse

to hear this. They insist on blaming the sorority which, by the way, didn't even have an active chapter at Cal State at the time. Carl Douglas, a lawyer for one of the women's families, went as far as to say "Hazing is the dirty little secret of fraternities and sororities nationwide."

There we go generalizing again. I'm here to tell you that isn't true. As a member of a sorority on campus I've never experienced any sort of hazing, and I'm highly confident that any member of other UW-River Falls fraternity or sorority chapters hasn't either. There are strict rules against hazing in the Greek community. If someone is asked to do something that makes them feel uncomfortable within a fraternity or sorority they can not only refuse to do it, they can also contact a hotline about it.

There are a lot of rituals members of the Greek community aren't allowed to talk about; not because they are bad but because it's part of the identity of each individual group. It's part of the draw. If no one else knows about it then you are automatically sharing something in common with other members.

Menu mess stymies city schools

School officials need to get their priorities straight.

An issue important to River Falls school board members lately has been the quality of food choices offered in school cafeterias. School board member Peter Donalds believes the food offered contains too much sugar and fat and is a contributing factor to childhood obesity and diabetes.

While this is a valid issue to examine, I think there are more urgent issues school officials and parents should be concerned about. For example, why are kids drinking and driving or getting arrested for murder?

It was recently revealed that Angie Brenna, a River Falls girl who was paralyzed after rolling her van, had been drinking prior to driving. She was scheduled to appear on Oprah, but will not because of the drunken-driving factor.

Maybe the school board should worry about providing more education about the consequences of drunken driving instead of worrying about kids eating too much pizza.

"Maybe the school board should worry about providing more education about the consequences of drunken driving instead of worrying about kids eating too much pizza."



school anyway.

Instead of condemning Brenna for her actions, we should look at why she made the choice to drink and drive. If she had had more education about the consequences, would she have made the choice she did?

Time would be better spent teaching kids about alcohol safety instead of sniveling over trivial matters. Maybe Brenna wouldn't have decided to drink and drive if the consequences had been drilled into her head with more fervor.

According to the River Falls Journal, a Hudson girl is being investigated concerning the death of her newborn baby boy.

She went to the hospital after claiming to have miscarried a baby the size of her fist. She said she then flushed it down the toilet.

A nurse at the hospital contacted police

Left might think right with womb tax

I have often pondered in this wonderful Utopia that the liberals dream of acquiring some day when exactly life begins in this society.

I have come to the conclusion that, for them, life does not begin at conception, life for the left begins at taxation. This new partial birth abortion bill that our president signed into law now prohibits the use of partial birth abortions.

Since liberals believe that life does not begin until they can tax you, I thought it my duty to educate the.

The reason it is called "partial birth" is because the abortionist needs to pull the baby feet first out of the mother all the way to the head. Under current law, the baby needs to be considered alive, so it is crucial to keep the head in. When the baby starts to kick its tiny little feet to avoid being pulled out, and any sane person would say that this is a very clear sign the baby is alive. Nonetheless, they call it partial birth abortion because the baby is partially born. On to people who think it's OK to perform this type of state-sanctioned murder and still want to do it, I'll walk you through the procedure.

First, to be your own abortionist you will need a few materials. These can be found at your local craft store. You will need one pair of small sharp pointy scissors, one pair of forceps to grab the little baby's feet, some rubber gloves - just to protect you from the blood - and, finally, a vacuum-preferably a small one, but a large one with a

small attachment will do just fine.

The first step in the procedure is to take the forceps and insert it into the birthing canal and try to grab the baby's feet. Be careful, the baby will resist when you grab the feet. Pull hard, but not too hard because if you pull the baby all the way out, it is now alive and you must stop the procedure. If successful, move to step two.

The second step is to grab the sharp pointy scissors and insert them into the back of the baby's head. You might notice a little kicking so hold the forceps real tight and the screaming will end eventually after the scissors reach the child's brain.

The last step is to insert the vacuum into the hole and turn it on. This sucks the brains out of the baby. All that is left is the discarded ing of the corpse.

Some people argue that this new partial birth abortion ban takes away their right to play God and choose who lives and who doesn't based on convenience. I have this to say to the anti-life crowd. I am not taking away anyone's choice over their own reproductive life. They already chose when they engaged in sexual intercourse.

Here is my solution to this life debacle. If we tax the baby - we'll say property tax - for occupying the mother's womb, the left will fight to keep the baby alive instead of fighting to abort it. Then they can receive more money for - we'll say education, because there isn't enough money spent there already."

"If we tax the baby...for occupying the mother's womb, the left will fight to keep the baby alive instead of fighting to abort it. Then they can receive more money for - we'll say education, because there isn't enough money spent there already."

the mother's womb, the left will fight to keep the baby alive instead of fighting to abort it. Then they can receive more money for - we'll say education because there isn't enough spent there already - then maybe, just maybe the left would acknowledge the fact this fetus is more than just a fetus: It is a human life.

If you still want to try partial birth abortions on your own, happy aborting. Support our troops, support our president and have a great conservative day.

LETTERS from A4

nately given up and thrown away everything my parents and I worked for, but I had too much ambition and a dream to accomplish. Trying to cope and give in a little bit to others who don't look like you can change lives. Even if you have the tiniest gut feeling that you should say "hi" or just smile at someone not of your race can make a difference. Sitting next to a person who doesn't dress like you can seem daunting, but really he or she could be your best friend once you get to know them. Joining a club that doesn't interest you because of its title doesn't mean you can't change your mind and we could all look for things that look perfect to us. However, it could be just as imperfect on the inside as the out. We all come from different backgrounds and have different stories to tell. Are you willing to come out and tell yours?

Mai Chang, student

Students should expand more than academic horizons

UW-River Falls is, according to its motto, "where the free spirit prevails." I seem to recall this was prominently cited when I was pursuing my first degree here circa 1989-92. A search of the UW-RF website does not make it clear whether the University still lays claim to this ideal. Whether or not the motto is still in vogue, I think its assertion is an appropriate one for the University environment.

Recently UW-RF has been the scene of controversy over issues such as the pride chalkings of the Gay/Straight Alliance and the University's membership in United Council.

Debate should be one of the hallmarks of university experience and the University, at its best, should represent the coming together of people from diverse opinions and social, economic, religious, political, racial and national backgrounds. As a person whose primary political inclination is pluralist, I think the debates are a healthy manifestation of the "free spirit" ideal, even though as a liberal, and dare I say a mild democratic socialist, I find the arguments for disbanding the United Council or the counter-GSA chalkings far less than compelling.

Nevertheless, university life should not be about comfort. When we are born we emerge from the warm comfort of the womb to a slap on the ass, a fierce scrubbing with rough towels and an assault upon our ears by the "machines that go

ping." Coming to college ought to be the same. My guess is that most students at UW-RF myself included, even though it was much longer ago-come from rural or small town Midwestern backgrounds where the people around us basically share the same culture, values, race and, oftentimes, opinions. Coming to college should not be about swaddling us against the intrusion of "foreign values."

As an educational endeavor, not merely a stepping stone to a good job, college should be a challenge. This does not mean the values of small town and rural America, which many of us bring with us to the University, should not be affirmed. They just should not be blindly accepted.

Instead of dismissing competing ideas and values that conflict with our own opinions out of hand, I think it is important to realize that these contrary views did not develop in a vacuum or for some random, irrational, unfathomable reason, but due to differences in people's experience, assumptions, history, culture or the plain old bump and grind of trial and error.

Secretary General of the United Nations Kofi Annan, a native of Ghana and an alumnus of my other alma mater, Macalester College, alludes to this idea in a story of his personal experience coming to Minnesota. When he arrived in the land of ice and snow, he noticed many people wore ridiculous, fuzzy contraptions over their ears - earmuffs. He refused to wear earmuffs, as they looked positively silly.

However, after a very cold day and very cold ears, Annan changed his mind, concluding that the natives just might know something. Whether we always like it or not, people whose opinions, values, and ways of living challenge our own assumptions just might have a point, derived from a different set of circumstances from our own. As thinking beings we should not immediately dismiss them, nor uncritically accept them. Reflection is what the University is all about and the spirit should be free to do that.

If a person comes to college and has not reassessed one value, entertained a conflicting notion or, at the least, rethought a few assumptions, they have failed, even if they received A grades in every class and graduated with honors. I am a far different person for engaging the "free spirit" than I was as a freshman in 1989. When I came here in pursuit of my first degree, I'll be a far different person when I leave here in 2004 clutching my second degree. I am not saying everyone should leave the university radically altered. For some of you the University experience may not be the impetus to profound change, but at a minimum I think exposure to the new ideas that college entails should be an occasion for reexamination.

In the end, the university experience should encourage us to hold the curiosity of a child in our hearts, skepticism in our minds and the fortitude of tested convictions in our guts.

"Debate should be one of the hallmarks of university experience"

JIM MAC TAVISH



What are your thoughts on Minnesota's conceal and carry law?



Laura Schaffer, junior

"I think conceal and carry is a bad idea. It just puts more guns out there and although they don't cause violence; they are a destructive tool. I think it creates a negative answer to more problems."



Jacob Diercks, junior

"I think it provides security to people who need it, but I don't think it will affect crime positively or negatively."



Rachel Niebur, freshman

"I think it's ridiculous personally. I think it just gives people an excuse to carry a weapon, especially kids and gangs."



Steve Carlson, freshman

"I think it's a good idea, and if they don't have it people are going to do it anyway. There is also a law that states a building has the right to decide whether or not to allow guns on the premises."



Kong Thao, freshman

"I think there are going to be more shootings. Before we even passed this there were school shootings and public shootings, this is just crazy."

PHOTO POLL
by Eric Ebert

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Section B

Volleyball season ends with painful loss



Photo by Mike Foley

Falcon outside hitter Krystle Brune consoles her teammate, All-American middle hitter Melissa Tvrdik, as she looks to the team trainer on the UW-RF bench. Tvrdik suffered a knee injury on the final point of the final game of her collegiate volleyball career.

Eagles sweep Falcons out of NCAA regional, eight seniors finish careers

Mike Foley
Sports Editor

The UW-River Falls volleyball season ended at Mitchell Hall in La Crosse Nov. 15, when the Eagles swept the Falcons in the NCAA Midwest regional final, 30-27, 30-22, 30-25.

The turning point in the match came in the first game when the Falcons were ahead, 27-24, but the Eagles scored the final six points to steal the first game.

"We gave them at least three hitting errors down the stretch of game one," Falcon head coach Patti Ford said. "We needed two of those three hitting errors to go our way."

The Falcons also led, 16-14, in game two when La Crosse made a similar rally to give the Eagles a 20-16 lead.

"La Crosse is a very fundamentally-sound team," Ford said. "They don't make many errors and they keep putting the ball over the net and try to force you to make errors."

In the match as a whole, the Falcons gave up 24 hitting errors and tallied only 40 kills on 180 total attacks. UW-RF's match hitting percentage was .089, the worst for a match this season.

Logan Kiesch and Krystle Brune led the Falcons with 10 kills each. Erin Oberholtzer collected 32 assists. Jen Braun led the team in digs with 31 while Kiesch added

21. Kristin Brandt had three blocks and Sarah Halverson had two service aces.

To make things even more painful for the Falcons and their eight seniors, the match ended with an injury to senior and All-American middle hitter Melissa Tvrdik. The Eagles were ahead, 29-25, in the third game when Tvrdik went down clutching her knee during an intense volley. While she lay on the court writhing in pain, the official whistled the play dead and called Tvrdik for being under the net.

"I think she collided with Krystle (Brune)," Ford said. "I know it was a knee injury, but I'm not totally sure what it is."

The call gave the Eagles the final point, and once Tvrdik was helped off the court, the celebration began for UW-La Crosse, while eight Falcon seniors, including Tvrdik, mourned the death of their collegiate volleyball careers.

"It's always a sudden shock," Ford said. "You are into the match, you're gearing yourself up to play and you still have a shot, but then it's over. I think it hit them that this is the last time they will all be together as a group, and that means a lot to them."

It was the second consecutive Saturday the Eagles swept the Falcons. On Nov. 8, UW-La Crosse pounded UW-RF in three games to

See VOLLEYBALL, B4

Men's hockey team tops 2 MIAC rivals Falcons prepare for Bethel, Hamline

Mike Foley
Sports Editor

The fifth-ranked UW-River Falls men's hockey team beat St. Thomas, 5-1, Friday night and St. Mary's, 4-2, Saturday night at Hunt Arena. The wins up the Falcons' record to 6-0.

On Friday night, the Tommies struck first mid-way through the first period. Falcon forward Josh Schlipp evened the score during a power play with an assist from Andy Jurek. It was Schlipp's first goal since netting 16 last season.

Joe Tiberio broke the tie in the second period and Jim Murphy and Schlipp added goals all within 2:11 of each other to put the game out of reach. Aaron Degerness scored on a power play later in the second.

"A lot of the times, hockey is such an emotional game that when something positive happens, you can jump on it and get a lot of chances," Falcon head coach Steve Freeman said. "We fed off it and got an adrenaline rush in the second period. We got some good looks and guys hit the open net when they had the chance."

The Falcons played physical hockey and only allowed 13 shots on goalie Dan Meneghin despite allowing five power plays. UW-RF put 27 shots on net and scored on two of seven power plays. The Falcons went three for 10 on the power play over the weekend and killed eight of nine penalties.

"We've been paying special attention to (power plays and penalty killing) in practices," Freeman said. "We would like to think if we can score one power play goal per game that it will make a big difference. Also, penalty killing is big. If you're going to play physical, you're going to get some penalties and you have to be able to kill those off."

Saturday the Falcons shot themselves out of a cannon and scored 2:13 on Tyler Kostiuik's first collegiate goal off assists from Jared Sailer and Jess Johnson. St. Mary's struck back 1:20 later to tie the game. After another 2:47 had passed, Jim Murphy netted an unas-

sisted power play goal, his fifth of the year.

Late in the second period, Aaron Venasky scored his first collegiate goal after coming back from an injury. Kostiuik and Rob Novak got the assists. Venasky's goal proved to be the game winner.

"Venasky's a very talented player and he's a big guy who will play a physical game," Freeman said. "He'll be a great addition for us and we have to figure out exactly where he fits into our lineup this weekend."

Degerness put in his fifth goal of the year on a power play early in the third period off assists from Murphy and Matt Elsen. St. Mary's added a late goal, but Falcon goalie Andy Scanlon held them off.

Scanlon allowed two goals on 30 St. Mary's shots, while the Falcons put four of their 30 shots past the goaltender. Both goaltenders are 3-0 this season, and Freeman likes the way both of them are playing.

"We know Dan is a great goaltender from last year, and he is our No. 1 guy coming in," Freeman said. "Scanlon looked so good early on that we wanted to see how he would do in a game. He's played so well that he's earned the shot to play more. We have a great amount of faith in both of them. It's nice to have a fully-rested athlete in goal every night, but they will both want to play more."

This weekend the Falcons will travel to Bethel on Friday and Hamline on Saturday for more action against MIAC teams. The puck drops at 7 p.m. both nights.

The Falcons have beaten up on four MIAC opponents so far and they aren't alone. In two weekends of play between NCHA and MIAC teams, the NCHA has gotten the best of the MIAC. The NCHA has gone 25-3-3 against MIAC foes and outscored their opponents 165-65 in the 31 games.

"I think, top to bottom, our league is stronger than the MIAC," Freeman said. "This year looks like a real positive year for us. Traditionally, we've always been a quite a bit stronger, but not quite this dominant."

Journalists feel pain too

As a journalist I've made it through my share of tough spots, and what I saw last weekend showed me that even in the sports world, I'll find myself in some sticky situations.

When I was at Mitchell Hall in La Crosse Nov. 15 for the volleyball NCAA Midwest Regional, I was excited. I could have skipped the event and written about it from the stat sheet that was faxed to the Sports Information Office, but I'm not just a writer. I'm a fan too.

I shot photos as my team lost its first game of the match. After an internal battle and some silly superstitious thinking, I concluded that it was because I wasn't cheering enough.

I finished my roll of film and took a spot in the front row of bleachers right behind the teams' benches. When the Falcons scored I cheered. When they lost a point I grimaced.

This wasn't just another team that

played for my school. These women made me feel like a part of the team and let me share in their excitement since the middle of August.

As the Eagles picked up the win in game two, I realized that the Falcons may not win the match. I wasn't prepared for the season to be over.

I stuck to my guns in the cheering section until mid-way through the third game. It was a close game, and it was hard to pick up the camera and prepare for the worst while I was still hoping for the best.

Reality began to set in as the Eagles picked up their 29th point. The Falcons only had 25. It would be over soon and I was setting up to get a photo of the UW-River Falls team in disappointment with the UW-La Crosse team in bliss in the background.

While I was setting up for my shot, I found myself alongside the

I thought it was important to deliver the image of this fallen Falcon to the rest of the campus community that wasn't at the match.



Mike Foley
Sports Editor

inside me felt its stomach drop. She stayed on the ground and writhed in pain under the net until the official blew the whistle and ended the point and UW-RF's season.

See FOLEY, B4

Cross country runs at regionals

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls men's and women's cross country teams competed in the NCAA Div. III Midwest Regional Saturday at the Whitetail Golf Course in Colfax.

The men placed 21st of 32 teams and the women placed 11th of 35 teams.

Leading the women was Marlene Yaeger who ran the 6,000-meter race in 23:04. She placed 22nd overall. Marian Christen finished 51st overall in 23:36.

For the men, Kevin McDonough was the first Falcon to cross the finish line in the 8,000-meter race. He finished in 27:45 and placed 95th overall. Next for the Falcons was Bobby Hanson who placed 101st overall in 27:51.

Football gives up 7 TDs in finale

Eric A. Page
Assistant Sports Editor

Going into the UW-River Falls Falcons' final game of the season at Stevens Point, assistant head coach Tom Journell had a choice to make. How to defend Pointer quarterback Scott Krause.

"With most guys you know what you want him to do. You either want to make him run or make him pass," Journell said. "This guy is so good, it is hard to decide."

Krause demonstrated his versatility by totaling 452 yards of offense on Saturday as the Pointers (8-2, 5-2 WIAC) routed the Falcons (2-7, 2-5) 49-15. The Falcons had no answer for Krause who completed 20-27 passes for 355 yards and five touchdowns. The senior also ran for 97 yards and one touchdown.

The Falcons were able to keep the game close through most of the first quarter. John Peterlik scored on a 2-yard run to tie the game 7-7 with six minutes remaining.

When Pointer halfback Cody Childs caught a touchdown pass from Krause, it ignited a waterfall of scoring, as the Pointers ran off 42 consecutive points to take a 49-7

lead mid-way through the third quarter.

Owen Schmitt scored the game's final touchdown on a 49-yard sprint to the endzone with three minutes left in the third quarter.

Schmitt finished the day with 150 yards on 20 carries, putting him over 1,000 for the season. Peterlik finished with 47 yards on 18 carries, leaving him with 984 yards on the season, just 16 shy of the milestone.

The Falcons were without a turnover for the third consecutive week, but were more than doubled in total offense. Though they out-possessed the Pointers, the Falcons were forced to punt six times in the game, while only forcing one.

Freshman halfback Jeremy Wolff had a strong game for the Falcons gaining 43 yards on seven carries. Quarterback Troy Foss was held in check, netting negative six yards on the ground.

Matt Jordan led the Falcon defense with eight total tackles, including two for a loss. Neil Mantor and O'neal Hampton were each in on seven stops, with Mantor picking up two behind the line of scrimmage. Dan Buker, Nate Hendrickson and Nate Mueller were each in on six



Photo by Eric A. Page

Falcon football players gather around coaches at an early-season game at Ramer Field. The team won two games during its 2003 season.

tackles with Buker and Hendrickson recording one each behind the line.

The loss ended a season that marked the third consecutive losing campaign for the Falcons. Their two

wins over Platteville and Oshkosh were the same conference opponents they beat in 2002. The Falcons have a combined 4-10 record in the WIAC over the past two seasons.

Hype brings hope to ballers

Eric A. Page
Assistant Sports Editor

UW-River Falls men's basketball coach Rick Bowen was not surprised when his team was picked to win the WIAC two weeks ago at the conference's media day in Madison. "There is so much (Rich) Melzer hype out there right now that we almost had to be picked," Bowen said. "If we were picked any lower than second I would have been real surprised."

The significance of being picked to finish first carries more weight, considering it is a feat the Falcons have not achieved since the 1949-50 season.

The Falcons 16-10 record and 10-6 mark in the WIAC last season was the most successful since 1990-91, when a 10-6 conference mark also left them tied for third. Their 33 wins over the past two seasons are the most in any two-year span in school history.

Last month Melzer was tabbed the DIII News Preseason Player of the Year and has been a first team selec-

tion by every other preseason publication.

"If Rich is not the best player in America at the Div. III level, he is definitely the second or third best," Bowen said.

The 6-foot-8-inch, 225-pound Melzer is coming off the most prolific individual season in Falcon history. He was named the WIAC's co-MVP last year and gathered All-America First Team honors from the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC). His 28.1 points per game led the conference and were second in the nation. He tallied 9.7 rebounds per game along with 2.1 blocks, both tops in the WIAC.

Melzer scored a career-high 54 points in a game at La Crosse on Jan. 29, which spring-boarded him on to the scouting lists of many NBA teams.

Despite Melzer's accolades, Bowen, who is entering his 18th season at UW-RF, said that the success of his team will depend on the improvement of Melzer's supporting cast from a year ago and the immediate contribution of three tal-

ented transfers.

"If our new players don't make a difference, and our returning players are the same as they were last year, we'll finish third again," Bowen said. "On the other side of that, can we win it? Yes we can. This is a good team."

Senior Matt Kukla leads the incumbents from last year's squad. Kukla led the WIAC in three-point field goals made per game last season and led the team in three-point percentage at 43.2 percent. His 11.6 points per game were second on the team. He twice made eight threes in a game and scored a career high 35 points in a win over Marian College.

Micah Helfrey returns with a year of starting experience at the point guard position. Last year he led the WIAC in assists with 4.42 per game and finished third on the team in scoring with a 9.2 average.

A player that Bowen has been pleasantly surprised by through the first month of practice has been C.J. Becker. Becker, who averaged just 1.5 points per game last season, has come on strong to become one of the team's top defensive players and a potent outside shooter.

Three transfers will add depth to the Falcon roster that Bowen said will go eight to ten players deep.

Billy Halter, a 6-foot-8-inch forward, transferred from Minnesota State Moorhead for his senior season and will split time with Jesse Lam. Bowen said Halter may be the team's second best outside shooter.

Lam, a 6-foot-5-inch junior, played in all 26 games for the Falcons a year ago averaging 7.3 points.

Mark James followed Helfrey from Scottsdale (Ariz.) Junior College. Bowen said the 6-foot-5-inch swingman will bring a new dimension to the Falcons.

"We are going to be so much better defensively because of Mark," Bowen said. "He can guard the other team's best player, he can rebound and he is a very adequate outside shooter."

Bowen said junior transfer Tyler Pivec, red-shirt freshman Nick Hall and true-freshman Hans Hoeg will also work into the rotation.

"We have some really quality depth," Bowen said. "There have been some really good practices. The attitude has been just great."

The Falcons open the season at the Puget Sound Classic in Tacoma, Wash. on Nov. 21-22 where they will play Lewis and Clark College and the University of Puget Sound.

After games at Macalester and St.

See HOOPS, B4



Jeffrey Holt puts a shot up, while transfer Mark James gets in his face. Head coach Rick Bowen says James should add a new dimension to the Falcons.



Photo by Eric A. Page

Last year Micah Helfrey led the WIAC in assists with 4.42 per game and finished third on the team in scoring with 9.2 points per game.

Women's hockey team splits two weekend road games

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls women's hockey team put together three strong games and finished with two wins to improve their overall record to 3-4.

The Falcons play two important NCHA games this weekend when they play host to Lake Forest at

Hunt Arena. The Falcons are winless in two league games and need to come up with some wins to get back into the battle for a top spot in the conference standings. Game time on Friday is 7:05 p.m. and Saturday it is 2:05 p.m.

The Falcons lost a tight 2-1 decision in overtime at St. Thomas Saturday night.

UST's Andrea Schilling scored the

game winner at 3:06 of the extra session to lift her team to the win.

There was no scoring in the first period and the Falcons had a 1-0 lead after two. In the second, Nicole Magnuson scored at 11:08 with an assist to Lindsay Carlson. UST tied the game at 5:29 of the third period when Tomery Stolz scored. That set up Schilling's winner in overtime.

Falcon goalie Marlene Yaeger,

who ran in the NCAA Div. III Midwest Regional cross country meet earlier in the day, stopped 38 shots. The Falcons had 28 shots. The Falcons had a 3-1 advantage in shots in the overtime period.

Freshman goalie Amber Lindner made 19 saves to record her first collegiate shutout and Carlson had three assists to help lead the Falcons to a 4-0 win at St. Benedict on

Friday night.

The Falcons scored three first period goals to get an early lead. Leah Baron started the scoring with a goal at 4:34 with assists to Magnuson and Carlson. It was Baron's second goal of the season. Magnuson gave the Falcons a 2-0 lead at 17:53 when she scored her team leading fourth goal of the year. She was assisted by Kristen Hurley and Carlson. The

Falcons went ahead 3-0 at 19:48 when Jodi Hensch scored a power-play goal - her second goal of the season. She was assisted by Lindsay O'Keefe and Carlson. The Falcons added their fourth goal at 9:26 of the second period when Lou Paulson scored with assists to O'Keefe and Kelly Hurley. It was Paulson's first goal of the season. The Falcons had 36 shots on goal.

Volleyball's top 3 hitters make All-WIAC team

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

Falcon volleyball players Krystle Brune, Nina Petersen and Melissa Tvrdik have all been named to the 2003 first All-WIAC team.

Brune, an outside hitter, has been named to the first team for three straight years. Petersen, a right side hitter, was given honorable mention to the 2002 All-WIAC team. Tvrdik, a middle hitter, was named to the first team in 2002 and was given honorable mention in 2001.

Brune finished with 480 kills, tops on the team. She had a .249 hitting percentage. She had 128 digs and 65 total blocks.

Petersen finished with 379 kills, third on the team. She had a .238 hitting percentage. She had 114 digs and 102 blocked shots, third on the team.

Tvrdik led the team with a .358 hitting percentage and finished with 457 kills, second on the team. She



Nina Petersen

Krystle Brune

led the Falcons with 50 aces and with 131 total blocks. She finished with 191 digs.

UW-RF finished the regular season with a 34-5 overall record. The Falcons tied for first in the WIAC regular season standings with a 7-1 record. It was the second year in a row that the Falcons have tied for the No. 1 spot in the WIAC. The Falcons earned an at-large berth into the NCAA Div. III National tournament.

Tvrdik named WIAC MVP, scholar athlete

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

Falcon volleyball player Melissa Tvrdik won the top two individual awards given by the WIAC when she was named the league's Most Valuable Player and the sport's Scholar-Athlete.

Tvrdik led the team with a .358 hitting percentage and finished with 457 kills, second on the team. She led the Falcons with 50 aces and with 131 total blocks. She finished with 191 digs.

Tvrdik is one of UW-RF's top career players. She is currently third in career kills (1209), fifth in career kill attempts (2709), second in career kill percentage (.322) and second in career block assists (329). UW-RF is 113-42 during her four-year career. UW-RF has won two WIAC titles (2002, 2003) and competed in the NCAA Div. III tournament in 2000 and 2003. She has had double digits in kills in 69 of 113 career matches played. She had double digit kills and double digit digs in seven career matches.

This season she was the UW-RF Player of the Week five times and was the WIAC Player of the Week once. She led the team in kill per-



Melissa Tvrdik

centage (.347), solo blocks (19), block assists (112) and total blocks (131). She had a career high 14 digs against Nebraska Wesleyan (Oct. 10) and Whitewater (Sept. 20). Tvrdik had double digit kills in 31 of 41 matches and had double digit kills and digs in six matches.

In 2002, she was named the team's Most Valuable Offensive Player and was named to the All-WIAC first team. She was named to the AVCA All-Midwest Region team and then was named to the AVCA second All-American team. She was named the UW-RF Player of the Week four times. Tvrdik led team in kill percentage (.345), solo blocks (17), block assists (116), and total blocks (133). She had her career high kill match (21) vs. Trinity on Oct. 26, 2002 and had double digit kills in 24 of 39 matches. She had double digit kills and digs once.

In 2001, she was named the team's Most Valuable Player and was given honorable mention to the All-WIAC squad. She was named the UWRF Player of the Week three times. She led the Falcons in kill percentage (.261), solo blocks (14), block assists (97) and total blocks (111).

The Tvrdik File

	<u>Games Played</u>	<u>Kills</u>	<u>Hitting Percentage</u>
2000	17	19	.250
2001	122	301	.261
2002	130	414	.345
2003	150	475	.347
Career	419	1209	.322

She had double digit kills in 14 of 33 matches.

In 2000 Tvrdik was named the team's Most Improved Player.

Tvrdik's accomplishments in the classroom have been just as impressive. She is majoring in psychology with a minor in sociology and maintains a 3.795 grade point average. She is a three-time member of the WIAC Scholastic Honor Roll and has been named to UW-RF Dean's List every semester she has been enrolled at the University. Tvrdik has also earned an academic scholarship from the school's psychology department. Tvrdik is a member of Psi Chi National Honor Society and

is currently serving as vice president. She has also worked with autistic children.

The Scholar-Athlete award is presented to the most outstanding senior from each conference sport during the year who exhibits the greatest combination of performance and achievements in academics, athletics and leadership.

Tvrdik becomes the second women's volleyball student-athlete in school history to receive the league's top scholastic honor, joining Melissa Mattson who won the award in 2000. Mattson also was named the league's Most Valuable Player that same season.

EAU CLAIRE

After winning five of their last seven games and advancing to the semifinals of the league tournament last season, UW-Eau Claire head coach Terry Gibbons is optimistic for what the future may hold for his 2003-04 club, which returns 10 letterwinners.

Junior Dan Archambault leads the returnees for the Blugolds after averaging 14.4 points and 3.2 assists per game in 2002-03, while ranking third in the league with an 86.9 free throw percentage and nailing 36.4 percent of his three-point field goals. He has started every game for the Blugolds in the last two seasons, a span of 51 contests.

Also back are junior forward Will Jefferson and junior center Nate Beck. Jefferson averaged 2.9 points and 1.8 rebounds a year ago and has made 40 starts over the past two seasons. Beck started 24 games a year ago and chipped in 6.1 points and 3.3 rebounds per contest. Junior guard Casey Drake should bring depth to this year's squad after improving steadily each of the last two seasons.

Youth will be featured once again this season on the Blugold interior, as sophomores Tyler Birkel, Kale Proksch and Buck Smith look to make larger contributions. Birkel led the club with 14 blocked shots after appearing in all 27 games a year ago, while Proksch and Smith averaged 2.3 and 1.0 rebounds, respectively.

Other players to watch for the Blugolds include junior Jesse Breidenbach and sophomores Spencer Peck, Eric Johnson and Nate Pinkham, along with freshman Chad Hoff. Peck returns after suffering a season-ending knee injury early last year. The Blugolds should also get help from UW-Madison transfer Mat Peterson, a freshman, and Stephen F. Austin State (Texas) transfer Aaron Radl, a senior.

LA CROSSE

Ken Koelbl returns to the Coulee Region as the UW-La Crosse head coach in 2003-04. A 1990 graduate of Viterbo, Koelbl spent the last eight seasons as an assistant coach at UW-Stevens Point where he helped lead the Pointers to four straight league titles. Koelbl has also served as an assistant coach at South Dakota State, Viterbo and St. Mary's (Minn.).

Eight letterwinners return for the Eagles this season, including senior guard Casey Taggatz, who was an All-WIAC First Team selection a year ago and earned honorable mention to this season's Street & Smith's Preseason All-America Team. Taggatz ranked fourth in the conference last season with 19.4 points per game, while ranking second with 2.62 three-point field goals per game and fifth with an 85.1 free throw percentage. He also scored in double figures in 22 of 26 contests last year.

Senior Jason Kemp and junior Josh Hall return at the guard position after both missed most of last season with knee injuries. Kemp played in seven games a year ago, averaging 4.1 points and 1.6 rebounds, while Hall played in five games, averaging 3.8 points and 3.0 rebounds. Sophomore guard Ryan Robarge played in all 26 games last season with seven starts and chipped in 4.5 points and 2.5 rebounds per game.

Four letterwinners return to the frontcourt, including junior Jason Scheunemann, who started 17 games last season, averaging 8.4 points per game and ranking seventh in the league with 6.9 rebounds per game. Juniors Ben Bemis and Scott Klaas also return in 2003-04. Bemis played in 11 games a year ago after averaging 12.8 points and 5.4 rebounds in 2001-02. Klaas played in all 26 games two seasons ago, while sophomore Kyle Boland started all 26 contests last season.

OSHKOSH

Check the men's basketball showroom floor in UW-Oshkosh's Kolf Sports Center and you'll see a brand-new model for the 2003-04 season.

There's a down-sized look in terms of experience for head coach Ted Van Dellen's 14th UW-Oshkosh edition, yet there's a familiar face in the driver's seat in two-year starter Andy Fernholz. Fernholz, a junior guard, is one of five players who return to the Titans this season after helping last year's squad to the most wins and the highest NCAA Division III post-season finish in school history.

UW-Oshkosh claimed their second consecutive WIAC Tournament championship and also made an appearance in the quarterfinal round of the NCAA Division III Tournament. UW-Oshkosh's four-game trip in the NCAA Division III Tournament included road wins over 11th-ranked Hope College (Mich.) and top-ranked Randolph-Macon College (Va.) and a season-ending road loss to fourth-ranked Hampden-Sydney College (Va.). UW-Oshkosh concluded its record-breaking season as the sixth-ranked team in the country.

With Fernholz returning along with junior guard Dain Christensen, sophomore guard David Gershenson, sophomore forward Kyle Pederson and sophomore center Pete Warning, UW-Oshkosh's gas tank still boasts an ample share of high-octane weapons.

Expected to provide additional fuel for the Titans this season are freshman forward Jim Capelle, freshman guard Chad Doedens, freshman center Kerry Gibson and freshman forward Nathan Wesener.

PLATTEVILLE

UW-Platteville will feature many new looks in 2003-04, as the Pioneers have a new head coach and a fresh crop of players to replace seven seniors. While so much will be new, however, first-year head coach Paul Combs and the Pioneers will look to the past and build on the tradition that made the program the team of the 1990s with four NCAA Division III titles.

Combs turned Lakeland College around in his four-year tenure, taking over a program that had won 20 games the previous three years and compiling a 60-45 mark. Combs's 2002-03 club was 19-8 and won its second consecutive conference title.

The new coach and his staff inherit a team that lost three starters, including Tyler Selk, second on the school's all-time list in points (1,624) and rebounds (818), and 1,000-point scorer Bryan Stangel.

The new staff will look for leadership and strong play from senior Frank McGettigan, a career 40 percent three-point shooter who averaged 4.1 points per game last year, and juniors Brad Reitzner, who scored 9.3 points per game, and Brandon Temperly, who chipped in 7.5 points per contest.

WIAC

Hoops

P R E V I E W

By WIAC Sports Information Directors

MADISON, Wis. — UW-River Falls, which last won a conference title in its 1949-50 campaign, is favored to win the 2004 WIAC men's basketball championship, according to the league's sports information directors.

The Falcons received five of nine first-place votes in the league poll after racking up 33 wins in the last two seasons, the most victories for the program over a two-year span since the 1983 and 1984 seasons.

UW-Stevens Point, which has won four straight league crowns and is ranked third nationally

according to Street & Smith's, received the remaining four first-place votes in the conference poll and is pegged to finish second in the nine-team league derby.

UW-Whitewater, which is ranked ninth nationally according to Street & Smith's, is slated to finish third in the conference race.

The 2003-04 season will feature two new head coaches in the league as Ken Koelbl takes over the program at UW-La Crosse and Paul Combs will direct the UW-Platteville squad.

STEVENS POINT

It's a tough task for any team to win five straight league championships, but with all but two letterwinners back from last year's squad, the UW-Stevens Point men's basketball team appears primed for the challenge. The Pointers feature a solid core of experienced veterans, including three returning starters and a bench that provided quality depth a year ago.

Junior Jason Kalsow was an All-WIAC First Team selection as a sophomore and is one of the league's best all-around players, averaging 12.1 points, 7.4 rebounds and 3.9 assists last season. Kalsow received honorable mention to this year's Street & Smith's Preseason All-America Team. Point guard Neal Krajnik is the team's only senior and has started the past two seasons. Junior Nick Bennett is the third returning starter and was one of the league's best shooters last season and led the team at 12.3 points per game.

Two other players who saw part-time starting experience last season are junior Kyle Gruszczynski, a steady swing player who had just 19 turnovers in 28 games, and sophomore forward Brian Bauer, who scored 64 of his 129 points last season over the final nine games. Junior center Eric Maus has played every game the past two seasons and will take on a bigger role this year as the team's primary post presence. Junior point guard Tamaris Releford provides quality backcourt depth.

STOUT

To say that fourth-year UW-Stout men's basketball coach Eddie Andrist is excited about getting the 2003-04 season underway could be an understatement with as many as 12 players expected to contribute significantly.

Three seniors - post players Nate Templer and Andy Bray and outside player Jeff Vandenberghe - will be the cornerstone to any Blue Devil success.

The Blue Devils put together a seven-game winning streak midway through the 2002-03 campaign, finding themselves in first place at one point, and also won four of five overtime contests. Balanced scoring was a key for UW-Stout last year as five players averaged double-digit scoring - the three returning seniors among them.

Templer, who advanced to the NCAA Division III national track meet in three events last spring as a sprinter, averaged 11.2 points and 5.7 rebounds per contest. Bray was the team's top scorer with 14.6 points and matched Templer's rebound totals. Vandenberghe, the Blue Devils' leading threat from beyond the arc, chipped in 10.4 points per game.

The Blue Devils will need to find a new point guard, a spot that was hurt by injury last season. Nate Severson saw some time at the point last year, but is usually a shooting guard. Returning sophomore Mike Lee, transfers Greg Chaisson (Kirkwood Community College) and Isaac Reece (UW-Baraboo), and freshman Blake Craft are expected to vie for the spot.

SUPERIOR

Last year UW-Superior suffered through a season that saw it accumulate the fewest wins since the 1994-95 campaign. Head coach Jeff Kaminsky, who enters his 10th season at the helm of the Yellowjackets, is looking forward to this year's club, which features seven returnees including four seniors.

Leading the returning seniors is forward Cody Kastern, who earned All-WIAC First Team honors after ranking fifth in the conference with 18.2 points per game and placing fourth with 7.7 rebounds per contest a year ago. Guard Matt Bailey racked up 15 starts last season and averaged 3.5 rebounds per game, while forward Bob Riley participated in 20 games and is one of the hardest working players on the team. Forward John Allagh returns from an off-season performance in the All-African Games in which his Nigeria team earned the bronze medal. He started 15 games a year ago and chipped in 6.6 points and 3.6 rebounds per contest.

A quartet of returning sophomores should help provide depth to the squad, including guard Floyd Nyemick-Biyha (19 games) and forwards Derek Pederson (21), Luke Sargent (19) and Joe Massoglia (3).

The Yellowjackets will also welcome four true freshmen and a number of transfers, including Desmond Altman (Kankakee Community College), Derek Campbell (West Los Angeles Community College), Arione Farrar (Mid-State Technical College), Chip Flynn (UW-Eau Claire), Laron Reed (Morton Community College) and Marc Rothschadl (UM-Duluth).

WHITEWATER

Here's what faces UW-Whitewater head coach Pat Miller as he looks forward to the 2003-04 season and the school's third league title in the last four seasons. Gone is forward Aubrey Lewis-Byers, the only four-time All-WIAC First Team player in league history and second-leading scorer in school annals. Also gone is All-WIAC Second Team forward Londen Donlow, who accounted for more than 40 percent of the Warhawks' scoring a year ago with Lewis-Byers.

But the cupboard isn't bare. Senior forward Matt Jones, second only to Lewis-Byers in minutes played last season and a 12.5 points per game scorer, is back. Senior forward Nick Smith shot 57.3 percent from the floor and contributed 7.8 points per contest last year, while senior point guard Danny Saunders led the team with 3.68 assists and 1.36 steals per game in 25 starts. Senior guard Ernest Williams played in all 28 games and shot 43.9 percent from beyond the arc. Sophomore guard Jeremy Manchester also played in every game a year ago, while junior Tony Smith participated in 18 contests.

UW-Whitewater appears to be well set on the perimeter, however, Miller will look for someone to complement Smith along the baseline. That help will likely come from a pair of transfers in Angelo Griffin (Mesabi Range) and Jeremy Purvis (Spoon River Community College) or a number of incoming freshmen including Eric Homa, Josh King, Kyle Knipple, Jeremy Krull, Mike Toellner and Nate Winkel.

Melvin Williams, a transfer from Independence Junior College, is versatile enough to play inside or out, while freshmen Tony Miggins, Jo Jo Moore, Giovanni Riley, Kenneth Sykes and Jiery Vance will look for minutes in the backcourt.

Six football Falcons named to All-WIAC teams

Sports Information UW-River Falls

Fullback Owen Schmitt and halfback John Peterlik were both named to the first team. Peterlik was named as an all-purpose back. Defensive end Jeff Horton and cornerback Lewie Parish were both named to the second team. Defensive end Nate Hendrickson and defensive tackle Nic Rue both earned honorable mention.

Schmitt led the Falcons in rushing and finished with 1,063 yards. He scored five touchdowns and averaged 5.5 yards per carry.



Owen Schmitt

He had a long run of 68 yards. He finished third in the WIAC in rushing. His best game was a 181 yard effort against Whitewater.

Peterlik played an important role for the Falcons both running and returning the ball. He finished second for the Falcons in rushing. He rushed for 984 yards and led the team with 12 rushing touchdowns. He had a long run of 53 yards and averaged 7.1 yards per carry. His best game was against Platteville when he rushed for 324 yards and scored four times. Peterlik finished fourth in the WIAC in rushing. He led the Falcons with



John Peterlik

nine receptions for 144 yards and one TD. He completed 2-2 passes for 43 yards and one TD. He led the WIAC in all purpose yards. He had 984 rushing yards, 144 receiving yards, 541 kick off return yards. He finished with 1,669 yards in all-purpose yards. He finished second in the WIAC in kick off return yards per game. He also finished second in the WIAC in scoring with 86 points and led the WIAC in total touchdowns with 14. Peterlik was named to the first All-WIAC team in 2002.

Horton finished sixth on the team in total tackles with 34.



Jeff Horton

He had 20 solo stops. He finished second on the team with nine tackles for loss and was second in sacks with five.

Horton forced one fumble, recovered a fumble and broke up three passes. He led the Falcons with three quarterback hurries. Horton was named to the second All-WIAC team in 2002 when he led the league with 11 sacks.

Parish also played several roles for the Falcons. He finished third on the team in tackles with 50. He had 36 solo stops, tying him for the team lead. Parish intercepted one pass, broke up three passes and forced one



Lewie Parish

fumble. He returned 12 kick offs for 215 yards, a 17.9 per return average. He returned 7 punts for 69 yards and averaged 9.9 per return. He had a punt return of 15 yards and a long kick off return of 47 yards.

Hendrickson finished the season with 28 total tackles including 14 solo stops. He led the Falcons with 10 tackles for loss (37 yards) and in sacks with 6 (29 yards). He broke up one pass and had one quarterback hurry. He played in just seven of the team's nine games missing two with an injury.

Rue started all nine games for the Falcons at



Nate Hendrickson

defensive tackle. He finished with 25 total tackles including 11 solo stops. He had five tackles for loss (12 yards) and two sacks (nine yards). He had one quarterback hurry.

UWRF finished the 2003 season with a 2-7 overall record and were 2-5 in the WIAC.



Nic Rue

Both Peterlik and Horton made 2002 All-WIAC teams.

SCOREBOARD

Football

WIAC Standings

La Crosse (9-1)	6	1
Stevens Point (8-2)	5	2
Whitewater (7-3)	5	2
Stout (6-4)	4	3
Eau Claire (5-5)	4	3
River Falls (2-7)	2	5
Oshkosh (4-6)	1	6
Platteville (3-7)	1	6

Nov. 15 results	
River Falls	07 00 08 00 -15
Stevens Point	14 21 14 00 -49

1st Quarter

11:03 UWSP - Krause 3 yd run (Heldmann kick), 5 plays, 66 yards, TOP 2:09, RF 0 - UWSP 7

06:11 RF - Peterlik 2 yd run (Bergdahl kick), 12 plays, 72 yards, TOP 4:52, RF 7 - UWSP 7

04:43 UWSP - Childs 2 yd pass from Krause (Heldmann kick), 4 plays, 69 yards, TOP 1:28, RF 7 - UWSP 14

2nd Quarter

14:22 UWSP - Childs 1 yd run (Heldmann kick), 10 plays, 64 yards, TOP 3:43, RF 7 - UWSP 21

05:29 UWSP - Romano 63 yd pass from Krause (Heldmann kick), 4 plays, 83 yards, TOP 1:38, RF 7 - UWSP 28

00:13 UWSP - Childs 6 yd pass from Krause (Heldmann kick), 11 plays, 67 yards, TOP 3:05, RF 7 - UWSP 35

3rd Quarter

13:24 UWSP - Childs 69 yd pass from Krause (Heldmann kick), 3 plays, 62 yards, TOP 1:36, RF 7 - UWSP 42

04:36 UWSP - Spoehr 22 yd pass from Krause (Heldmann kick), 8 plays, 76 yards, TOP 2:41, RF 7 - UWSP 49

03:18 RF - Schmitt 49 yd run (Schmitt pass from Pulford), 3 plays, 47 yards, TOP 1:18, RF 15 - UWSP 49

4th Quarter

No scoring

First Downs RF 13 SP 23

Rushing	59-245	43-212
Passing	3-4-29	20-27-355
Total Offense	63-274	70-567
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-0
Interceptions	0	0
Penalties	2-20	4-27
Possession	30:42	29:18

Individual leaders

Rushing
RF - Schmitt 20-150, Peterlik 18-47, Wolff 7-43, Pulford 4-13, Foss 9-(-6)

Passing

RF - Foss 3-4-29
Receiving
RF - Strinnmoen 1-10, Stoltz 1-10, Anderson 1-9

Tackling (Solo-Assist)

RF - Jordan 4-4, Mantor 4-3, Hampton 1-6, Buker 3-3, Hendrickson 2-4, Mueller 1-5, Johnson 3-2, Gray 2-3, Farmer 2-3, Parish 3-1, Horton 3-1, Grelsen 1-3, Gillett 2-1, Rue 2-1, Hoegh 1-2, Retzlaff 2-0 Meyer 1-0, Haughian 0-1, Cassellius 0-1.

Volleyball

NCAA Midwest Regional Final

Nov. 15

River Falls	27	22	25	-0
La Crosse	30	30	30	-3

RF (kills-assists-aces-digs-blocks)

Lundberg 0-3-0-7-0, Jude 0-0-0-1-0, Schock 0-1-0-4-0, Klesch 10-1-0-21-0, Braun 0-0-0-31-0, Brune 10-0-0-4-2, Halverson 0-0-2-16-0, Brandt 3-0-0-6-3, Oberholtzer 1-32-0-9-0, Petersen 8-0-0-3-2, Tvrdik 8-0-0-6-1

NCAA Midwest Regional Semi-Final

Nov. 14

Whitewater	22	30	23	27	-1
River Falls	30	27	30	30	-3

RF (kills-assists-aces-digs-blocks)

Lundberg 0-0-1-0-0, Krtnick 0-0-0-1-0, Jude 5-0-3-18-2, Schock 1-4-1-18-0, Klesch 3-1-1-2-1, Braun 1-0-0-18-0, Brune 15-2-0-1-0, Halverson 0-0-2-16-0, Brandt 5-1-2-10-4, Oberholtzer 3-42-0-17-4, Petersen 10-2-0-0-0, Tvrdik 10-0-3-5-7

Cross Country

Oct. 15 results
NCAA Midwest Regional Meet

Men

Team place: 21st of 32

Individual results:

95 - McDonough, 27:45
101 - Hanson, 27:51
107 - Quarford, 28:07
116 - Olson, 28:27
117 - Puhl, 28:28

Women

Team place: 11th of 35

Individual results:

22 - Yaeger, 23:04
51 - Christen, 23:36
65 - Kozicki, 23:48
96 - Jacobs, 24:38
98 - Kveene, 24:38

Men's Hockey

NCHA Standings

	W	L	T
St. Norbert (6-0-1)	0	0	0
River Falls (6-0-0)	0	0	0
Superior (6-1-0)	0	0	0
Lake Forest (4-0-1)	0	0	0
Eau Claire (4-1-0)	0	0	0
Stout (4-2-0)	0	0	0
Stevens Point (4-3-0)	0	0	0
St. Scholastica (3-2-2)	0	0	0

Nov. 15 results

St. Mary's	1	0	1	-2
River Falls	2	1	1	-4

1st period

02:13 RF Kostliuk (1) (Sailer, Johnson)
03:33 SM Reszka (1) (Holland) (pp)
05:20 RF Murphy (5)

2nd period

16:06 RF Venasky (1) (Kostiuk, Novak)
3rd period
03:43 RF Degerness (5) (Murphy, Elsen) (pp)

08:17 SM Hofmann (3) (Murphy, Thom)

Nov. 14 results

St. Thomas	1	0	0	-1
River Falls	1	4	0	-5

1st period

10:16 ST Krmpotich (2) (Lick, Blumer)
17:17 RF Schlipp (1) (Jurek) (pp)

2nd period

07:33 RF Tiberio (2) (Degerness, Moe)
08:24 RF Murphy (4) (Degerness, Elsen)
09:44 RF Schlipp (2) (Sikich, Novak)

15:40 RF Degerness (4) (Elsen, Murphy) (pp)

3rd period

No scoring

Women's Hockey

NCHA Standings

	W	L	T
Stevens Point (3-1-1)	2	0	0
Superior (5-0-1)	2	0	0
River Falls (3-4-0)	0	2	0
Lake Forest (1-4-1)	0	2	0
Eau Claire (2-1-1)	0	0	0

Nov. 15 results

River Falls	0	1	0	-1
St. Thomas	0	0	1	-2

1st period

No scoring

2nd period

11:08 RF Magnuson (5) (Carlson)
05:29 ST Stolz (Hardwick, Drake)

Overtime

03:36 ST Schilling (Toft)

Nov. 14 results

River Falls	3	1	0	-4
St. Benedict	0	0	0	-0

1st period

04:34 RF Baron (2) (Magnuson, Carlson)
17:53 RF Magnuson (4) (Hurley, Carlson)

19:48 RF Hensch (2) (O'Keefe, Carlson)
2nd period
09:26 RF Paulson (1) (O'Keefe, Hurley)

3rd period

No scoring

SHOWCASE HOME GAME

Women's Basketball

UW-RF	vs	St. Scholastica / St. Benedict
Friday and Saturday at 5 p.m. at Karges Center		

The Falcons open their season by hosting St. Scholastica, St. Ambrose and Northwestern in the UW-RF Classic. Coming off a 10-15 season the Falcons will look to get a strong start to the 2003-04 campaign. Erin Effle and Darcy Olsen return for their junior season to lead the Falcons.

VARSITY SPORTS WEEK

Friday, Nov. 21

Women's Basketball	vs. St. Scholastica	5 p.m.
Men's Basketball	at Puget Sound Classic	6 p.m.
Women's Hockey	vs. Lake Forest	7 p.m.
Men's Hockey	at Bethel	7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22

Swimming	at WIAC Relays	9 a.m.
Women's Hockey	vs. Lake Forest	2 p.m.
Women's Basketball	vs. Northwestern	5 p.m.
Men's Hockey	at Hamline	7 p.m.
Men's Basketball	at Puget Sound Classic	10 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

Men's Hockey	vs. Gustavus-Adolphus	7 p.m.
Men's Basketball	at Macalester	7:30 p.m.
Women's Basketball	at Bethel	7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

Women's Basketball	at Stevens Point	7 p.m.
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Wednesday, Dec. 3

Men's Basketball	at Stevens Point	7 p.m.
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Peterson, Jennrich, Carlson earn honors

Sports Information

UW-River Falls

UW-River Falls soccer players Sarah Carlson, Apryl Jennrich and Ashley Peterson have all been named to the 2003 All-WIAC team.

Falcon Coach Sean McKuras was named the 2003 WIAC soccer Coach of the Year for the second time in as many years.

Carlson is a forward, Jennrich a goalie and Peterson a defender.

Carlson led the Falcons in scoring in 2003 with a team high 16 goals and 38 points. She scored eight game winning goals. The 38 points

is sixth and the 16 goals is fifth in the Falcon records book for points and goals in a season.

Jennrich played all but 143 minutes in goal for the Falcons in 2003.

She finished with a .84 goals against average and a .889 saves percentage. She had a 17-3-0 record and recorded 9.5 shutouts. Her 9.5 shutouts is



Apryl Jennrich

first, her .84 goals against average is second and her .889 saves percentage is third in the Falcon records book in a season.

Peterson finished tied second on the team in scoring with seven goals and 20 points. The seven goals was second on the team. An outstanding defender, she also played up front in



Ashley Peterson

several situations to give the Falcons additional offensive pressure.

McKuras, in his second year as head coach of the Falcons, has led the team to a 30-9-2 record in the past two seasons. The Falcons finished 13-5-2 and in third place in the WIAC in 2002 when he was named the WIAC's Coach of the Year.

The Falcons finished 17-4 overall and won the 2003 WIAC Championship with a 6-2 record. The Falcons lost to UW-Stevens Point, 2-1 in double overtime, in the WIAC Tournament. The 17 wins is a school record.

Carlson named Co-MVP

Sports Information

UW-River Falls

UW-River Falls soccer player Sarah Carlson was named the 2003 WIAC soccer Co-Player of the Year in a vote by the league coaches.

She shared the 2003 award with forward Kelly Fink of UW-Stevens Point.

Carlson, led the Falcons in scoring in 2003 with a team high 16 goals and 38 points. She scored eight game winning goals. The 38 points is sixth and the 16 goals is fifth in the Falcon records book for points and goals in a season. She was named to the 2003 All-WIAC team.

The Falcons finished 17-4 overall and won the 2003 WIAC Championship with a 6-2 record. The Falcons lost to UW-Stevens Point, 2-1 in double overtime, in the WIAC Tournament. The 17 wins is a school record.



Sarah Carlson

VOLLEYBALL from B1

claim the WIAC tournament title and an automatic bid to the tournament.

After receiving an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament, UW-RF received a first-round bye and faced UW-Whitewater in the regional semi-final. The Warhawks ended the Falcons' season last year with a win at Karges Center in the WIAC tournament championship game. Then they went on to claim the national championship.

This time the Falcons clawed their way to victory, 30-22, 27-30, 30-23, 30-27, Nov. 14, at Mitchell Hall.

Brune slammed 15 kills while Nina Petersen and Tvrdik had 10 each. Tvrdik also had seven block assists. Erin Oberholtzer spread out 42 assists. On defense, the Falcons had six players with 10 or more digs, led by Melissa Jude, Molly Schock and Braun with 18 each.

UW-RF finishes its season with a record of 35-6 and ranked 12th in the Nov. 19 AVCA poll.

"I can't not consider this season a success," Ford said. "We had a 30-win season, won a conference championship, got to the NCAA

and made it to the sweet 16. I think we had the potential to go further, but it wasn't our year to do that."

Next year the Falcons will have to fill voids left by Tvrdik, Brune, Braun, Oberholtzer, Schock, Halverson, Brandt and Amy Lundberg. Ford will look to Kiesch, Jude, Petersen and several freshmen to come to the forefront.

"Our goals next year won't be too different," Ford said. "We want to be in the top three of the WIAC. When you can do that, you'll be nationally ranked. It may be a bit more of a roller coaster ride next year, but we'll have to make sure we peak at the right times."

TOP PERFORMERS



Owen Schmitt
Football

Schmitt carried 20 times for 150 yards and a touchdown in a 49-15 loss at Stevens Point. He finished his freshman season with 1,063 yards and five touchdowns to lead the Falcons in rushing.



Aaron Degerness
Men's Hockey

Degerness scored a goal and tallied two assists in a 5-1 win against St. Thomas on Friday night and netted his fifth goal of the year Saturday in a 4-2 win over St. Mary's.

FOLEY from B1

that wasn't at the match.

Though it hurts to see this photo, by putting it in the paper, others can share in the pain and perhaps empathize.

It was a great pleasure to show a picture of the team celebrating

after clinching a share of the regular season conference championship. I spread a lot of joy by putting it in the paper. People who weren't at that match could join in the celebration through that photo.

I wanted to do the same thing with this week's photo - bring the entire readership to the match and share those feelings with them.

Shared joy is double joy, but shared sorrow is halved sorrow.

HOOPS from B2

Cloud State the Falcons travel to UW-Stevens Point, the No. 3 ranked team in the nation and four-time defending conference champion, to open the WIAC season on Dec. 3.

The first home game of the season will be Dec. 6 when the Falcons host UW-Oshkosh at the Karges Center.

"If we lose more than three conference games we're going to be in trouble," Bowen said. "54 years (since the last conference championship) is too long. It's definitely time, I am scared to death, but this is what we have worked for."

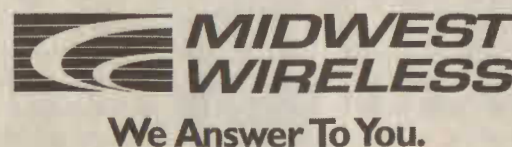


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Hunting season reaches beyond bagging bucks; fun lies in tradition

David Misselt
Staff Writer

It's November in Wisconsin and visions of 30-point bucks are dancing in the minds of hunters. The long wait for opening day can be, and often is, excruciating. This year's regular gun deer season is Nov. 22-30. As usual, hope of taking the buck of a lifetime springs eternal.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) estimates the current state deer population at 1.4 million. More than a third of the state's 135 deer management units are estimated at more than 20 percent over their population goal, according to the Nov. 11 issue of the DNR News.

"There are a lot of deer in my area," said senior dairy science major Kris Clauss. "It's nothing to see 30 to 40 deer standing in a field."

Though the hunting tradition in Wisconsin predates the state's founding, the stereotype of drunken rowdy hunters tearing through the woods like a plebe on a panty raid remains.

Many non-hunters wonder who in their right mind would sit freezing in the woods for hours on end just to shoot Bambi. For most hunters, however, hunting entails more than just bagging a buck while sitting on a cold stand bloated like a tick inside a blaze orange cocoon.

The greatest pleasure comes from being in the woods away from the everyday humdrum of life, say those who take to the deer woods each year. It's quiet, serene. There is an ever-present sense of anticipation fueled by each snap of a twig or the nearby rustling of leaves that keeps hunters coming back for more.

"It's the camaraderie of the deer shack that's important," said educational graduate student Jeff Vorwald. "It's a chance to get together with family and friends."

Vorwald's fifth generation hunting party concentrates its efforts in the Turtle Lake, Wis. area, and is a rather diverse group. His brother is a doctoral candidate, his father is a farmer; there is the local pastor and a guy who plays Santa Claus at the mall.

Clauss, who hunts on his family's 300-plus acre farm near Bowler, Wis., agreed with Vorwald: It's

all about the camaraderie.

"I just like getting together with family," he said. "The thrill is fun too, but it's about being with family."

There are 16 members in Clauss' party, one of whom installed a satellite television in his blind so he could watch the Badgers.

"You see the smoke coming from his blind and you know he's got the stove going," Clauss said. "All warm and toasty, that's the way to hunt."

Jason Conway, a sophomore business administration major, hunts with his father on their property in the Gilman, Wis. area.

Even though Conway has been on a "dry spell" the past couple of years, he continues to enjoy the annual hunt.

"I just like being out there," Conway said. "I don't care if I get a deer or not."

As anyone who hunts knows, many of the world's problems are solved by a few hunters sitting around chewing the fat. They also know that any issue discussed is likely to center around deer.

"We argue about politics by comparing buck rack sizes," Vorwald said of his group.

Apparently, the size of a buck's rack dictates the animal's political leanings. A narrow set of antlers for some in his party means the buck in question is a Republican.

"Narrow racks equals narrow minds," Vorwald said.

Others in the group insist that same rack means the deer is a Democrat; too focused on a single issue, refusing to see the big picture.

One of the more creative aspects of outdoor life is the telling of sometimes frightening, sometimes ridiculous and sometimes true stories of a hunt.

While hunting in a cornfield with his group, Vorwald heard his mother shouting something about a big buck.

"There was a lot of rustling going on between me and my brother," Vorwald said. "I couldn't see it, but I thought it must be a huge deer."

It wasn't until leaving the field Vorwald found out that deer he heard was in fact a very large black bear.

"The bear came out 15 yards from my brother,"

he said.

The occasional run in with a bear is not the only thing concerning Wisconsin hunters this season.

Last year the deer season was overshadowed by fears that many of the state's whitetails might be infected with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). This year should be different.

According to a recent WI DNR report, the majority of the deer herd is free of CWD. There is only a handful of CWD zones spanning a 411-square-mile area in the southwestern part of the state which contain infected deer.

CWD belongs to a group of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). TSEs cause a degeneration of the brain in deer and elk.

According to a Missouri state conservation report, CWD was first detected in northeastern Colorado in 1967. Since then the disease has spread to other states, including Wisconsin.

Between Feb. 28, 2002 and May 2, 2003, veterinarians tested 41,245 Wisconsin deer for the disease. Only 207 tested positive for CWD, according to the DNR.

Of course, not all hunters feel CWD poses a problem and some believe the money spent on research could have gone elsewhere.

"I don't think the CWD thing is a problem," Clauss said. "It was a waste of money. We don't need to manage something that happens naturally."

Whatever the case, Wisconsin's deer population remains above reasonable management limits, according to DNR statistics. And the DNR is counting on hunters to do their part in reducing the herd. As one would expect, hunters are more than eager to oblige.

Whether it's the threat of CWD, bad weather, the chance of coming face to face with an angry bear or accidentally falling out of a tree stand, nothing seems to stop the quest for the wily whitetail.

At least one of the deer hunting faithful can attest to that.

"I've fallen out of a lot of tree stands," Conway said.

Deer season brings family, friends together

The changing colors of the leaves and the chance of walking to class on sidewalks covered with snow might, to most people, be an indicator that winter is fast approaching. To me, it indicates something totally different.

Deer season is almost here.

For weeks now my friends, especially the ones from the city, have heard me refer to the upcoming break as deer season, not Thanksgiving. Judging by the odd look I get from many of them, it's clear to me that they just don't understand there's a huge difference.

Sure, I'll enjoy my family's company on that Thursday along with a heap of grandma's smashed potatoes, stuffing and turkey. But before that, we must hunt.

On opening morning, the first thing I'll do after waking up at 5 a.m. won't be to load my rifle and go slay some suckling fawn with milk still on the corner of its mouth. I'll probably see dozens of the young ones, but it will be their older, wiser grandfathers, uncles and cousins I'll be after.

But before that, I'll probably bump into an older, wiser grandfather, uncle or cousin of my own over an early morning cup of coffee at the deer shack. We'll talk about politics, family, tell a few lies and a few hunting stories. And that's the main reason I'll be there.

What people don't understand is that hunting each year is my family's culture. It's our tradition.

Animal rights activists such as PETA and anti-gun lobbyists like the Anti-Gun Coalition of America, who would do away with our traditions, fail to understand that by hitting the woods each season wearing blaze orange, we're honoring

KYLE WEAVER

our ancestors in the same way that Irish

people honor their heritage on St. Patrick's Day by wearing green. During deer season, we remember our great-grandfathers who, in their waning years, refused to quit hunting despite their diminishing health. While our style and our equipment might have changed, the spirit of what we do remains the same.

Hunters as a whole have an image problem. We're seen as beer-swilling, gun-toting rednecks. Like other groups who are stereotyped, the majority of us suffer because of the actions of a few.

Many of us, in fact, do drink beer. But hunters like me and my family who aren't completely worthless to society save the beer for after the hunt, when the guns have been stowed for the night.

We are taught to act courteously and fairly toward our fellow hunters. We're taught how to safely handle our firearms and we know exactly where every other hunter is so that accidents won't happen.

It is unfortunate that at least one person in Wisconsin will probably be injured or killed next week in a hunting accident. It happens every year.

Even one death is too many. I agree with the anti-hunting activists on that point. But taking away my family's culture and tradition would be a far greater loss.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Asian singer brings 'Fire' to campus

Magdalen Hsu-Li
Nov. 21, 7 p.m.
Brandy's
Free

Magdalen Hsu-Li is an Asian-American music artist, painter, poet and speaker. This passionate and unique multimedia artist digs deep to expose the cracks beneath the surface, breaking through the armor within herself and in others to connect, uplift, and inspire through music, art and the five elements. With her latest CD release, FIRE, (Chickpop Records), she fluidly brings together all these rudiments of her life philosophy.

Hsu-Li said her music provides a medium for reconnecting with aspects of Chinese culture - including the five elements. Her latest album, "Fire," represents both this reconciliation and a new understanding of the ways people construct relationships, she said.



EVENTS

T-Shirt Contest

Students with drawings skills can help promote English and win a \$20 gift certificate. Sigma Tau Delta and the English Department are holding a contest for the best shirt design. Drawings are due by Thanksgiving 2003 to the English Dept. mail-room in KFA.

Clothing Drive

Psi Chi is holding a clothing drive until Dec. 3. The collection bin will be in the entryway of CSH for any gently used clothing or stuffed animals.

Winter Wonderland

KinniConnections is going to North American's number 1 cross country ski resort in Maplelag, Minn. Ice skating, sliding, ice fishing and relaxing in the hot tub are some of the activities offered. The trip is Jan. 21-24. For more information contact the Leadership Center.

Christmas Gifts

Falcon Foods is currently taking orders for Cheese Gift Boxes. Falcon Foods is located in room 149 in Food Science. Swing by to order and taste some yummy ice cream flavors.

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OFFBEAT: WHERE NEWS AND FUN COLLIDE

HOROSCOPES

By new psychic Rachel Gaynor, who is just getting used to predicting the future for everyone on campus

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

It is getting close to the holidays and you haven't even started saving money to buy gifts with. Just stand in front of Shopko with a bell and a jar, people will give you free money.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

You tend to be a little obsessive about cleaning, especially those little fingerprints on your monitor. Don't worry, the store will not run out of Formula 409 to clean them up.

ARIES (March 21-April 20)

This change in weather is really confusing to you and you are having a really hard time in the morning deciding what to wear. Just dress in layers and take off clothes sporadically throughout the day. But don't go too far, nobody really wants to see that.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Drinking ticket prices are on the rise. A third offense now costs \$491 on campus. The total of three minors is worth more than \$1,000. If you have spent that much money, plus money for the alcohol, maybe you should save money and lay off for awhile.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Singing is fun, especially in the shower when your roommates are gone and you can belt it out. Just remember to keep your eyes closed because the soap really burns.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

You have a hard time spelling words lately. The letters just won't fit together and it takes forever to write a sentence. Don't worry you aren't getting dumber, just try using a dictionary.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

Eating out is fun to do, but when you've forgotten how to use your stove and all that is in your fridge is those nice little styrofoam containers, maybe it is time to go the grocery store and cook for yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

'Tis the season for giving and spreading cheer. It's kind of hard to be happy when your pants are too tight and they are cutting off oxygen to your brain. Ask for new pants for Christmas, if you were good this year, you might get some.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

The Falls Theatre is a good cheap date. Just don't tell your date he or she is cheap and that is why you are going there. You might get slapped.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Your drawing skills are slipping. If other people are going to see your pictures, you might want to use a ruler and not have eraser marks all over.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

If a bartender makes up a drink for you and tells you to name it, then suggests "beautiful" he is not hitting on you. He just wants tips and he's probably used that line a million others times on other drunk people.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Do you drink soda or pop? If you drink pop, good for you. If you drink soda you may have a problem. Experts say soda is bad for you, but they don't say anything about pop, do they?

Horoscopes are like potato chips: You can't read just one.

International students overcome barriers to settle in, find a home away from home

Imagine being alone in a foreign country completely out of your element, with limited language skills and little moral support. Your family, friends and even your pets are thousands of miles away.

Now, imagine the added pressure of beginning your first semester at a university in that country.

For some at UW-River Falls this is a reality.

Yu-Hsuan Chang, known as Shany to her friends, is a senior marketing major from Taiwan. She has studied English since junior high school.

"I took English classes, but didn't have much opportunity to use it," she said.

Anyone who has studied a foreign language knows how important it is to actually use the language on a regular basis.

"I felt frustrated because at first I couldn't respond quickly enough," Chang said. "I was worried people would get mad at me because I couldn't speak English well enough."

Noriko Fujino, a Japanese student and senior majoring in business, came to the United States in a similar predicament.

"I could only say 'how are you' or 'hello,'" she said.

Fujino knew she would have to learn how to speak, read and write English in a hurry if she hoped to attend a university in the United States.

She spent a year studying the language in Maryville, Tenn., before attending UW-RF.

Although speaking English remains a small problem for Chang and Fujino, they wish to be treated like any other student when it comes to their studies.

"It's hard to keep up in class sometimes," Chang said. "Some of my professors speak very fast."

Chang takes her language shortcomings in stride and she knows what it takes to be successful.

"I just work harder," she said. "It's not a big problem."

Like Chang, Fujino does not let any language barrier get in the way of her education and she works that much harder to keep pace in class.

"I don't ask for special favors," Noriko said. "I just want to be a normal student."

Fujino left her home in Kukuoka, Japan three years ago. She attended Fukuoka Women's University for two years, majoring in American History and Literature, before coming to the United States.

Once at UW-RF, Fujino changed her major to business out of respect for her godfather.

"He gave me my name," she said. "He has been very good to me and I hope to work in his company some day."

For the time being, Fujino is happy with her life here.

"River Falls is a nice place," Fujino said. "I have a nice host family here who I love so much."

Fujino misses her family in Japan; especially her mother's cooking, but said she is never homesick.

"I'm taking 18 credits this semester," she said. "I'm too busy to get homesick."

Fujino does find time to enjoy herself occasionally. During the past three years, she has acquired a love of living in the fast lane.

"I love driving fast on big roads," Fujino said. "America is so open and I like to travel."

Fujino has visited 16 states since her arrival in America. She is even thinking about moving to Los Angeles after she graduates in December 2004.

Chang has only been here for three months. She studied international trade at Shih-Chien University for three years before beginning her first semester at UW-RF.

The allure of America's bounty wasn't wasted on Chang. She was looking forward to experiencing the freedom and opportunities this country had to offer.

"Before coming here I thought America was a children's paradise," she said. "I still think so."

Her parents thought coming to America was a great opportunity for the 21-year-old exchange student.

They did worry, though, that she would not eat enough in this country.

"I didn't like American food," she said. "I'm skinny enough and they thought I would lose even more weight."

Chang's dislike for local cuisine is no longer a problem.

"I love grilled ham and cheese," Chang said.

Not only is the food different in America, but so is the college lifestyle.

"American university students study harder than Chinese students," Chang said.

Chang pointed out that in Taiwan, parents expect their children to study very hard to get into a university. All of the pressure to land a spot in a university takes its toll and once accepted, students let the school work slide.

"They feel they are free and no longer have an obligation to their parents to study hard," Chang said.

Dorm life is also a bit different.

"There are six girls to a dorm room in Taiwan," she said, "I feel much better here."

Like Fujino, Chang was initially surprised by the immense open spaces in the United States.

"Taiwan is very crowded," she said. "But here there's so much room, people have big houses with big yards."

She was also impressed by the openness of the American people.

"Back home, people don't greet each other on the street," Chang said. "If you say hi or wave to them, they will think you are strange."

Chang has found Americans to be very friendly and willing to help her enjoy her college experience.

"It makes me feel warm," she said.

Chang plans on returning to

Taiwan after graduating next May.

On the other side of the globe, would-be UW-RF student Martin Jorgensen from Roskilde, Denmark didn't face a language barrier.

A junior majoring in computer science, Jorgensen has been studying English since third grade.

Jorgensen arrived in the United States in August. This is his first time away from home.

Why he chose to come to UW-RF is interesting.

"My girlfriend goes to school here," Jorgensen said.

Jorgensen's interest in studying abroad was fed by his desire to be with his girlfriend. He noticed some brochures about U.S. schools while in Denmark and discovered UW-RF was on the list.

"The computer science program is pretty good here," Jorgensen said. "And I can be with my girlfriend at the same time."

Jorgensen's mother wasn't happy about his coming to America. Like all mothers, she was worried about his safety.

The family had been to the United States once in the past. Unfortunately they chose to visit Florida at a time when some tourists had fallen victim to shootings and robberies.

"We heard everybody had guns and shot tourists," Jorgensen said.

After being in Florida for a while the Jorgensen family found they had nothing to worry about and were impressed by the friendliness of its residents. His mother is worrying less these days about her son.

Education systems around the world are as diverse as the people who sit in classrooms. Whether it be the overcrowded dorm rooms Chang endured, or the extremely rigorous college entrance exams Japanese students such as Fujino face, there are more than enough challenges to go around.

However, change is inevitable and in Denmark, recent societal trends have forced its universities to make changes in order to survive.

Because of a slowdown in population growth Danish schools have lowered the once high admission test standards in an effort to increase the pool of university students. The change may not be for the best.

"Now anyone can get into a university," Jorgensen said. "I don't know if the quality is the same."

On the bright side, Danish university students pay nothing to attend classes and are given a monthly stipend by the government.

Jorgensen receives \$650 a month for attending a school that is more than 30 miles from his home. Even students who choose to remain with their parents receive a payment from the government. Although, it is a lesser amount than those not living at home receive.

The Danish government feels this payment encourages students to concentrate on their studies instead of having to work a part or full time job while also going to school.

Another aspect of the Danish higher education system should

have many students willing to become a Dane. There are no general education requirements at the university level. Students are only required to take classes which pertain to their respective majors.

"It is expected that we learned the general subjects in high school," Jorgensen said.

Jorgensen expects to graduate in 2005 and is thinking about remaining in America to work for a year after graduation.

How and why international students end up at UW-RF can be a mystery.

Anna Driedger, a business administration major, from Giessen, Germany didn't even apply to UW-RF. It seems she had applied to three other American universities, but somehow was accepted at UW-RF anyway.

"It was a good accident," Driedger said.

Driedger was born in Kazakhstan and lived there until the age of 10, when she and her family immigrated to Germany. Many years ago, her great-great grandparents left Germany for Kazakhstan and remained there, retaining their German citizenship, until her parents decided to return to Germany 12 years ago.

Driedger enjoyed growing up in the central Eurasian country, but feels more at home in Germany.

"I have always been a German," she said. "It's where I feel most comfortable."

Driedger's early life experience has made her fluent in Russian as well as German. She also speaks English quite well.

Driedger spent two years at the Justus-Liebig University in Germany majoring in business administration before arriving in the United States in August.

This is Driedger's first time in America. Like many international students, some things here caught her by surprise. She marveled at the size of our vehicles and how large our streets are.

"Big cars and big streets, I didn't expect it," she said.

Driedger, a Hessen, Wis. exchange student, is enjoying her time here, but admits she misses her boyfriend as well as her mother's kitchen.

"People are more helpful here than in Germany," Driedger said.

She is also looking forward to seeing her pet tarantula, Marlboro, when she returns to Germany for Christmas.

Although Driedger will return home next year, she plans on continuing her travels after graduation.

"I want a job with a lot of connections to other countries," she said.

There is no doubt the experiences and friendships these students will return home with will be cherished memories for years to come.

The courage it takes to leave home and travel half-way around the world to deal with the pressures of college life with few people to fall back on is an adventure to say the least.

As Noriko Fujino so aptly put it, "variety is the spice of life."



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