

STUDENT VOICE

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Chancellor to go on 6-month leave

Thibodeau's special projects to benefit entire UW-System

ERIC WIDHOLM
Editor

Chancellor Gary Thibodeau will enjoy a unique opportunity starting in January: he will be the first chancellor in the UW-System to be granted a special projects leave.

Thibodeau will perform six months of "off-campus" projects starting Jan. 1 researching new technological and emerging issues in higher education and possible expansions for international exchange programs. This is the first time UW-System President Katharine Lyall has granted a leave of this proportion for a chancellor.

"Because it is so unusual, it is something I feel very good about," Thibodeau said. "It's exciting."

The leave is comparable to a sabbatical leave for a University instructor, Thibodeau said.

For the entire month of January, he will complete a report for the Ameri-

can Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) at their Washington, D.C. office. AASCU is an organization of presidents and chancellors from more than 400 public colleges and universities from the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands. The report is for the AASCU Emerging Issues Task Force, which he currently oversees.

"For me it's an exciting opportunity to immerse myself in issues," he said. "The intent is to bring back insights to benefit (UW-RF) as well as the (UW) System."

Starting in February, Thibodeau's overseas projects will include an evaluation of the Wisconsin in Scotland program, an international exchange program affiliated with UW-Eau Claire, UW-Stout and UW-La Crosse and also a lengthy tour of Asia to strengthen Pacific Rim international student exchange programs.

He will also make several stops at private Western European universi-



Gary Thibodeau

ties to study new interactive teaching methods to bring back for the UW-System.

"I feel a real obligation to stay as

current as I can with the professor's methods in the classroom and what the student is learning," Thibodeau said.

Lyall said the projects will benefit Thibodeau professionally as well as UW-RF and the UW-System academically. The ideas were a mix of wants and needs from both her and Thibodeau.

"I look to him to come back from his missions abroad with some excellent opportunities for (Wisconsin) students," Lyall said.

Thibodeau has authorized Provost and Vice Chancellor Robert Milam to make all campus-related decisions while he is away from campus. He said Milam has "full use of the chancellor's office" in his absence. Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance Virgil Nylander will also assume some of the chancellor's duties.

Chancellor*4B

Lack of parking on campus causes students frustration

SARAH COLBURN
News Editor

He pulls into the lot at 8 a.m. after driving for four hours, only to circle the lot looking for a place to park. Finally, seeing no other alternative he pulls his car into an illegal parking spot.

UW-River Falls student John Pettigrew repeats this scenario weekly when he returns to school from his Milwaukee home. Pettigrew has a campus-issued parking permit as well as a list of campus-issued parking tickets.

Pettigrew, unlike many other students who choose to pay their tickets without complaint, grew tired of the situation and looked into filing a civil suit against the University. Pettigrew, a Prucha Hall resident, acquired \$60 in parking fines this semester. He says the parking system is simply unfair.

"After I got my third ticket I called the parking office and they told me that there were other lots open," Pettigrew said. "There may have been lots down by Parker but it would have been closer for me to park at Ramer Field. I'm paying to park where everyone else can park for free."

Pettigrew sought legal counsel to look into the situation but didn't pursue his case.

"Knowing I was going to graduate and knowing what it (a trial) would lead to, I decided to just pay the tickets," Pettigrew said. "That (the parking situation) is the cover to Pandora's box and if anyone else wants to open it I'm willing to help."

Pettigrew said he knows this sounds like an extreme measure.

"Most people probably wouldn't bat an eye at this," he said. "But I know there are other people in the same predicament."

Many students on campus voiced the same complaints as Pettigrew.

"I come home from work at 1 or 2 a.m. and the lot is always full," Hathorn hall resident Michael McCarty said. "There's a teacher lot behind Ames where there are a whole two cars and

I get a ticket for parking there. We're paying 80 bucks and what's the good of having a permit if you have to park a mile from your dorm? I park at Hardee's overnight more than I park in the lot."

Many students on the west end of campus feel they have received undeserved parking tickets.

"I came back at 12:30 a.m. and there were no spots left behind Johnson or Stratton," Johnson hall resident Kathy Gamradt said. "I didn't want to park behind Hathorn because I didn't feel safe walking back alone at night. I decided to park out on the street and since I'm from Minnesota I was not aware of the parking regulations here and I got a ticket. It's frustrating when you have a permit and then you're not assured a parking spot."

A parking appeals committee deals with student concerns about parking and looks into future situations for the campus.

This committee currently consists of three students and three faculty members who hear parking appeals from students who feel they have been wrongly ticketed.

Chris Emerson, chair of the committee, said that appeals are submitted by the student, and if the student wishes, he or she may attend the hearing on the ticket and defend themselves. Emerson said there were about 50 appeals for the month of November.

Many students offered the same suggestion for changing the lots. They would like to see permits assigned by specific lot according to where a student lives. The parking committee and the parking office are looking into this option.

When the parking office changed under the control of Shared Governance 2000, so did the lot regulations. Last year permits were assigned to students for a specific lot and according to students, this presented less problems.

These parking problems cost students money; meters on campus bring \$950-1,000 per week, Bonesho said. But it's not just money — about 250

Parking*2A



'Tis the season...



Elizabeth Rodewald, 5, at the Kids N' Company Day Care drew this picture of a Christmas tree with a pile of presents under it from Santa Claus.

Students say landlords' cleaning charges unrealistically high

Former tenants feel Sawdust City apartment inspection unfair, not timely

JIM LITTLE
Staff Writer

When senior biochemistry major Bob Paschke and his three roommates moved out of their apartment at 287 W. Johnson St. last spring, they expected to soon receive their security deposit in the mail, which they planned to divide up between the four of them.

However, when Paschke received a notice from Sawdust City Real Estate, the owner of the apartment, it did not include a check.

In fact, the letter claimed that the \$550 security deposit did not cover all of the charges Paschke and his roommates had accumulated and that the renters owed Sawdust City \$235.42. Included in the charges was a \$250.13 cleaning cost, of which \$220.13 was deducted from the security deposit.

A room-by-room list of what needed to be cleaned provided by Sawdust City revealed "spots" on the storm windows, "crumbs" in the refrigerator and cabinets, and "lint" on the ceiling.

The list was not itemized with dollar amounts by each problem. There's just a lump sum at the end of the problem list.

Paschke and his roommates were upset and questioned the legitimacy of the cleaning charges.

"They charged us for things that are clearly under 'wear and tear' and there's no way that the charges could equal what they stated they were,"

Paschke said.

Paschke said that Sawdust City told him the apartment needed to be cleaned for more than 11 hours. He said he asked for the name of the company that had cleaned the apartment but Sawdust City refused to release the company's name.

Paschke isn't the only one who feels he was "dusted" by Sawdust City.

Senior elementary education major Alana Kuzel rented apartment no. 3 at 132 W. Johnson St. last year along with three other roommates. When it was time to move out, Kuzel said the four spent two days cleaning the apartment.

Like Paschke, Kuzel was surprised when she received word from Sawdust City.

"I thought we would get some of it (the security deposit) back, but instead we had to pay in for over \$100," Kuzel said.

Kuzel is upset that Sawdust City did not check the apartment until five days after the renters had moved out.

"If they do it five days after there is going to be some dust build-up," she said. "I think they should check you out while you are there so they can explain to you what they're charging you for."

Others have had similar complaints. In fact, Sawdust City has been the defendant in several recent civil cases filed in Pierce County.

In a small claims case filed in January 1996, plaintiffs Dana Lillestrand

and Kelly Custer sought \$832 from Sawdust City. The two, who lived in an apartment at 450 W. Johnson St., said they did not exceed "normal wear and tear" of the carpet and paint during the one year they lived in the apartment.

Lillestrand and Custer also said they did not receive a check-in list, which is a document that allows renters to list

"They charged us for things that are clearly under 'wear and tear' and there's no way that the charges could equal what they stated they were."

-Bob Paschke
UW-RF student

things that are not satisfactory when they move into the apartment so landlords can look at the list and not charge renters for those items.

They also said Sawdust City would not check them out while they still lived in the apartment.

The case was settled in March 1996 before going to trial. Sawdust City ended up paying the plaintiffs the amount of \$184.17. Sawdust City representatives did not return phone calls

concerning the case.

Other local landlords seem to have different standards when checking out residents. Landlord Bob Beskar, who rents out a house and a duplex in River Falls, said he does not check for some of the items which show up on Sawdust City's cleaning fee sheet.

"I don't get down to that fine of detail," Beskar said. "There are so many other things that are more important that need to be looked at."

Beskar said his main areas of concern are the carpets and walls, but added that tenants should make a real effort to clean up the property before leaving.

Sawdust City does provide tenants with a "cleaning tips" sheet and also requires tenants to sign a cleaning agreement. Part of the agreement reads:

"Resident agrees that failure to leave the apartment in a clean and rentable condition constitutes abnormal wear and tear. If I/we fail to completely clean as noted above, I/we agree that the landlord may at my/our expense perform any cleaning necessary to get the apartment into a clean and rentable condition. I/we understand if there is expense incurred on the part of the landlord to accomplish said cleaning, that expense will be charged to security deposit."

According to Consumer Information Specialist Tom Moore with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection

Bureau, as long as the cleaning agreement is separate and signed by the tenants it is legally binding, and the landlords can charge whatever dollar amount they see fit.

Sawdust City representative Katie Smith said that Sawdust City has dealt with this particular Wisconsin State Department, and wrote in a fax to the *Student Voice* that "our use of a clear and separate cleaning agreement signed and agreed to by the resident, together with our \$30 credit (part of the \$550 security deposit) to cover the incidental normal wear and tear cleaning for the resident is fine."

Sawdust City had no comment when asked if the fees they charge for the cleaning of their apartments may be excessive or numbers concerning how many tenants get their full security deposit back.

Smith said Sawdust City landlords are very up front about what they expect from tenants.

"We are very thorough in clarifying our expectations and providing the tips and information for the successful cleanup and return of the unit," she said. "Those that keep the unit up during their residency and carefully follow their checkout instructions and cleaning tips leave clean units. Those that do not clean and leave damage reimburse the owner for the actual cost to the owner for the repairs and cleaning."

River Falls Housing Inspector Joe Lenzen said there are some things renters and landlords should know to avoid troubles down the road.

Lenzen said the key is documentation.

"If a landlord refuses to show up for a check-in, get that documented that they did not show up," he said.

Lenzen recommended going above and beyond what is required by the law.



"Although check-in and check-out procedures are not required by law, they're a great idea to protect the tenant and the landlord," he said.

When it comes time to check out, Lenzen said it is a good idea to try to get the landlord to walk through on the day you are cleaning.

Lenzen warns against check-in lists tenants do on their own because they will not hold up in court. Furthermore, leases should be read carefully and all documents should be signed and dated.

Lenzen also said to be careful with sub-leasing.

"With a lease, the only people who have any rights are the ones with their names on the lease," he said.

BRIEFS

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT RIVER FALLS In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the River Falls Area Take Back the Night Coalition is planning a community march and rally to take place in April of 1997. Take Back the Night is an international event organized in local communities for the purpose of unifying the community to take a stand to end violence. If you would like more information, please call Mandy Fox at 425-4911 ext. 259 or Tanya 326-0474.

VOICE MAIL SURVEY ON THE WEB The UW-RF Administrative Computing department is conducting a survey via the World Wide Web to determine the general level of interest in having a campus-wide voice mail system. A campus-wide voice mail system would be available for all campus telephones in faculty and staff offices as well as in each residence hall room. The initial size of a voice mail system depends greatly on the number of individuals interested in making use of this service. Therefore, a survey form has been created on one of Administrative Computing's Web Servers to attempt to acquire this information. It is requested that each individual (faculty, staff and student) submit the survey by accessing the "Voice Mail Survey" link on the Campus Information web page. Please submit the survey form only once per person! The survey will end Dec. 21.

UW-RF CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD "FAMILY DAY" On Saturday, Feb. 22, 1997 from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in Centennial Science Hall. The Guest speaker will be Jesse Roeck (1980) Director of Global Research and Development for Analytical Services.

UW-RF PRESENTS "LUMINOSITY" A Senior Exhibition by graduating artists, Chris Muras and Dimitri Poulos will be held in Gallery 101; KFA from Dec. 17-Jan. 15. An opening reception will be held on Dec. 18 from 3-5 p.m.

MUSIC EDUCATORS NATIONAL CONFERENCE BENEFIT CONCERT Auditions to perform in the concert will be held on Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. in Abbott Concert Hall. All interested individuals and groups should have a short bio and audition piece they want to play in the concert. The Concert will be held on Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome to audition. All questions can be answered by writing Rebecca Gille c/o Music Dept. UWRF, River Falls, WI 54022 or e-mail at Donna.E.Larson@UWRF.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS

JAYCEE'S OF WISCONSIN FOUNDATION INC. Has three \$500 scholarships available. Students must be attending a Wisconsin post-secondary institution as a full-time student with a GPA of 3.0. Anyone interested may pick up an application at the Office of Financial Assistance, 122 South Hall.

AMERICORPS NATIONAL SERVICE Available year round. FT members can earn a living allowance, health care, and an education award of \$4,725 to finance college, graduate school or vocational school. Contact the AmeriCorps Public Affairs Office at 1-800-942-2677.

AMERICAN ACCOUNTING SCHOLARSHIP One \$2,500 to an undergrad or post-grad for 1 year. Must have completed at least 2 years of study and be a US citizen enrolled for at least 12 semester hours per semester of which 2 must be accounting related. Deadline is April 1, 1997. For more information contact Mary Cole, American Accounting Association, 5717 Bessie Dr, Sarasota, FL 34233.

JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION Candidates must be US citizens or US nationals, with a B.A. no later than Aug. 31 of the year of application, who qualify for an eligible degree at a university in the US, and agree to attend a 4-week summer institute on the Constitution in Washington D.C. For more information contact the James Madison Fellowship Program, PO Box 4030, 2201 North Dodge St., Iowa City, IA 52243-4030.

CARAT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION Awarded to US citizens, \$1,000 annually to graduates and undergraduates based on career goals, financial need and academic record. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Carat Scholarship Foundation, ATTN: Carol McAuliffe-Director, 5 Magnolia Pkwy; Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047. Deadline is Jan. 15, 1997.

THOMAS B. AND GRACE STEVENSON JONES SCHOLARSHIPS Are available for 1997-98. Scholarships range from \$1,000-\$3,000 for students enrolled in an accredited four-year college or university in Wis. Students living in Grant, Iowa and Lafayette Counties are eligible. For more information contact the Financial Aid Office.

1997/98 AMS/INDUSTRY UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP Are available for majors in atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences program leading to a bachelor's degree in science or engineering. Contact Stephanie Armstrong at AMS Headquarters 617-227-2426 ext. 235 or sarmstrg@ametsoc.org.

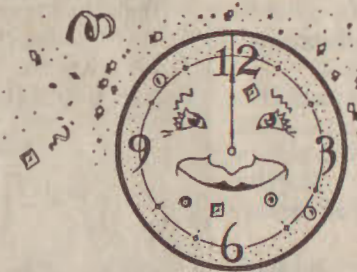
WISCONSIN COUNTY CLERK'S ASSOCIATION Has scholarships for journalism, mass communications or political science majors for the 1997 academic year. The award is \$500 and is available only to Wisconsin residents. For an application contact the Office of Financial Assistance.

FRANK L. GREATHOUSE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING SCHOLARSHIPS For senior students in accounting programs are available. Contact the Office of Financial Assistance for more information.

MINORITIES IN GOVERNMENT FINANCE SCHOLARSHIPS For public administration, government accounting, finance, political science, economics or business administration majors. For more information contact the Office of Financial Assistance.

THE COLLEGE FUND/UNCF Has applications available for the UNCF* Merck Science Fellowships. The fellowships are targeted to African American students. Contact Jacqui Burton at 703-205-3476 for more information.

Chancellor's Midnight Breakfast



Tuesday, December 17, 1996

10:00 PM - Midnight

Held at Rodli Commons
Gray Room & Food Court

UWRF Administrators and Staff will be preparing and serving your meal.

All Students Welcome!

Admission to the Breakfast is Free!

Take a Break from Finals and Join Us.

Please Bring Your Student I.D. Card.

Return to the Ice Age



Niaomi Runge photo

Hathorn Hall residents Lynne Kolinski and Don Tabat create a "snowasaurus" for a snow sculpture contest held by their residence hall.

System to appeal District Court ruling Campus organizations could lose student fees

MELISSA ROUSSEAU
News Editor

Two weeks ago a U.S. District Court judge made a landmark decision: students at the UW-Madison cannot be required to financially support campus political groups whose views they object to.

Judge John Shabaz ruled in favor of three Christian students who sued UW-Madison for using mandatory student fees to fund groups they find objectionable.

If it is not overturned on appeal, the ruling would apply to student fees collected to fund student groups at all UW campuses including UW-River Falls.

UW-RF Dean of Students Roger Ballou said the ruling will be appealed by the UW-System, but he is unsure of whether or not the appeal has been filed.

In a teleconference Wednesday

morning, Pat Brady, System legal counselor, informed all deans of students in the System that UW-Madison has refunded the money to the students who brought on the suit. However, any other students who want refunds will have to meet with their dean of students.

"If any UW-RF student were to go to the Dean of Students' Office, the cashier or the Leadership Development Center (to seek a refund for his or her fees) he or she would have to meet with me," Ballou said.

Along with meeting with the dean of students, the student would have to put his or her request for a refund in writing, the dean of students office would record the request and send a letter of acknowledgment to the student. But Ballou points out that no refunds will be made until he receives more advice from the System.

The three law students who brought the suit, Amy Schoepke, Scott Harold and Keith Bannach, explained their

position in an article for the UW-Madison *Badger Herald*.

"Our lawsuit isn't about the few dollars we spend on political and ideological speech with which we disagree; it's about the fact that we don't have a choice of whether or not to give the money to political and ideological groups."

According to the lawsuit, the three students specifically objected to 18 student organizations that are funded by the Associated Students of Madison and the Student Services Finance Committee including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Campus Center; the UW Greens; the Madison AIDS Support Network; and Amnesty International.

In his comments, Shabaz declared that the mandatory segregated fees violate the three students' First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and association.

"(The) plaintiffs have established that proceeds from the mandatory seg-

regated fees are being used to subsidize student organizations whose primary purpose is to advance political or ideological causes," Shabaz wrote.

Ballou said that no one has yet been approached by students who want refunds of their student fees nor have they heard from student organizations concerned about how the decision could affect their fee allocations.

"As of today (Dec. 11) Whitewater and Milwaukee are the only other campuses where students have made requests for refunds," he said.

But Ballou's biggest concern is not the money, which does not add up to much per student. His concern is that this decision will change a good system that works well.

"This is going to take power away from students to distribute their fee money," he said. "We think this is a big loss."

International internships key to future

JUSTIN HANCOCK
S&E Editor

Today's job market just seems to be getting tougher and tougher to break into.

Everyone needs something outstanding to put them over the top and make them the candidate who gets the job. While there are many ways to do this, an internship is universally one of the best.

An international experience is also great. However, combining these two makes for an even better candidate. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences is working to provide students with these kinds of experiences.

The college is currently working with a non-profit organization known as the Communicating for Agriculture Exchange Program, headquartered in Fergus Falls, Minn. This organization works to provide students from all

over the world with international experiences in various fields of agriculture. It sends people from overseas to the United States and people from the United States abroad.

The program allows students to work within five placement categories: agriculture, home-management, agribusiness, agri-business and horticulture. These placements are worldwide, including Ireland, England, Denmark, Germany, Holland, France, Sweden, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Norway, New Zealand and Costa Rica.

The exchange itself may last anywhere from three to 12 months. Room and board are provided, as well as a monthly stipend for the work the student does. The placement generally occurs on family farms in an agricultural category.

To help make the program more affordable for students, grants are available on a competitive basis. The program will offer a \$500 scholarship for any UW-River Falls student who

wishes to participate in the summer of 1997. Applications are due by Jan. 10, 1997.

In the college's goal to make this program readily available for students, two options are available. The student can work directly with the program to setup the exchange, or the student can connect with the University and create an internship experience out of it. Students can also receive credit for their work.

Terry Ferriss, internship director in the college, said the program is an excellent chance for students.

"It provides a tremendous opportunity to go abroad for a very reasonable cost and achieve a maximum outcome," she said.

The program has relatively few requirements. Applicants must have at least one year of practical experience in their chosen field, and they must get a passport. The program arranges the necessary visas and places the student. Participants must be between the ages of 18 - 28, however the program is not limited to University students.

According to Ferriss, the strongest element of the program is that it acquaints the student with another culture. This is what could easily put someone who opts for the program one step ahead of others in the world outside of school.

"The program allows students to gain an understanding of business in another country," she said.

Parking

From 1A

students per year have holds on their records because of parking tickets.

Some students believe that the school simply over-sells parking permits, but Sharon Bonesho of the parking office said this is not true.

"There are 935 student spaces available on campus and 935 permits were sold for this year," Bonesho said. "I sympathize with the kids who come back and can't find parking spaces next to their halls."

Budget Officer Mary Halada outlined the proposed costs for the parking office for the 1995-96 academic school year. She said no new lots can be built until a debt for the building and re-doing the old lots is paid off. Currently the University has a debt of \$32,000 from the old lots, but Halada said there is an excess of about \$70,000 from this year's budget. That money will be allocated between January and February of the 1997 academic year.

"Before we commit ourselves to anything, we need to finish off this semester," Halada said. "In January we'll look to see if we're on target and then look at other problems we have to deal with."

Until the parking problems can be resolved, Manny Kenney, grounds department supervisor, urges students to be aware of the parking regulations and obey all signs.

"There are many places where it is posted 'No Parking' between the hours of 1 a.m. and 6 a.m.," Kenney said. "It only takes a couple of cars to double the time it takes to plow those lots."

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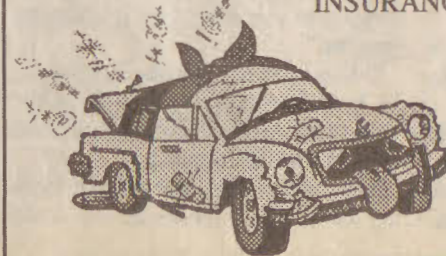
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Test taking and gift giving lead to student burnout



HEATHER PIEHL
STAFF WRITER

The Christmas season is upon us and it is supposed to be a time of happiness, good feelings and joy. These feelings are promoted everywhere with the songs people hear (Tis the Season to be Jolly), the movies people watch (It's A Wonderful Life) and the people seen walking around with smiles on their faces talking about the "holiday spirit."

But for some reason or another, many people just can not get into the holiday spirit and the people who can are making others nauseous. After all, in the next week, students will have four papers, three tests, two quizzes and finals. This tends to kill the holiday spirit.

"Tis the season to be stressed! Hathorn Hall Resident Assistant Sara Monson said that a lot of residents have told her they are stressed. She has also noticed changes in them.

"We get a lot more goofiness," Monson said. "People just kind of act silly."

Stress is basically the body's response to a combination of demands placed on a person's money, time, emotions, and energy, according to Col. Karl O. Moe M.D., chairman of the psychology department at Malcolm Grow Medical Center at Andrews Air

Force Base located in Maryland. There are four main types of stress according to the Stress Management Home Page, a service of Hoag Hospital.

The first is survival stress. This may happen when a person's survival or health is threatened, when a person is put under pressure, or when they experience some unpleasant or challenging event. Adrenaline is released into the body as it prepares for fight or flight.

The second type of stress is internally generated stress. This can come from anxious worrying about events beyond control, from a tense hurried approach to life, or from relationship problems.

The third is environmental and job-related stress. This is when a living or working environment causes stress. It may be caused by noise, crowding, pollution, or other distractions.

The final cause of stress is allowing one's self to become fatigued and overworked. This type of stress builds up over a long period of time. It can occur when trying to achieve too much in too little time, or when a person is not using effective time management strategies.

College and the responsibilities that come with it fit into several of these types of stress.

"Classes usually do a pretty darn good job of that (stressing a person out)," Monson said.

Animal Science major, Jessica Powlas agrees.

"When teachers do not let you know how you are doing in their class, then not only do you have holiday stress, you have school-related stress also," Powlas said.

Now the end of the semester is here and this adds more pressure to students. All those term paper due dates are rapidly approaching and finals will soon follow. Students do not seem to have enough time in a day to accomplish what they need to.

Land management major LeAnn Waletzko, can vouch for these feelings.

"I have two major papers due in the next two weeks. I really could not have started writing one until now and the other I finally have my life cleaned out enough to work on it," Waletzko said. "My deadlines are my motivations."

The Christmas season also causes

financial stress for students. Along with the regular monthly bills like rent, phone and grocery some students have college tuition to pay before the new year and Christmas presents to buy for family, friends and roommates. By the time all the bills arrive students may have to use their MasterCard to pay off their Visa bill.

Dealing with family over the holidays can also add stress to a student's life. After all, they have been away from home for at least three months and now they need to go back and adjust to the rules and regulations of their parents.

Some of the physical signs of stress include headaches, a stiff neck, high blood pressure, sleep pattern disruptions and an upset stomach or variety of other illnesses, Moe said.

But don't give up hope. There are ways to cope with and sometimes reduce the stress that occurs during the Christmas season. Here are several stress reducing ideas from the Stress Management Home Page.

Getting organized is one way to reduce stress. Using daily planners and calendars to schedule activities can help people remember when they need to be somewhere and when things are due. Making daily lists of things to do is another way of remembering what needs to be done in a day.

"The more I am stressed the more I need to write things down to remember them," Waletzko said. "It also helps because I can see progress as I check things off."

Getting enough sleep and eating a balanced diet will also help reduce stress by providing the energy needed to get through the day.

Having a stress box is the way Waletzko relieves stress. The stress box contains different toys, games, and puzzles to play with when feeling stressed.

Included in her stress box are several colors of Play Doh, Silly Putty, Gak, a koosh ball, juggling bags, a deck of cards and the puzzles Izzy and Brick by Brick. Waletzko said you have to have at least two colors of Play Doh so you can mix them together when you are super stressed. Another thing that can be done with Play Doh is to make little people out of them Waletzko said.

"I make Play Doh people, call them whichever professor is bothering me the most and then smash them, yell at them and torture them. You usually

end up giggling and feeling better especially when there is a group of you doing it," Waletzko said. "It is just kind of humorous playing with Play Doh in your 20s anyway."

Monson, who has played with Waletzko's stress box said she thinks she would really enjoy one.

"I would love it," Monson said. "I might not get anything done because I would be playing with the stuff all the time."

Even though Monson does not have a stress box she does have a coloring book and a large set of crayons that she resorts to when feeling a little stressed.

"It was one of the very first things I bought when I came to college," Monson said.

Some of these things may seem silly but sometimes you need to have a little fun and laugh. According to Joleen Sabel from UW-LaCrosse if you are stressed and in need of a good laugh here is a small list of some things you can try: play tic-tac-toe on your plaid clothes, make silly faces at passing motorists, draw underwear on the natives in National Geographic, pretend spaghetti is a finger food, stick pencils in an acoustic ceiling, refuse to have a nice day, pop popcorn without putting the lid on and when someone says "have a nice day" tell them you have other plans.

Affordable gifts for college budgets

JASON EGERSTROM
STAFF WRITER

Finding a parking space at a shopping mall during this time of year is about as easy as finding one near Johnson Hall on a Sunday night.

The walk from one's car to the mall begins the shopping marathon. This walk may make people think about their friends and loved ones who are done with their shopping. Suddenly, one may consider starting their shopping earlier the following year.

But isn't Christmas shopping part of the Christmas spirit?

James Wax, a student in English education thinks so.

"It's better to give," he said about the stressful shopping times.

Procrastinating shoppers, like Wax, seem to have a general idea for gifts. Some of these include compact discs, movies, and clothes.

However, here are some additional popular gift ideas for this holiday season, which may be more affordable for the average college student.

The Falcon Food Store has a variety of tasty, affordable gifts. According to store manager Rane May, cheese gift boxes are the most popular among students.

Cheeses are available in either eight-ounce or one-pound gift boxes. Any of the 11 cheese varieties can be combined to make a two- or four-pound gift box. Prices range from \$10.95-\$18.95.

Other popular items at Falcon Foods Store include a variety of ice creams. One-half gallon costs about \$3. The sizes range from six-ounces to a three-gallon tub.

"They're a little more expensive because it's premium-quality ice cream," May said.

Other items include summer sausage, jerky sticks and t-bone steaks.

For any questions about the holiday sale at the Falcon Foods Store, contact May at 425-3704.

For the students who feel bold and would like to tackle the shopping mall challenge, here are some gift ideas.

Andrea Steinhoff, a student in Broad Area Agriculture, suggests "Beanie Babies" as good gift ideas.

"Beanie Babies" are miniature stuffed animals that cost about \$5, Steinhoff said. They are available in a variety of different animals from cows and moose to frogs.

"Beanie Babies" may make a good gift for younger siblings and can be found in many drug stores.

According to Steinhoff, other gift ideas for a person of any age would be a decorative tin can full of candy.

Traveling to many popular stores shoppers can find several inexpensive gifts. Compact discs, movies, and video games have become quite popular.

Among the movies, Disney's "Toy Story" seemed to be one of the most popular for under \$20.

In addition to the movie were many gift ideas for younger siblings. These included small action figure toys from the movie selling for under \$5. Perhaps the most bizarre "Toy Story" gift idea was a telephone in the shape of "Buzz Light-Year," one of the movie's characters.

Dan Schmitz, a conservation major, said he hasn't seen "Toy Story" yet, but has seen many different toys made from the movie including, a Mr. Potato Head body massager.

A major factor that plays into effect when shopping for the right gift is the price of the gift.

The annual tie for dad may cost around \$20.

Buying a movie for dad could be a proper replacement, if the right one is chosen. Some popular titles available for the holidays include, "Independence Day," "Nuttty Professor" and "Braveheart."

An affordable gift idea for most moms, according to Dan Schmitz, are cooking items.

"You can get three frying pans for \$15," Schmitz said.

Perhaps the most popular gift for children this holiday season is the "Tickle Me Elmo" doll.

"Tickle Me Elmo is one of the biggest sellers for kids this Christmas," said Laura Irons, a department store employee.

The "Tickle Me Elmo" doll is a stuffed animal version of the red Elmo puppet from the television show "Sesame Street." The doll, which laughs and shakes when squeezed in its stomach, sold out very quickly, according to Irons.

Apparently the toy is so popular that it stirred up a confrontation with customers last Sunday morning, she said. By the time the doll went on sale for \$20, the department store was already sold out.

"About 30 to 40 people were waiting outside five minutes before we opened...just to buy the doll," Irons said.

As you can imagine, the early bird customers were upset when they found out that the "Tickle Me Elmo" doll had already been sold out before it went on sale, she said.

Irons said ordering more Elmo dolls before Christmas is not a solution. Apparently there will be no more dolls made until next year.

According to her, some other high demand video game systems are also hard to find.

Shoppers run into many problems during the holiday season, from finding a parking spot to finding an affordable gift.

Next year start early and avoid the rush.

Through the eyes of a child



Evan Bakke, 4 1/2, displays his interpretation of the holiday season. Bakke attends Kids N' Company Daycare in Hathorn Hall.

Grinch steals Grimm's Christmas

LEANNE TORGESEN
A&E EDITOR

Vandalism to an artificial Christmas tree located in the Grimm Hall lobby was reported on Dec. 5 by Residence Hall Coordinator for Grimm Hall, Kendre Galanti. According to the police report, the tree was stolen from the Grimm Hall lobby between midnight and 1 a.m. on Dec. 5. Branches and ornaments were found scattered between Grimm Hall and McMillan Hall and the base for the tree was found in the McMillan lobby. Grimm Hall residents recovered the pieces of the tree and put it back together. No further action is being taken at this time.

Citations

James R. Wildermuth, 233 Crabtree Hall, for failure to stop at a stopsign at Third Street and Cascade Avenue late Saturday night. Wildermuth was fined \$61.90.

Kyle J. Welniak, 22, 551 S. Spruce St. #207, for inattentive driving Friday at 1:30 a.m. Welnicak rear-ended a car driven by Lisa M. Jensen, 25, Cottage Grove, while she was waiting for people in a crosswalk. He was fined \$74.20.

Heather L. Anderson, 20, 287 W. Johnson St. #3, for failure to yield from a driveway Saturday afternoon on N. Main Street and CTH MM. Anderson hit a car driven by Raul Benavides, 29, 329 N. Seventh St. She was fined \$61.90.

Anthony J. Ptacek, 20, Prescott, for inattentive driving after he drove into a power pole at E. Division and Eighth streets last week Tuesday afternoon. Ptacek was fined \$74.20.

Vandalism

A driver's side window was broken Nov. 25 while the car was parked in O-Lot. Damage is estimated at \$250.

Another car window was smashed last month while parked in L-Lot. According to police reports an attempt was made to remove the vehicle's CB radio. Damage, \$300.

A car door and fender belonging to a student sustained dents and had obscenity written in dirt on the trunk early last week. The damage possibly occurred at the student's home.

Senate to purchase new computers

CHAD URDAHL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Student Senate passed a motion to purchase two computers and a printer at its last meeting.

The computers, a laser printer and other necessary equipment will cost approximately \$7,000, according to the senate. Two accounts will cover the costs of equipment, \$4,000 of the cost will come from the Shared Governance account and \$3,000 will come from Student Senate reserves.

"It will be a valuable purchase, and since we have the funds now we might as well go ahead since we might not

later," Sen. Jennifer Mundt said.

In lieu of a laser printer, Sen. Donald Toews suggested that the senate consider a cheaper option such as an ink jet.

"What's to say in five years it won't be outdated," Toews said.

In other business

The senate accepted the resignations of two senators, Tammy Nelson and Brad Hougaard. Nelson's resignation is effective immediately and Hougaard's will begin at the end of the semester.

Two more senators were added, however, Amy Zuber and Demetrius Saygo were appointed and took their posi-

tions effective immediately.

Student Senate President Grant Staszak reprimanded the senate for the absence of senators at committee meetings.

"I'm real disappointed in half of the senate having second notices (for absences)," Staszak said.

Each senator is required to maintain 20 office hours per month, and a number of senators wanted to be able to use time spent at committee meetings towards that requirement.

A previous motion allowed for that, but an attempt to rescind that motion failed at Tuesday's meeting.

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Fri., Dec. 20	7:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 21	7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Christy Nelson

The Bacon Connection



"Wow, Kevin Bacon really is the man! O.K. how about the original Darrin from 'Bewitched.'"

Here is a little game for all of you to play over Christmas break to keep your minds sharp for spring semester. First, you assemble a group of your brightest friends, or your moderately clever friends. OK, some friends who don't get out much. Next, come up with the name of someone in Hollywood, no matter how obscure, let's say Tootie (Kim Fields) from "Facts of Life." Then comes the challenge. Try to link that person to Kevin Bacon in six steps or less. Good Luck!

According to a new book entitled "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon," it is possible to make some connection between any actor and "Footloose" star Kevin Bacon in a maximum of six steps. The first obvious question would be why Kevin Bacon? The authors of the book Craig Fass, Mike Gilleni and Brian Turtle, three movie-crazed fraternity brothers, claim that they chose the actor out of admiration for him and his work in some of their favorite films. There is, however, another explanation circulating on the Internet. This theory goes something like this: A guy went to see the Stockard Channing/Will Smith movie "Six Degrees of Separation" and was later trying to explain the theory for which the movie is named after to a drunken buddy. This buddy, having his beer-ears on, said "what? The Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon?" which not only got a laugh, but also got all the guys present thinking (Fass admits that Southern Comfort did play an intricate role in the games creation, but claims that he and the co-authors really do like Kevin Bacon).

The book, in stores now, has over 150 pages of links to Kevin Bacon. Fass, Gilleni and Turtle say they wrote Six Degrees to, as they say, prove to all the skeptics that Bacon is the "center of all of Hollywood." The authors are currently in negotiation with several game manufacturers in hopes of getting a "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon" board game on the shelves, so watch out for that. That might be really fun after hitting the Southern Comfort, huh?

So what does Bacon think of this somewhat dubious honor? Fass says that after the popularity of their game spread, they had the opportunity to meet their idol, at which time Bacon voiced his opinion that the frat boys were not honoring him, but mocking him. The authors assured the star that they really are just trying to flatter him, and that they truly believe that Hollywood revolves around the actor. At any rate, Bacon must have had a change of heart as he reportedly provided the forward to the new book.

And now, to wrap up my final column of 1996, I give you what you've all been waiting for... the Tootie and Kevin Bacon link: Tootie worked with George Clooney on "Facts of Life." Clooney starred in "From Dusk Til Dawn" with Quentin Tarentino who directed John Travolta in "Pulp Fiction" and Travolta starred in "Phenomenon" with Kyra Sedgwick, wife of KEVIN BACON! Or: Tootie (Kim Fields) stars with Queen Latifah on "Living Single." Latifah was in the recent movie "Set It Off" with Jada Pinkett who co-starred in "The Nutty Professor" with Eddie Murphy who starred in "48 HRS" with Nick Nolte. Nolte starred in "I Love Trouble" opposite Julia Roberts who was in "Flatliners" with none other than KEVIN BACON. Wow, Kevin Bacon really is the man! Try your hand at the game, oddly enough it's kind of fun. O.K. how about the original Darrin from "Bewitched"...

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Fa-la-la-la-la!



Naomi Runge photo

The UW-River Falls Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, directed by music professor Elliot Wold, performed at the annual Festive Concerts of Seasonal Music series. The program, held the weekend of Dec. 7-9 also included selections by the Women's Chorus and the Brass Ensemble.

Beavis and Butt-head hit the big screen

BRANDON EYTHESON
STAFF WRITER

The first time I ever saw the animated Beavis and Butt-head, by Mike Judge, I was at a friend's house. These two adolescents (Beavis and Butt-head) were in a field; one was holding a chain-saw, and the other was holding a grasshopper. One of them said, "Hey, let's saw it's tweeter off." The other responded, "HUH-HUH-HUH, yeah, yeah!" And one of them ended up losing the end of his finger. The only response they were capable of was "HUH-HUH-HUH, cool."

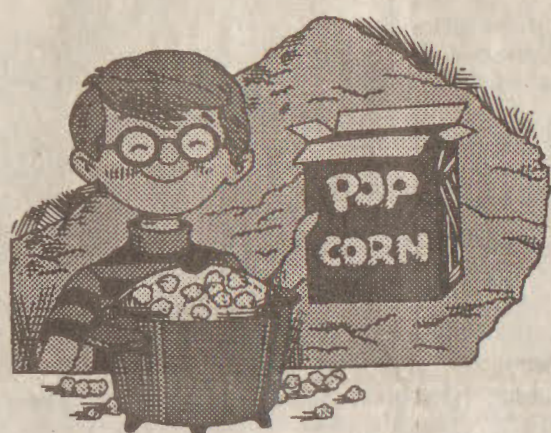
The only thing I could say to my friend was, "This is funny. These are the stupidest people I have ever encountered. Where have you been all my life?"

"Beavis and Butt-head Do America," a full length animated Paramount motion-picture (HUH-HUH-HUH), is set for release in theaters all over on Dec. 20. In the December issue of Rolling Stone magazine, Mike Judge, creator of Beavis and Butt-head, said he was "inspired by a combination of 'Red Rock West,' Neil Simon's 'The Out of Towners,' and Cheech and Chong."

As far as I can tell, the movie is about their quest to regain their lost television. I guess if you know anything about Beavis and Butt-head, you know they need their television.

There is very little information available about the plot of the movie. There are many video clips and commercials being played on MTV. There is a Red Hot Chili Peppers cover song of "Love Roller Coaster" being played on the radio all of the time. Not to mention, the animated video of the song starring The Red Hot Chili Peppers and Beavis and Butt-head, where they display their musical talent with

their kazooos (HUH-HUH-HUH). And, there is also a movie soundtrack available with featuring songs from The Red Hot Chili Peppers, Butthead Surfers, White Zombie, No Doubt, and



Engelbert Humperdinck (HUH-HUH-HUH).

I really can't wait to see this. Not because I'm an idiot, but because I think that Beavis and Butt-head are funny.

A lot of people like the half hour cartoon that plays on MTV. They think it's funny. Others think that Beavis and Butt-head have no redeeming qualities whatsoever. Well, you are right, they don't. That is the appeal. They are so stupid they are funny. It's brainless comedy.

"They aren't good role models," people say. No kidding! Mike Judge responded this in a recent interview in Playboy magazine. "They're dumb...I'm always surprised when people think Beavis and Butt-head have hypnotized the youth of America, because I've never met a kid who doesn't get it, who doesn't see what losers they are."

Beavis and Butt-head are the cre-

ations of Mike Judge. In the December issue of Playboy magazine, Judge commented on the origins of Beavis and Butt-head. "I used to see 13-year-olds in the mall in their bad-ass

Megadeth T-shirts, these guys who want to be heavy metal rebels but first have to go get their braces tightened. And I once played upright bass in a blues band in Kentucky and saw two teenage boys up front, each with that curled lip making that, 'this sucks' face at me."

Beavis and Butt-head premiered on "Liquid Television," which runs on MTV. They gained instant success in 1993. Ev-

everyone was buzzing about Beavis and Butt-head at my school when they came out. "Did you see what they did last night?...Beavis ate a whole bunch of candy and went nuts; he said he was Com-holio..." blah, blah, blah.

Judge commented about his instant success and controversy in the Playboy interview. "Beavis and Butt-head supposedly made a kid start a fire in a trailer park. It was all over the news. Later it turned out the place wasn't wired for cable. It was also charged with a cat's death. But Butt-head had only joked about putting a firecracker in a cat's butt, and anyway that practice has gone on every summer since there have been firecrackers and cats."

Why would anyone watch this crap? If you are a college student, you supposedly are thinking and slaving over books all day. I think that it is nice to just sit back and be entertained with out thinking. Laughter is healthy,

why not rest your brain and laugh. It will make you feel better, not erode your mind. Beavis and Butt-head are entertainment. I have never seen anyone turn in to a Beavis or Butt-head from watching the show.

But I've seen people come close. It almost happened to me. I stayed up one Sat. night and watched a "Moron-athon." A "Moron-athon" is an all night showing of Beavis and Butt-head cartoons. Toward the end, my brain activity had dropped to the point that I couldn't tell the time on a digital clock, let alone work the remote control, a really complicated instrument (HUH-HUH-HUH). People that know me would probably wonder why Beavis and Butt-head cartoons would make a difference, but I woke up the next day unchanged. And that was after about seven hours of it. Maybe the commercials in between saved my life.

"A lot of planning goes into making Beavis and Butt-head completely lame and stupid. I write memos to the animators about the way Butt-head's top lip should curl when he says, 'this sucks';" Judge commented. I'm not surprised. Maybe Beavis and Butt-head are complex characters. Were the Monty Python characters complex? Were Cheech and Chong complex? Who is to say? Or better yet, who cares?

I'm going to see the movie because it's going to be funny, not because I'll have any inspiring ideas or life changing thoughts, just because I'll laugh. That is the mind set that will allow you to enjoy the movie. Perhaps this movie will gross so much money that the writers/owners of the "Simpsons" will make a full length movie next. Good things can come out of this.

What's Up In Arts & Entertainment?

Masquers produce one act plays

Masquers, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls theater organization, is opening its latest show on Dec. 11. The show is a collection of three one acts that were written and directed by students. The first one act, "Just Your Standard Couch Play," was written and directed by senior Ryan S. Williams and depicts a play within a play.

The second one act, written and directed by Dave Carlson, also a senior, is entitled "Cafeteria Blues" and examines the trials of five college students. The third one act, "The Penis of Aaaahs," written and directed by senior Brian Nelson, follows a young man's exploration of his own sexuality.

Tickets for the show are available through the UW-RF Theater Box Office at 425-3114. The show will run Dec. 12-14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Blanche Davis Theater in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Ticket prices are \$5 for non-students and \$3 for students and seniors.

Masquers student theater organization is designed to give members hands-on experience in theater. The members produce, design and direct a show every year.

Student Scholarship Sale

The UW-RF Art Department is sponsoring its annual Student Scholarship Sale from Dec. 2-16 in Gallery 101 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building located on the UW-RF campus.

The gallery will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m., as well as on Sundays from 2-4 p.m.

This annual art sale features artwork of current UW-RF students and alumni, current and retired faculty, and local professionals. The proceeds are distributed in part to the Student Art League and to the Art Scholarship fund. The sale includes glass, ceramics, jewelry, fibers, painting, printmaking, and photography.

Happy Holidays from the Student Voice Staff!

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"Airframe:" Not usual Crichton quality

SARA JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

"We have a nation in which forty-three thousand people die every year in cars, and nobody worries about it at all. They get into cars when they're drunk, when they're tired without a second thought.

"But these same people are panicked at the thought of getting on an airplane. And the reason is that television consistently exaggerates the real dangers involved," proclaims the heroine of author, doctor, director, Michael Crichton's latest book, "Airframe" (Knopf, \$26).

"Airframe" centers around the investigation of a midair incident in which three passengers are killed, 56 severely injured. Toss in a little corporate corruption, technical jargon and character editorial on modern journalists and you've got "Airframe" in a nutshell.

It's a nutshell that Disney paid \$10 million for movie rights to, and frankly I don't think they got their money's worth.

Readers of "Airframe" will be left queasy, not from air turbulence, but from disappointment. The upside of the book? At least you don't have to worry about losing your luggage along the way, although your faith in Crichton may be another story.

"Airframe" is a mediocre book, certainly not up to the usual Crichton standards. It lacks the punch of other Crichton mega-hits, namely, "Jurassic Park," "Rising Sun" and "The Great Train Robbery."

We expect Crichton to serve us up hardy helpings of technological information with seconds of suspense and enthralling plot, but all you get in "Airframe" is airline food writing under cellophane.

The technical jargon is there; the signature Crichton mini-chapters are evident, but the plot was microwaved a bit too long and the words tale like plastic.

A lame airline safety novel is a disappointment to Crichton followers. Couldn't the man who tackled lethal pathogens ("The Andromeda Strain") before ebola was in do better?

There is no question Crichton could do better, but does he want to? After

all, the money for the screenplay rights is already in the bank, so why go the extra mile to ensure a good read and then have to amend it for Hollywood?

The saving grace of Crichton based movies has always been a solid, ingenious plot. Even the movies that bombed, "Congo" and "Disclosure," had the asset of a solid book backing them up. The writing just didn't translate to the screen. But "Airframe" lacks this solid foundation, which of course isn't to say it won't make a good movie. Unfortunately it really doesn't take a heck of a lot of plot to please moviegoers.

Is Crichton abandoning novel writing in favor of screenplay writing? Has he bypassed his art form and become a commercial writer? It's a safe bet because as he points out in "Airframe," television and movies are the attention and profit grabbers of the American public. Books don't cut it anymore.

"These television people. They're beneath pond scum on the evolutionary scale," says an "Airframe" character. You can probably guess that Crichton doesn't hold television journalists in high esteem.

Before you start thinking, "Ya, sure she doesn't like the book-she's a journalism major," let me tell you I thought Crichton's commentary on journalism was the most valuable part.

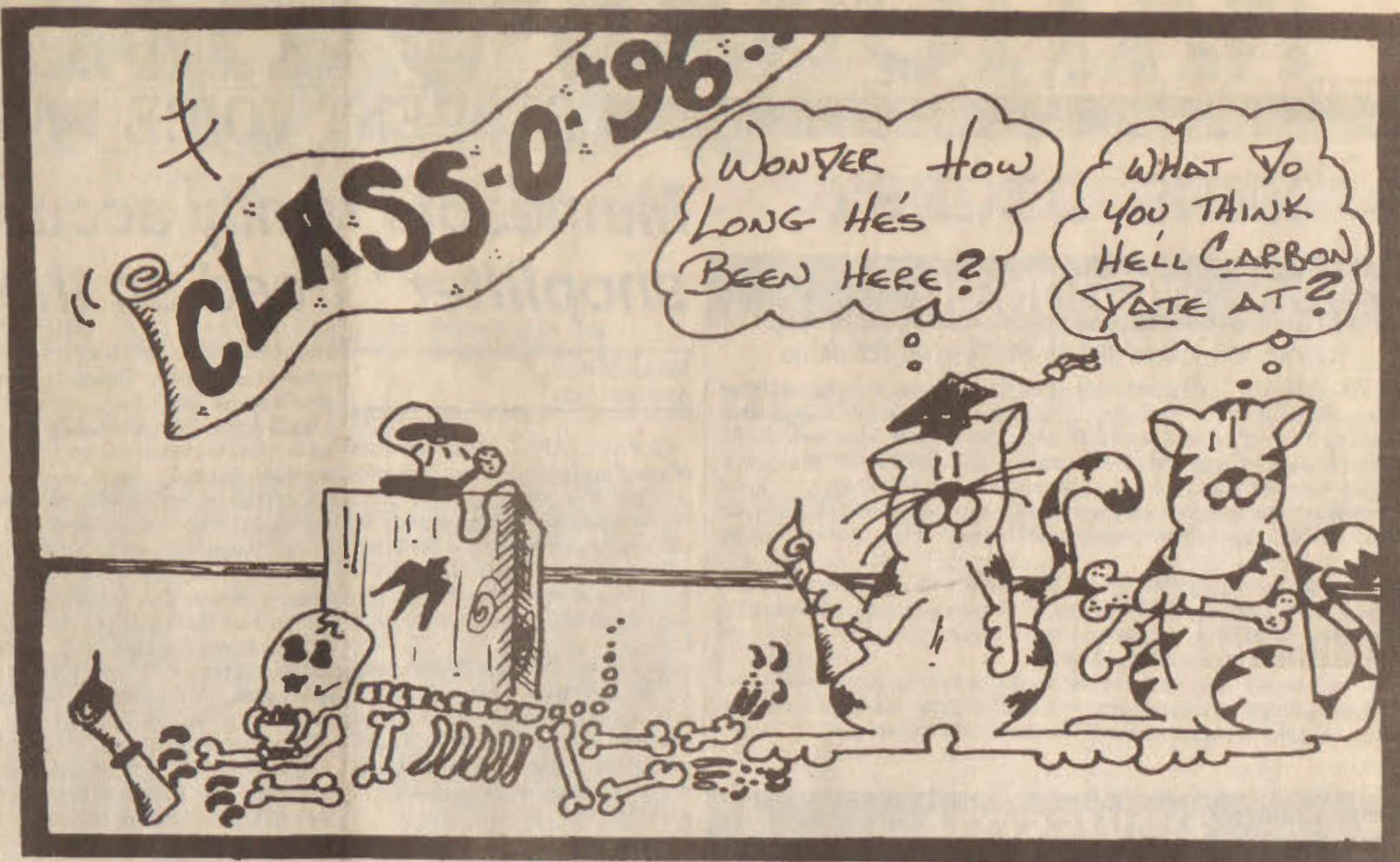
Crichton asserts that modern journalists, especially those in television, don't want to find the truth. According to "Airframe," journalists have the story written in their heads before they start—they're just looking for the sources that will say what they're thinking.

This is a savvy observation on Crichton's part, and one that no journalist can deny without a little voice nagging them to fess up to at least one past sin.

Crichton's sin is letting the screenplay writer in him control the novel. He is guilty of letting his tinkering with the throttle ruin a perfectly good flight on novel autopilot.

Despite the comparative quality of the book, rest assured "Airframe" will be landing soon to a theater near you. So, return your trays to their upright and locked positions and pray that the movie will let you keep the vomit sacks stowed away with the in-flight magazines.

Curious now about the book? To read an excerpt of Michael Crichton's "Airframe," visit the book's web site at <http://www.randomhouse.com/crichton/>.



Skafest II brings down the house

TODD SCHIERENBECK
STAFF WRITER

Despite one band canceling on the day of the show and another not arriving until half an hour before they played, Skafest II was an exuberant riot of horns, flashing lights and sweaty young people. The event, sponsored jointly by Hagestad Union Board and WRFW, was nearly five hours of music from four ska bands. The bands were from places as varied as Fargo, Detroit and the Twin Cities.

Secret Society, a St. Paul-based band whose members have an average age of 17, was the first of the bands to take the stage. The band was filling in at the last minute for the Amlettes, who canceled unexpectedly. The seven-member ensemble, which has been together for almost a year, was more than happy to play on short notice.

"Yeah, we'd heard about the Skafest before. We were actually going to come up for the show anyway," said Bryan Hurley, one of the two trombone players in Secret Society. "I think this is nice for people in River Falls. From as much as I know about River Falls, I think they need something like this."

3 Minute Hero, a ska band from Fargo, N.D. was the second band to take the stage. Their swing rhythm, spiced with polka and barbershop flavorings, was an instant hit with the crowd, who had skanked furiously throughout Secret Society's set. (Skanking is a dance that is commonly seen at ska concerts and not many other places; its ease and adaptability make it ideal).

"We've got the best dancers in the

world here. And the front row doesn't even mind spit on them," said the lead singer of 3 Minute Hero from the stage. "We're the best smelling band, and you guys are the best smelling audience." To which the crowd, most of whom had growing armpit stains at the time, roared its approval.

After the show, the band sat in on an impromptu interview during the "Bootleg and Sweatpants" show in the studios of WRFW until 2:00 a.m. Sunday. The band joked about their bus, flirited with Mindy Speer, WRFW news director (to whom they had dedicated a song called "Rude Girl" during the show) and complained about the River Falls Police Department, who had issued them a fine before the concert for blocking the sidewalk.

Skafest organizers almost panicked when the third band, Superdot, had not yet arrived by the time the show began. Superdot, which hails from Detroit, pulled in about a half an hour before they were scheduled to go on. They had left Detroit around five in the morning and drove straight through to River Falls, keeping awake with coffee from various fast-food restaurants. Despite the exhaustion of most of its members, Superdot was ener-

getic on stage, even inviting audience members on-stage to help them sing their song "Chewbacca" (it was the only word in the song).

"It was a good show, but I was like I'm not gonna ... make it," said the lead singer after the performance. "My energy gave out right around the last song. It was really fun, though."

The headliner for the evening, Suspect Bill from Minneapolis, was also the headliner for last year's Skafest, and the audience seemed to welcome them back. The number of people on the already crowded dance floor swelled as they tore through their repertoire, including "Black Cat Burglar," "Jet Plane Off to Jamaica," and a hugely swinging version of Benny Goodman's classic "Sing Sing Sing."

The members of Suspect Bill, basking in the affection of the crowd, danced around almost as much as the crowd. The two trombone players were so much fun to look at as they shook, shimmed and hopped around that many dancers watching them would forget which foot they were currently hopping on.

The event was free, and it was hard to estimate exactly how many people were there. One audience member estimated the crowd to be about 150

strong, while other guesses ranged as high as 300. Those attending were extremely enthusiastic in their praise of the bands and the music.

"I'm really enjoying it," said Speer. "They dedicated a song to me!"

"It was a damn tasty show," said Eric Sudheimer, a student and disk jockey on WRFW. His friend concurred with a pun.

"I'd just like to say that Skafest was very horny," said Jim Byboth. The two men ran the lights for the show, even leaving the strobe light on for one whole song by request from the headliners.

The dance floor was full almost from the beginning of the show, with people skanking joyously at every opportunity. More people sat on the sidelines, watching the joint spectacle of bands and audience skanking in harmony.

Overall, the mood of the night was one of good-natured harmony and acceptance. Members of the first bands hopped onto the dance floor to enjoy the music as soon as their sets were done. As the lead singer for Suspect Bill noted coyly, "River Falls may be an even better place for ska than Minneapolis."

The crowd, agreeing with her, roared its approval.

Congratulations Graduates!



Good luck in the future!

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NEWS DIGEST

WISCONSIN

Report: Wisconsin tied for 8th in toxic accidents

MADISON (AP) — Wisconsin tied for eighth in the nation in the number of toxic chemical accidents from 1993-95 that involved evacuation, injuries or fatalities, a report by two non-profit organizations, the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group and the National Environmental Law Center, says.

Nationwide, the report said, there were more than 23,000 toxic chemical accidents reported to the federal government in the three years of the study, but other incidents may not have been included because of lax reporting requirements.

The top 10 states in the listing were California, with 127 of the accidents; Texas, 75; Ohio, 68; Florida, 53; Illinois, 52; Pennsylvania, 44; Louisiana, 39; Wisconsin and Indiana, 33 each; and Alabama, 32.

Wisconsin has had no fatal accidents.

Although it didn't happen during the survey period, the report cited a June 1992 railroad tank car derailment in which benzene and other hazardous substances spilled into the Necedah River in Douglas County.

MINNESOTA

Dogs to do one-time drug search at Hopkins High School

HOPKINS (AP) — At the request of students concerned about increased marijuana use, one or two drug-sniffing dogs will soon roam the locker-lined hallways of Hopkins High School.

"We're taking such a big step because we're so concerned," said senior Amy Walters, 18. "We're not a druggie school. It's just that other schools are not doing as much about it."

Few canine-led drug searches have occurred in Minnesota, and the Hopkins students may be the first to have requested one. Carol Thomas, a safe-and-drug-free schools coordinator at the state Department of Children, Families and Learning, said that a search can be effective as part of an overall prevention strategy.

"It's more to let people know that that school does not tolerate bringing illegal drugs to school and passing them around or selling them on the premises," she said.

The one-time search at the suburban school will take place before March on an evening or weekend when the school is empty. School officials expect only to get an idea of how many lockers seem to have a residue of marijuana or other drugs, and not to punish students unless drugs are actually found.

Some students have objected and complained about an invasion of their privacy. But soon, many began joking about hanging T-bone steaks or leaving open cans of dog food in their lockers.

"I thought there would be a lot more yelling and screaming," said Jake Greene, 17.

The school board approved the search last week.

NATIONAL

Three men sue Taco Bell after alleged urination incident

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP) — Three men are suing Taco Bell, alleging they were served food that had been urinated on by a shift manager at one of the fast-food chain's restaurants in Estes Park. The lawsuit, filed Nov. 21 in Larimer District Court, claims the unidentified worker urinated on the men's order Jan. 1 without their knowledge but with the knowledge of other employees.

The men, Robert A. Reihing, Zakary Marshall and Brian Williams, ordered food from the restaurant's drive-up window and later became sick after eating the food, the lawsuit claims. "The consumption of the food by the plaintiffs resulted in great physical distress and illness," according to the suit, which seeks unspecified actual and exemplary damages.

The men's attorney, Stan Matsunaka, said it is not clear why the shift manager may have urinated on the food. He said the mother of one of the restaurant employees heard about the incident and told one of the victims.

None of the plaintiffs was hospitalized, but the lawsuit said the men suffered embarrassment from the incident, becoming "objects of ridicule and derision by agents and employees of the defendant." Taco Bell was served the lawsuit on Nov. 19, but no response apparently has been filed by the Irvine, Calif.-based company.

Couple indicted in death of infant

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — A teen-ager and her boyfriend were indicted Tuesday in the death of the woman's newborn son, whose body was found in a motel trash bin. A grand jury handed up first-degree murder indictments against Brian C. Peterson Jr. and Amy Grossberg, both 18-year-old college freshmen, who are charged in the death of the 6-pound, 2-ounce baby born in a Newark motel last month.

The infant was found wrapped in plastic and dumped in the trash. An autopsy by the medical examiner's office concluded the boy was born healthy and died of multiple skull fractures and brain injuries. The state attorney general's office has said it would seek the death penalty.

Police learned of the baby after Ms. Grossberg was taken to a hospital for complications after the birth. Peterson, who was described in the indictment as the baby's father, waited for five days before turning himself in to authorities. Both have been held without bail since their arrests last month.

Phone companies to add e-mail addresses to listings

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — By the middle of next year finding someone's e-mail address will be as easy as flipping open the White Pages--depending on where you live. Phone customers in California and New York in the United States and Ontario and Quebec in Canada will have the option of listing their e-mail addresses and Web page addresses alongside their phone numbers within the next six months. "It's all customer initiated," said John Britton, spokesman for Pacific Telesis, the parent company of Pacific Bell. "We've been getting calls into our business office from people who want to be able to reach electronically. They're searching for ways to make their e-mail addresses known."

Pricing for the service is uncertain, though Britton said it would probably be close to the charge for listing a second phone number, which costs residential customers 85 cents a month and a one-time fee of \$5 for each line.

WORLD

Lawmaker praises Albright appointment

MOSCOW (AP) — Madeleine Albright's appointment as U.S. secretary of state shows that Washington intends to take a tougher stance with Moscow, Russia's former U.S. ambassador said Monday.

"The Americans are tired of pretending that Russia must be reckoned with," Vladimir Lukin, now a top lawmaker, was quoted as saying by the ITAR-Tass news agency. "They have begun to show us that we are not all that strong after all."

Lukin, however, praised Albright as an "energetic and persistent diplomat" and called the appointment a "rather strong and successful" move by President Clinton.

He said that "the American idea of NATO's expansion to the east will get an active and energetic supporter" in Albright.

ITAR-Tass said he thinks U.S. policy now will be oriented more toward support of Eastern European countries and some other former Soviet republics besides Russia, such as Ukraine and Azerbaijan.

Lukin, 59, is the chairman of the foreign affairs committee in the State Duma, parliament's lower house. He was ambassador to Washington from 1992-94.

Minnesota family accused of hiring 'personal shoplifter' freed on their own recognizance

MELISSA MATCZAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. PAUL (AP) — Three members of a wealthy family accused of paying a shoplifter to steal expensive items for them surrendered and were freed on their own recognizance Tuesday.

Dentist Gerald Dick, 58, his wife, Judy, 56, and two of their children — Stacey Zehren, 33, an attorney from Chicago, and James Dick, 32, who played football at North Dakota State University and briefly for the Minnesota Vikings in 1987 — were each charged last week with one count of attempting to receive stolen property and one count of conspiring to receive stolen property.

Each count carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

The couple and their son surrendered to Ramsey County authorities early Tuesday morning. They did not

enter pleas during their brief arraignment in the afternoon. Their next court date is set for Jan. 9.

Paul Applebaum, the family's attorney, said the family has never been in trouble before.

"All I can say right now is that they are taking these charges very seriously," Applebaum said. "I think it goes without saying (that) it's a devastating event in their lives."

Zehren is 8 1/2 months pregnant and will not have to surrender until after the baby is born, said Kevin Quigley, spokesman for the Ramsey County attorney's office.

Before their appearance in front of Judge H. Richard Hopper, the three sat emotionless in the courtroom. As they left, Mrs. Dick firmly grasped her husband's hand.

The Dicks are accused of using a personal shoplifter to acquire items such as Baccarat crystal and Armani suits from a Dayton's department store, giving him a list of exactly what

they wanted and then, after the items were stolen, paying him a fraction of their retail value.

Police said the family's undoing was the arrest of Gregory E. Thomas, who told police he sold about \$250,000 worth of goods to the family over the years. However, police have said that claim has not been substantiated. They said some \$42,000 worth of goods were seized from the home last week.

Applebaum said the family would attempt to recover the seized property. He would not comment when asked if the Dicks were entrapped.

Thomas claimed the family previously bailed him out of jail and sent him money while he was in prison for earlier theft convictions.

Ramsey County Attorney Susan Gaertner said authorities are investigating whether the family stole, or had stolen for them, items other than those seized last week.

"We'll have more of these answers down the line," she said.

The case has attracted widespread attention. Reporters from the British Broadcast Corp. and staff from television shows such as "Hard Copy" and "Inside Edition" have inquired.

But Howard Levinson, a certified protection professional based in Massachusetts, said the case does not surprise him. All sorts of people — rich and poor — take advantage of the system, he said.

"It's not unusual, but it's a rare twist," Levinson said. "It's a little shocking that it was done in a personal nature, but is that really any different than an affluent attorney's wife returning something to a store that she's used for two years?"

According to the Minnesota Retail Merchants Association, shoplifters steal about \$817,000 worth of merchandise every day from retail stores around the state.

And Levinson said every American consumer pays \$300 a year in increased prices because of shoplifting.

And so this is Christmas...

Parents hunt for Elmo, Santa loses her job, and donations to the Salvation Army fall

Search for Elmo furious

MILWAUKEE (AP) - Moms and dads across Wisconsin this Christmas are searching frantically for a cute, furry doll named Elmo who giggles when his tummy is pressed.

The cute creature is giggling all right — all the way to the bank.

Tyco's Tickle Me Elmo is red hot this Christmas, and many parents are not likely to get the toy before Dec. 25.

"It's the hottest thing in years," says Raili Filion, public relations coordinator for Kay-Bee Toys, which operates 1,100 stores across the United States and Puerto Rico, including five in the Milwaukee area.

The battery-operated toy, which sells for an average of \$29.99, is so sought after this holiday season that stores in Milwaukee and across the country are sold out. Kay-Bee, Toys R Us, Kohl's Department Stores and Target are all telling their customers the same sad story: Too late.

"I wanted to get one myself but they're all gone," laments Antoinette McBee, a clerk in the toy department at the Kohl's Department Store in Bayshore Mall, where they have been fielding an average of 20 calls a day from would-be customers.

The Target store at North Ridge Shopping Center actually had dozens for sale on the morning after Thanksgiving. "They were gone after the first half-hour," says Deb Sobczak, guest service manager.

The problem is that Tyco, the nation's No. 3 toy maker, anticipated selling 350,000 of the raspy-voiced Sesame Street character who giggles and shakes when you press his fuzzy red belly. Demand has been three times that.



What's the big deal?

"He giggles and it's real cute," says McBee.

Adds Filion: "I fell in love with it the first time I saw it. I even bought one for myself. They are very cuddly. He laughs, which makes you laugh."

There might not be a lot of laughing Christmas morning when children find an Elmo-less pile of toys beneath the tree this year. None of the major Milwaukee toy stores expected to get a shipment before Dec. 25.

The news is decidedly better for seekers of Nintendo 64, the season's other

hot-selling item. That game, which retails for \$199.99, likely will be available before Christmas, albeit in limited supply, says Filion.

Toys relating to movies are doing very well, toy sellers say, including anything related to "101 Dalmatians," "Toy Story" or "Space Jam."

Barbie, the buxom perennial favorite, continues her love affair with the public as she creaks toward middle age.

"Barbie always does well," says Sobczak.

Bless her little plastic heart.

Female Santa loses job after complaints

KINGSTON, N.Y. (AP) — Could Santa Claus be a bearded lady?

The jolly old elf was a woman in red at the Hudson Valley Mall - until someone complained.

Frances Cauldwell of Red Hook said Friday that she was fired at the end of her Thursday shift after a week on the job in Kingston, 50 miles south of Albany. Seems mall management had gotten wind of a call to a radio talk show from a woman saying it was disgraceful to have a female Santa.

Cauldwell, who played the Easter Bunny at the mall this spring, was employed by North Pole Photos, also known as Just Santas, a Pennsylvania company that runs mall photo concessions.

"The ad didn't say you had to be a man," said the 49-year-old retired nurse. "They didn't anticipate a problem when they hired me."

Jim Elliman, general manager of the mall, said the mall's customer service booth as well as the radio show had received complaints about a female Santa. But he said the mall didn't fire Cauldwell.

"It's an issue between North Pole Photo and their employee," he said.

Cauldwell said her female supervisor at the mall told her she couldn't work there any more. But the owner of North Pole Photos called her later and said the supervisor was out of line, she said, and offered the job back. She hasn't decided whether she'll take it.

Wisconsin giving to Salvation Army down 50 percent

WAUSAU (AP) — Donations to the Salvation Army's Christmas fund-raiser are down 50 percent from a year ago, in part because some major retailers balked at bell ringers outside their stores.

By Friday, all 17 red kettle sites were staffed, but the two-week delay in getting kettles outside three stores probably cost the nonprofit agency \$11,000 to \$15,000, Capt. Ron Lemirand said Friday.

In the case of two Shopko stores, it took personal lobbying at corporate headquarters in Green Bay to allow the kettles again this year, but only beginning Nov. 29, the day after Thanksgiving, Lemirand said.

Sheree Olson, a Shopko spokeswoman in Green Bay, said the corporation has worked with the Salvation Army to establish a schedule for bell ringers that also allows "us to be fair to the dozens of other charitable organizations" that want to raise funds or conduct other activities at stores this time of year.

"It is a difficult schedule to juggle at best," Olson said.

A few days delay in getting a kettle in front of Sam's Club was due to a communications snafu, Lemirand said.

The Salvation Army has set up red kettles and bell ringers outside stores for holiday season donations for 100 years, Lemirand said.

The Wausau Salvation Army has raised about \$49,000 of its \$279,000 goal since the donation drive began Nov. 8, Capt. Carol Lemirand said.

By this time a year ago, about \$98,000 had been collected in the form of donations to the homeless shelter and from kettle collections, mail appeals and other sources, she said.

The goal in donations to the kettles is \$114,000, she said. So far, about \$24,000 has been given.

History shows that when economic times are good, collections can fall because people seem less sensitive to the needs of the poor, given that finding a job is less difficult, Lemirand said.

U.S. weapons plutonium may be used as fuel

H. JOSEF HEBERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Hoping to pressure Russia to step up its destruction of weapons-grade plutonium, the Clinton administration on Monday embraced using U.S. plutonium in commercial nuclear power plants.

The decision ignited controversy over whether the administration, which has stressed nuclear material non-proliferation, is sending the world the wrong message by blurring the

separation of military and civilian nuclear programs.

U.S. Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, with White House and Defense officials by her side, said a dual-track of both burning plutonium in commercial reactors as fuel and encasing it in glass for burial presents the best approach to reducing the plutonium stockpile worldwide.

The disposal was estimated to cost \$2.3 billion.

"Today's action will reduce global nuclear danger," O'Leary told a news conference. She said by showing the

United States is ready not only to store the plutonium in glass, but also burn it up as commercial fuel "we will ensure that surplus plutonium is never again used for nuclear weapons."

The Russians have expressed concern with U.S. negotiators that if the United States decides to dispose of its excess plutonium by encasing it in glass — or vitrification — it would be too easily retrievable. Therefore, they have been reluctant to move aggressively to destroy their plutonium stockpile.

But critics of the Department of En-

ergy dual-track approach said Tuesday it could open the door to nuclear fuel reprocessing, which was abandoned in the United States in the 1970s. O'Leary disagreed, saying the plan calls for destroying plutonium not producing it.

"It's downright dangerous from a proliferation standpoint," said Paul Leventhal, president of the Nuclear Control Institute, a private anti-proliferation advocacy group. "It's a way to accommodate the Russians. The U.S. got rolled on this one."

SPORTS

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Chad Urdahl

Sports figures offer resolutions for '97



Some people in the world of sports wish to change their ways for the coming year.

The year is coming to a close, and the *Student Voice* office has been receiving New Year's resolutions from people in the world of sports. Here's an offering of what we have gotten.

A. Belle, Chicago: I resolve to not act like I have more cork in my head than I have in my bat. I won't throw baseballs at people anymore, unless that goofball basketball player with colored hair gets too close.

A. Modell, Cleveland Baltimore: I promise to leave the Ravens in Baltimore instead of being such a greedy old wanker. I heard Cleveland is tearing down the Browns' old stadium, and I felt Sorry. Sorry is my dog, and he just brushed against my leg.

D. Woog, Minneapolis: I resolve to be greedy like Mr. Modell and keep my money in my own pockets.

National Hockey League Players Association, New York: As a union, we hereby resolve to rid our league of Ulf Samuelsson. That jerk who is known for playing dirty and has ended at least two careers prematurely needs to go. Mr. Domi and Mr. Kamensky had the right idea in sucker-punching Ulfie. Let's see what a bounty does.

D. Rodman, Chicago: As we enter 1997, I swear to always wear matching stockings with my skirts. I know that in the past I haven't always matched properly, and that's why Michael says he doesn't like me. I think he's just jealous because I look better in a wedding dress.

L. Holtz, South Bend (at last report): I'm making a resolution to remain in the reality that I'm a college coach.

D. Talafous, Anchorage: After moving to Alaska from Wisconsin, I wanted to show the locals how to milk a cow. The thing is, the huge white cows up here have really big teeth and are much meaner than yours, no matter how nice they look in soda commercials. I resolve to never milk an Alaskan cow again.

E. Smith, Dallas: I hereby swear to come clean with a little-known fact about the Cowboys. Mr. Lett wasn't diving to recover the ball when he made that bonehead play against Miami a couple of years ago. He mistakenly thought the snow on the field was another white substance and wanted to get all he could before Mr. Irvin got in the action.

D. Green, Minneapolis: I resolve to become the "new sheriff in town" that I said I was going to be when I first came here. Are there any openings in the Hennepin County Sheriff's Dept.?

UW-RF men's basketball managers: We promise to allow ample driving time so we can be careful with Mr. Bowen's car. One word of advice for you winter travellers: Basketballs in the car make great air-bags.

J. O'Grady, UW-River Falls: I am making a New Year's resolution by buying a Christmas present for UW-La Crosse. I'm gonna buy those suckers a dome so we never have to play in the 100 yards of goose grease they call a field again.

Major League Soccer: As we head into our second season, we resolve to score some goals this season. Our first year was tough financially, and not having to hire a scorekeeper helped. We just hope someone resolves to care about us.

B. Johnson, Minneapolis: Since I finally got to prove myself as an NFL quarterback, I can quit my dirty little tricks. I resolve to quit sneaking into Mr. Moon's bedroom at night and beating his ankles with a crow bar so I can play. If he wasn't such a sound sleeper, I never would have gotten in the lineup.

R. Alomar, Baltimore: I resolve to put my spitting prowess to good use. Department stores use live mannequins, so why not a live fountain at Oriole Park? Kaufmann Stadium in Kansas City has nice fountains, but wait until you see me work. It'll give me something to do during my suspension next season.

K. Strug, USA: I'm making a resolution to enter mime school. My voice is so annoying I can't stand to hear it myself. Sorry it took so long.

C. Urdahl, River Falls: I hereby resolve to quit writing columns that make me appear to be more screwed-up than a ceiling fan. Not.

Falcon women lose their touch... their third straight game

ANDREA REITTER
UW-RF SPORTS INFORMATION

The next few weeks will be a rebuilding stage for the women's basketball team. The Falcons have until December 29th to pull together to be the threat they were in their first tournament.

Last Thursday, the women hosted the University of Minnesota - Morris, and the Cougars left with feathers in their mouths. Morris led the game from the start, not letting the Falcons into the game. In the second half, the Falcons caught a little fire, and got some quick shots to fall. Jessica Green led the team in steals with 8, and Kelly Rambow followed with 6.

Unfortunately, the few points fastbreaks provided were not enough for the Falcons to grab a lead. The game came down to shooting, and UM-Morris was hot, while River Falls was not. The Cougars shot 46 percent, while the Falcons hit only 28 percent.

The Falcons were led in scoring by Missy Johnson with 20 points, 7 rebounds, and 2 steals, and Becky Schley with 15 points, 11 rebounds, 2 assists, and 4 steals. Cougars Rhonda Heuer, Sanid DeJager, Kim Loughry, and Anna Townsend scored in double-figures, contributing to the Falcon loss, 70-56.

Saturday night, the Falcons traveled to Eau Claire for their first conference game, and did not return with good news. Schley led the offense with 11 points, and Lynn Sticha provided 8 points. The Blugolds' Kelly Felmlee, Erika Schmidt, and Morgan Green responded with 10, 11, and 12 points respectively. The Falcons' 35 percent shooting did not compare to the Blugold's 53 percent. Eau Claire also out rebounded River Falls by 11. The Falcon's efforts fell short when the Blugold's won, 87-47.

December 29th, the team travels to



The Falcons' Amanda Krosch moves the ball up the court during the team's 70-56 loss to UM-Morris.

Orlando, Florida to meet up with Messiah and North Central. Tournaments are nicer to the Falcons, and

maybe the warmer weather will provide for a better winning ground.

Niaomi Runge Photo

Frodl, Gustafson are all-American

UW-RF
SPORTS INFORMATION

Jen Frodl and Cara Gustafson have both been named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association all-American first team after their play in the 1996 season.

Frodl finished the season with a team-high 475 kills and a .305 hitting percentage. She had 39 solo blocks and a team-high 120 block assists.

The middle hitter holds several school records. She finished third in season kills (475, 1996), fourth in season games (151, 1995), third in season kill percentage (.305, 1996).

Frodl also finished first in season block assists (138, 1995), third in career games (443), third in career kills (1,094), fifth in career kill attempts (2,578), third in career kill percentage (.276), first in career blocks (427) and first in career block assists (323).

Gustafson finished with 422 kills and a team-high .322 hitting percentage. She had a team-high 44 service aces and 305 digs.

She led the team with 42 solo blocks and 90 block assists. The middle hitter also holds several school records including first in season games (153, 1995), fifth in season kills (437, 1995), first in season kill percentage (.322, 1996), first in season blocks (43, 1995), second in season block assists (126, 1995).

Gustafson is fifth in career games (415), fourth in career kills (1,036), first in career kill percentage (.301), fifth in career aces (139), second in career blocks (403) and second in career block assists (292).

Frodl and Gustafson are the first two Falcons to be named to the first all-America team. Gustafson was named to the second team in 1995.

Both were named to the first all-WWIAC team this fall.

Gymnasts beat Stout

ERIC DAHLBERG
UW-RF SPORTS INFORMATION

Smith Barney may have made his money the old fashioned way, by earning it. Well, when it came to the Falcon gymnastics meet against UW-Stout they earned it as well.

The Falcons came away from the meet with an 122.5 to 119.65 victory over the Blue Devils.

"It was kind of an off night," said Falcon coach Jean DeLisle. "We didn't have a real strong night, but I happy with the victory."

Helping the Falcon cause again was the experience of senior of Randi Deal. The senior standout finished the meet with a 31.2 all-around score. Deal also finished the meet with a 7.75 on vault, 7.5 bars. She also tallied 7.85 on beam and 8.1 on floor exercise.

Other Falcon standouts include Michelle Becker and Carmen Preuit. Becker finished was season best on the vault with an 8.7. Preuit also posted a season best with a respectable 7.9 on vault.

Becker's effort earned her gymnast of the week honors for the Falcons.

"Michelle (Becker) had a great meet outside of bars," DeLisle said. "She had a good meet overall. Her strongest effort was on floor."

Becker finished a 8.55 floor score. Nicole Walters also improved with a 7.35 on vault. Walters also finished the meet with a 6.85 on beam.

The Falcons (2-0) take on Oshkosh Jan. 18 at 1 p.m.

Gymnast of the week Michelle Becker (Fr. Fairbault, Minn.) had a solid meet against Stout. She finished with an impressive 8.55 on floor and an all around of 30.65.

Hockey splits with Superior; holds NCHA lead
Falcons take 9-1 record into Saturday's game against St. John's

CHAD URDAHL
SPORTS EDITOR

Going into the weekend series with UW-Superior, it looked like the Yellowjackets would be the stiffest test to date for the Falcons.

The Falcons expected it would be a tough pair of games, but after winning 2-0 Friday, the team didn't expect to get embarrassed on its home ice Saturday.

After playing solidly on Friday, the Falcons seemingly could do nothing right the following night.

Losing face offs in the defensive zone, taking bad penalties, giving up a number of odd-man rushes to the Yellowjackets, and poor play on the power play came back to haunt the Falcons as they got pummeled 7-1.

"No excuses, they were a better team on Saturday night," Falcon coach Steve Freeman said. "We've got to get back to work."

According to Freeman, the crushing loss came in-part to a lack of focus by his team.

"Everything that could have gone wrong went wrong," Freeman said. "What bothers me is we really seemed to lose our focus when we were behind 1-0 right away. There was just something missing in our preparation."

After a scoreless first period, which saw Superior outplay the Falcons and outshoot them 16-11, the Yellowjackets erupted for four goals in the second period. Brent Shaback scored the first two goals of the game.

Superior was not done yet. The team scored the first three goals of the third period to run the score to 7-0 before the Falcon power play finally woke up and scored a goal.

Unsuccessful in its first six attempts, the Falcons scored on the power play when a Joe Smaza slap shot from the top of the right circle was redirected by Jeremy Jeannette and beat Superior goalie Dave Graichen at the 18:17 mark of the third period.

Sophomore goalie Brady Alstead had what was his toughest game between the pipes for the Falcons. He was

coming off a shutout over Stout and had posted a 2.25 goals against average prior to Saturday.

"Brady's mentally tough enough to put this game right behind him," Freeman said. "I don't really think you can look at his performance. It was a team performance. You could have had Gump Worsley in the nets and we wouldn't have won last night (Saturday)."

Alstead was bombarded with 48 shots that even would have had the former Minnesota North Star great flinching. Alstead came up with 41 saves.

Graichen made 27 saves for the Yellowjackets in a superb effort. He made a number of stops that changed the complexion of the game, including denying Billy Matzke on a breakaway in the first minute of play.

"Their goaltender was great both nights, even when we beat them," Freeman said. "We probably had three or four breakaways in the game, and we didn't score on any of them. We played so poorly, but if we had taken advantage of some of the breaks they gave us, we still could have been in it."

In Friday's game the Falcons played better and were able to shut down the Yellowjackets in the 2-0 win, holding them to 22 shots.

Joe Smaza scored his sixth goal of the year when his low shot from the bottom of the right circle got by Graichen. The goal came at 6:00 of the first period.

Brian Wilson's power play goal at 11:55 of the second period put the Falcons up 2-0 and capped the scoring.

Brad Nelson's shot from the top of the right circle sailed wide to the right, but caromed off the endboards to Wilson who was camped to the left of the net. Wilson pulled the puck in front of the net and stuffed it into the near side for the goal.

Jeff Heil stopped all 22 Yellowjacket shots, and Graichen stopped 26 Falcon shots.

The Falcons take on St. John's Saturday at Hunt Arena in a 7:05 contest.



Falcon junior forward Mike Schauer holds the puck against UW-Superior as the Yellowjackets' Brent Shaback and Chris Chelios pressure him. UW-S has 11 points in the NCHA standings, to the Falcons' 14.

Niaomi Runge photo

Friday	UW-RF	1	1	0-2
	UW-S	0	0	0-0
First period-1, RF, Joe Smaza 6 (Bryan Benedict, Cort Lundeen), 6:00.				
Second period-2, RF, Brian Wilson 6 (Brad Nelson, Jesse Sampair), 11:55 (pp). Penalties-Holmes, S (high sticking), 11:43; Ryan Alstead, RF (hooking), 12:17; Radtke, S (elbowing), 16:27.				
Third period-no scoring.				
Goalies-RF, Heil (22-22). S, Graichen (28-26). A-842.				

Saturday

UW-RF	0	0	1-1
UW-S	0	4	3-7
First period-Penalties-Friske, S (hooking), 1:52; Ryan Alstead, RF (roughing), 15:12; Mulvey, S (roughing), 1:52.			
Second period-1, S, Brent Shaback (Wiggins, Holmes), 2:24. 2, S, Shaback (Holmes), 14:59. 3, S, Boyd (Brian Barker), 16:32. 4, S, Brian Barker (Hovland), 19:25 (pp). Penalties-Randy Barker, S (trip), 3:03; Friske, S (cross checking), 8:09; Mulvey, S (boarding), 10:51; Boyd, S (tripping), 16:55; Ryan Alstead, RF (interference, spearing, disqualification), 19:11.			
Third period-5, S, Fahl (Brian Barker, Wiggins), 1:23 (pp). 6, S, Boyd (Brian Barker), 9:52. 7, S, Garver (Randy Barker), 14:16. 8, RF, Jeannette (Sampair, Smaza), 18:17. Penalties-Boyd, S (high sticking), 5:39; Bachinski, RF (holding), 12:13; Boyd, S (elbowing, roughing), 17:37; Carlstrom, RF (roughing), 17:37; Gripenberg, RF (holding), 19:13.			
Goalies-RF, Alstead (48-41). S, Graichen (28-27). A-620.			

U of M seeks new football coach

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—A new head football coach won't be chosen until the University of Minnesota names a new president.

"We won't make any effort to hire a coach until the new president is named, as expected, on Friday," McKinley Boston, vice president for student affairs and athletics, said Monday.

The announcement comes after Bob Stoops turned the Gophers down for the head coaching job. Stoops, the defensive coordinator at No. 3 Florida, interviewed at Minnesota and toured the football facilities Sunday.

"After returning to Gainesville and discussing it with my family, we have determined that this is not the right situation for both parties at this time," Stoops said in a news release issued through Minnesota's men's athletic department.

Men's athletic director Mark Dienhart said in a statement that he was disappointed that Stoops turned down the position.

Said Boston: "We think there are a lot of quality people still out there. I am told that the interview Mark and (assistant athletic director) Jeff Schemmel had with Marc Trestman went very well. Even though Bob Stoops decided to stay at Florida, it doesn't mean we won't get an outstanding coach."

Stoops is believed to have turned down a contract that would have paid him up to \$600,000, including incentives. The position was vacated when Jim Wacker resigned at the end of football season.

Stoops was the second coach to visit the university. Washington State coach Mike Price was in town last Tuesday,

but withdrew as a candidate Sunday.

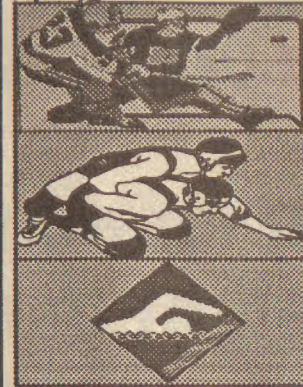
On Friday, Dienhart traveled to Denver to talk to Colorado State coach Sonny Lubick, and to San Francisco to meet with Trestman, a former Gophers player who is offensive coordinator for the San Francisco 49ers.

Louisville coach Ron Cooper, Notre Dame offensive coordinator Dave Roberts and Nebraska assistant head coach Frank Solich also are believed to be candidates.

Northern Iowa coach Terry Allen and athletic director Chris Retrievi said reports that Allen was a candidate were not true.

"I've heard the rumors about Minnesota for the better part of the week," Retrievi said. "I have not heard from (Dienhart), but if Mark would call and want to talk to Terry, I certainly would give him permission to."

FALCON SPORTS CALENDAR



	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.
		St. John's 7:05 p.m.					
		at Wartburg Invitational		at Stout 7:00 p.m.			
		Luther 1:00 p.m.					

La Crosse misses shot at football repeat

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Bill Borchert passed for three touchdowns and ran for another to lead Mount Union to a 39-21 NCAA Division III semifinal victory Saturday over defending champion Wisconsin-La Crosse.

Mount Union (13-0) advances to the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl Dec. 14 in Salem, Va., against Rowan, which defeated Lycoming 31-14 in the other semifinal.

Backup quarterback Rob Slavens combined with Brandon Hall for an

81-yard touchdown play in the third quarter, and Mike Bechtel ran 12 yards for a touchdown as La Crosse (11-2) closed within 36-21 with 10:26 remaining. Mount Union wrapped up the scoring with Bill Andrea's second field goal from 21 yards.

La Crosse took a 7-0 lead on a 1-yard run by Ryan Shaver in the first quarter. Mount Union, averaging nearly 48 points per game this season, was held scoreless until the final seconds of the first half when Borchert threw a

30-yard touchdown pass to Darrin Kershner.

The Purple Raiders scored 26 points in the third quarter. Borchert ran one yard for a touchdown, then had scoring passes of six yards to Marc Lantos and 27 yards to Reiko Gollate. Mount Union's final touchdown came on a 48-yard interception return by Jason Hall. Borchert finished the game with 317 yards passing, completing 23 of 39 attempts. He also rushed for 86 yards in 18 carries.

Men snap losing streak at three

JIM LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

The Falcons opened the WSUC portion of their schedule on Saturday, Dec. 7 with an outstanding performance against one of the conference favorites, the Eau Claire Blugolds.

The Falcons shot a dazzling 59 percent from the field and 64 percent from the three point line while only turning the ball over nine times.

Unfortunately, as well as the Falcons played, Eau Claire seemed to play just one notch better and got out of Karges Center with a 79-78 defeat of the Falcons.

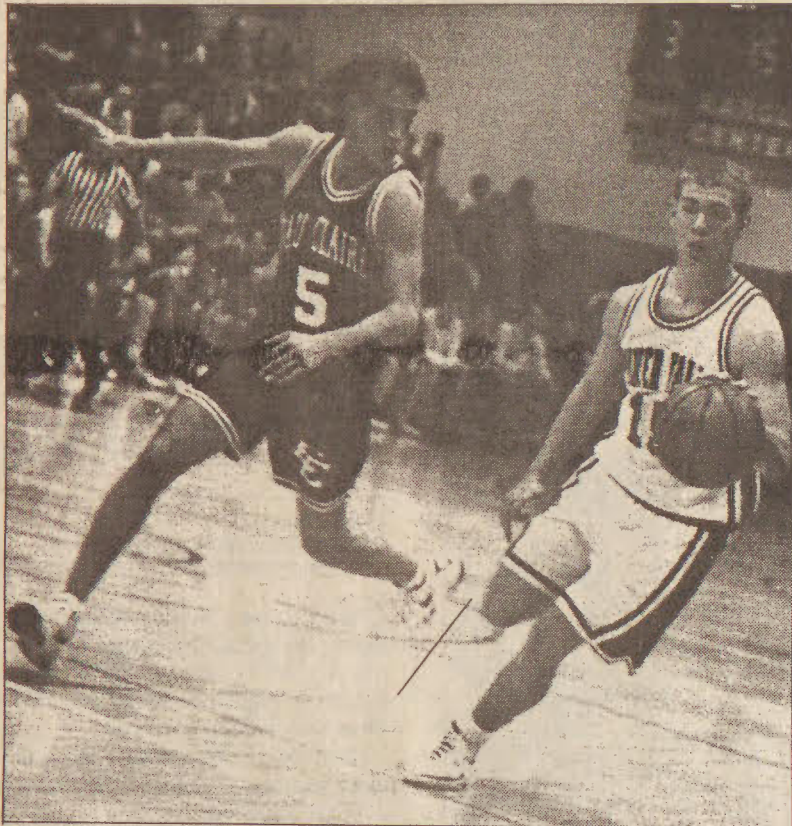
"We did everything but win the ballgame," said head coach Rick Bowen. "We played a great game and got beat."

The Blugolds countered the hot hands of the Falcons with exceptional shooting of their own. They shot 65 percent from both the field and the three point line.

The Falcons never trailed in the first half and went to the locker room with a 39-34 advantage. However, it was Blugold guard Andy Fisher's sixth three point shot of the night with less than 30 seconds remaining that put the Blugolds ahead for good. The Falcons were able to get two more shots off in the final seconds but neither would find the bottom of the net.

Junior guard Chad Meschke had another great game for the Falcons and ended up with 22 points. Junior center Matt Chitwood added 16 points to go with seven rebounds and junior forward Adam Cooper was 4-6 from three point range and ended up with 14 points.

After three straight losses the Falcons men's basketball team got just what they needed with a 85-76 home



Freshman Falcon guard Cory Berseth moves the ball up the floor against UW-Eau Claire in a 79-78 loss to the Blugolds.

win over Hamline on Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The Falcons enjoyed a comfortable 37-24 lead at the half but a Hamline full court press enabled them to tie the game at 59 with 8:40 remaining in the game. Hamline would soon take the lead but a three pointer by Jason Beeler with 4:08 remaining put the Falcons ahead for good at 72-70. Chad Meschke's three pointer with 30 seconds left sealed the victory for the Falcons.

Junior center Matt Chitwood had a huge game for the Falcons. He shot 13-16 from the field and converted on 10-13 free throw attempts for a career high 36 points. Chitwood also snagged 11 rebounds along the way. Junior Guard Chad Meschke also had a big game with 26 points.

The win puts the Falcons at 4-3 for the season. The team is off until they host the Cenex Land O'Lakes tournament on Dec. 29 and 30.

Nieomi Runge photo

FALCON PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

HOCKEY: Forward Cort Lundeen had a solid weekend defensively for the Falcons as they split a pair with Superior. "Cort had a great weekend of playing defense which is an important part of our game," Coach Steve Freeman said.

SWIMMING: Women- Melissa Hill recorded career bests in all of the events she swam, including the relays. Men- Brian Kuehne is closing out his Falcon swimming career with style. He set a pool record in the 100 back and won the 200 back as well.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Guard Chad Meschke had another great week for the Falcons. His strongest performance occurred in the loss to Eau Claire when he scored 22 points on 7-14 shooting.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Forward Becky Schley had two solid games for the Falcons last week. Against UM-Morris she had nine points, seven rebounds, three steals and an assist. She added 11 points and two rebounds against Eau Claire.

GYMNASTICS: Michelle Becker had a solid meet against Stout. She finished with a 8.55 on the floor and an impressive 30.65 all-around.

REINDEER RACING: In the Pre-Christmas trials, Kris Kringle set a rooftop record when he edged the Grinch in the chimney-to-satellite dish relay. Next up for Kringle is the world-wide meet the night of Dec. 24.

Swimmers make a splash at Oshkosh

ERIC BRANDEL
SPORTS EDITOR

When the UW-River Falls Swim Teams saw their schedule at the beginning of the season, they set their sights on the Oshkosh Invitational Dec. 5 and 6 as a meet where they could leave their mark.

The strategy appeared to work as the well-rested Falcons both swam to season-best finishes last week.

The Falcon Men finished second to an Eau Claire team that swam away from the rest of the field. The final point totals were Eau Claire 740, River Falls 374, Oshkosh 347, and Whitewater 300.

Brian Kuehne set a pool record in the 100 back, and won the 200 back as well.

The team showed their depth by taking the runner-up position in three of the four relays swam.

For the Falcon Women, a 342 point total and third place finish was the result of the meet. Eau Claire won this meet as well, with a total of 700.5, followed by Oshkosh at 636.5. Whitewater brought up the rear with 71 points.

Melissa Hill set lifetime-bests in all of her events. She finished second in the 100 and 200 back and was a member of the 200 and 400 medley relay teams which finished third. Rebecca Nash won the 400 IM and teamed with Hill, Chrissy Quinlan and Tina Anderson on the 400 medley relay.

The Falcons next meet is Saturday against Luther at 1 p.m.. The meet will feature the unveiling of a brand new scoreboard at Karges Pool.

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Chancellor/ Leave is first-ever granted by System President

From 1A

Although Thibodeau will remain in contact with UW-RF officials during his leave, and keep up to date on "Reach for the Future," the university's five-year plan to reallocate funds across campus programs, it won't be on a daily basis, he said. He is confident, however, that the university will continue to operate smoothly during his six-month leave.

"There is no question about it, otherwise I wouldn't be contemplating this," he said. "I feel very, very comfortable with taking the leave from campus."

Milam and Nylander are "seasoned, experienced leaders," Thibodeau said, and should be able to tackle any arising obstacles.

"The three of us, as a cabinet, have worked very, very closely together," he said.

Nylander said the workload will increase for both vice chancellors, but students and faculty shouldn't see changes in university operations.

"I just don't anticipate (problems) happening at all," Nylander said. "It's going to be challenging, but nothing I can see as insurmountable in any way."

Nylander said Thibodeau, in his 12th

year as chancellor of UW-RF, deserves this opportunity.

"This will be a nice break for him," he said.

Lyall said she wasn't sure if she will grant any other UW chancellors leaves such as this in the future.

Although his experience will be missed during his leave because he is the senior chancellor in the UW-System, Milam and Nylander will adequately fill the chancellor's shoes, she said.

"It's because (Thibodeau) is such a strong chancellor that we can let him do this for a semester," Lyall said. "UW-River Falls is really a together place. It will continue to move forward in his absence."

Several rumors circulating among UW-RF students and faculty claim this may be Thibodeau's chance to seek a more prominent position in the UW-System; however, both he and Lyall deny those rumors.

"This is not a transition for me to any other status," he said. "It is what it should be - activities that should benefit this campus and the (UW) System. I'll be back."

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