



Men's basketball ends 18-game losing streak vs. UW-SP
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Team loses coach, leader, friend



Following a hockey banquet, Mickey Keating (center) hugs long-time friends and fellow hockey coaches Bob Ritzer (left) and Steve Freeman (right).

Rachel Gaynor
Offbeat Editor

The UW-River Falls men's hockey team lost more than just a coach when 72-year-old assistant coach, Mickey Keating, died Jan. 19. They lost a mentor and a friend. "Mickey provided hope, inspiration, faith and direction," said former Falcon head coach, Dean Talafous. Keating spent the last 10 years with the Falcon hockey program but had an impressive hockey career that brought a lot to UW-RF. Keating played in the Montreal Canadian organization for 12 seasons and served as a scout for the National Hockey League. He was the general manager and coach for the Flin Flon Bombers in the Western Hockey League and was a referee in the International Hockey League.

On the ice and off, Keating lived hockey. He wrote books on hockey and how it related to life. He used examples from hockey to relate to life and tried to instill this in the players and the coaches. He went to every practice and game he could and always had something to tell the players and coaches. Every day he would hand the coach a list of things he wanted to say. Sometimes they would be on breakfast placemats. He had so much to say, he couldn't say it all so he had to write it down, said Talafous and head coach Steve Freeman. Each Thursday before practice he talked to the players about the upcoming games and practices. The team valued the time Keating spent with them. "It was a pleasure to see him every day," said head coach Steve Freeman. "You could be down in the dumps or frustrated. Mickey

focused on the solution, not the problems." Keating would bring things he had prepared that he spent a lot of time on, like handouts. Everyone listened to what he had to say. "The locker room was never that quiet except when Mickey was there," said senior co-captain Rob Novak. "He'd bring us together as a team—it was like therapy." Many of his discussions with the team were not about hockey. He spoke to the players about having confidence on and off the ice. "He talked a lot about self-esteem and how to carry yourself with your head up, with confidence, not being cocky," Novak said. "And how your posture makes you come across and feel more confident on and off the ice." Keating had an impact on so many lives, including Talafous'. Talafous has known Keating since 1974. Keating helped sign him to two professional teams and sent letters and notes to him when Talafous coached in Alaska. "Two days didn't go by that he didn't get his two cents in," Talafous said. "He had so much knowledge and experience. To have him by your side was a tremendous help." Keating was big on caring about teammates and looking out for one another. He said he could read a newspaper during practice and tell if it was a good or a bad practice just by listening to how the players were talking to each other, Freeman said. Keating was very good at evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of players. Keating tried to stay sharp even through the last stages of his cancer. He would read three books at a time and be able to keep the different characters and plots separate. "He always read the New York Times and underlined the important stuff in sports (for me) and always did the crossword puzzles," Freeman said. "He loved his hockey players," said his wife of 26 years, Corrine Keating. "Hockey was something he loved to do. He played, he coached, he reffed, he did it all." Many players and coaches have worked with Keating, who shared something with each of them. Keating once told Freeman

See KEATING, A6

Governor, Legislature raid funds

Mike Longaeker
Front Page Editor

Money carefully budgeted by UW-River Falls administrators and set aside for specific funds is gone, courtesy of the Wisconsin state legislature and Governor Jim Doyle. Although campus administrators had known about the budget raids since late last year, they're now trying to come to grips with the reality of lost funds. "It seemed like we were being punished for managing [money] wisely," said Gordon Hedahl, dean of the college of Arts and Sciences. "The goal of providing financial aid is a sound one, but the way they went about collecting it is not fair to students." Over the next two years, UW-RF must turn over \$912,522 to the state to cover financial aid expenses. The auxiliary(128) accounts housing the funds were set up to pay for course supplies, activities, equipment and special course fees. Other 128 accounts set up to pay for anything from fast copy services to furniture for the new residence hall have also been swallowed up by the state. "It's not pretty," said interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Mary Halada. The total amount raided from all UW campuses was about \$26 million. Dan Leistikow, the governor's press secretary, said the decision to take money from state uni-

versities to pay for student financial aid wasn't an easy one. "There were a number of measures taken to make government operate more efficiently," Leistikow said. "It's part of a broad solution to a very difficult problem that the governor inherited." The state averaged five different categories of funding and enrollment, then distributed the bills to each UW campus based on each institution's percentage of the average distribution. "I'm not a legislator, but my guess is that they got down to the point where they needed \$26 million, and they saw it, and they took—because it seemed like an easy fix," Halada said. "I'm sure they have to balance a whole lot of things, but we get rather possessive of our own money." Residential Services and Food Service will take the brunt of the cuts—totaling \$569,639 over the next two years. Student Senate president Matt Schuelke said student organizations will not be affected by the raids—at least not this year. "About a thousand dollars were taken from the Student Senate auxiliary account to block any of these cuts from reaching student organizations this year. This means that no student organization will suffer from these cuts this academic year," Schuelke said. "However, next year we are looking at a bill of almost three thousand. This may mean a hit

See RAIDS, A6

Mayor pleads no contest

Tiffany Shelman
Editor

City of River Falls Mayor Eric Amundsen pleaded no contest Jan. 16 to a Pierce County charge of disorderly conduct. A jury trial was avoided when Amundsen entered his plea to the lesser charge. The original Class B misdemeanor, which carried a possible fine up to \$1,000 and 90 days in jail, stemmed from a verbal confrontation between City Council Member Tom Parent and Amundsen on Main Street Feb. 3, 2003. Amundsen was found guilty by Judge John Damon of the lesser charge and ordered to pay \$225 to the county within 60 days. In an unrelated case, a jury found Amundsen not guilty of battery after admittedly hitting a college student in a downtown alley fight in October 2002. Amundsen will not be running for re-election this spring.



Eric Amundsen

New general education proposal must pass through Faculty Senate

Proposed changes would go into effect in fall 2005

Dave Misselt
Staff Writer

In December the UW-River Falls general education subcommittee proposed changing the current general education requirements to the Academic Programs and Policy Committee (AP&P). Since then, the five-part plan was approved by the AP&P and is scheduled to take effect fall semester 2005. The proposed changes will only concern incoming freshmen and first-time transfer students. Faculty Senate must give its go-ahead prior to implementing the new requirements. This may be a challenge because some Faculty Senators are questioning the need to scrap the current general education program and completely start over. "I don't think that change for change's sake is appropriate," said Sen. Glenn Potts of the economics department. "I have questions about the new program." According to a General Education Assessment Report by the AP&P, changes to the general education program will include a reduction in general education credits from 41 to 38.

The science requirement will also be reduced from three courses to two. The literature component will be replaced with a reading and a writing course. In addition, global perspective and ethical citizenship multidisciplinary requirements will take the place of the current senior capstone courses. Some senators are concerned over the elimination of the sophomore literature requirement. "To get a degree without a literature course taught by trained English department faculty is not good for students," Potts said. Others are questioning the ambiguity of the new math requirement. There is some confusion over whether or not math will remain a general education course. Faculty Senate Chair David Trechter said the math requirement would remain. Supporters of the new program point to definite improvements created by the new requirements. General education courses will need to have specifically identified outcomes and instructors must justify the need for them. Instructors will also be required to implement a system to measure how well students are learning.

One example would be to give students a pre-test at the beginning of the semester and compare the results with a test given at semester's end. If there is no significant improvement in the understanding of the subject matter, the course will have to be reevaluated by a general education committee of the Senate. Every five years, all general education courses will be evaluated for effectiveness. This could result in the elimination of courses deemed substandard by the Senate committee. "The committee has done a really good job of taking in input from instructors," Trechter said. "The new requirements satisfy a broad range of fields and educational needs." Program supporters say the new assessment criteria will ensure courses are improved or eliminated. Students will also benefit by having a clear understanding of performance expectations placed on them by their instructors. One impetus for the new program was a realization by educators that there needed to be a concrete assessment criteria to measure the success of general education courses, said Faculty Senator Dennis Cooper, animal and food science

professor. "The current system is pretty ordinary," Cooper said. "General education is dynamic and change is needed." By using the new system students will be better able to merge skills with course material and they will have more of an opportunity to link general education courses with their major, supporters said. Another concern some instructors have is how this change will impact ever-shrinking resources. Larger class sizes and fewer professors are stretching an already strained system. Some fear the increased workload caused by implementing the new requirements will only exacerbate shortages and, in the end, hurt students. UW-RF Provost Ginny Coombs emphasized the administration's philosophy during the Jan. 29 Senate meeting. "Do no harm to the student during the transition to the new system," Coombs said. "We have to be flexible." Many Senate members want to see the new proposal approved as soon as possible in order to meet the fall 2005 deadline. Others don't agree. "This University will be here after 2005," Potts said. "I don't think the calendar should dictate our actions. Let's make sure we do it right." A representative from the Student Senate is present on the general educa-

See GENERALS, A6

New smoking ban creates 25-foot puffer zone

Ryan Cardinal
Assistant Sports Editor

As UW-River Falls students and staff make mad dashes to building entrances to escape the bitter cold, they can catch their breath a bit easier now, thanks to the new 25-foot smoke-free radius around all campus buildings. The new rule was signed by UW-RF Chancellor Ann Lydecker in November, and went into effect last January. The idea was brought about by the University Committee on Health and Wellness, who had been working on a radius plan for some time. On Nov. 20,

2003, coinciding with the American Cancer Society's (ACS) Great American Smokeout day, Lydecker approved the proposal. "The Committee thought this would be a good way to help nonsmokers avoid contact with secondhand smoke," Lydecker said. According to the 2002 UW-RF College Tobacco Survey, 84 percent of those surveyed don't smoke, while 93.2 percent wish to be protected from secondhand smoke. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, secondhand smoke is a known cause of lung cancer. Before implementing the rec-

ommendation, Lydecker instructed Dean of Students Roger Ballou to take notes at open forums held last November to gather students' opinions. "From what I witnessed, most people were in favor of the radius, although there were voices to be heard from each side," Ballou said. "The most vocal people were those who live in residence halls near windows." UW-RF student Jon Barclay, a smoker, said he doesn't have a problem with the decision. "I can understand a nonsmoker's right not to want to be around smoke and I respect that," Barclay said. Lydecker and UW-RF Campus

Tobacco Education Coordinator Jennifer Elsesser said there will be no strict enforcement of the policy; students will just be on the "honor system." "I have no reason to believe that people won't respect the policy," Lydecker said. "People here [at UW-RF] care and respect one another and you'll see that as time goes on." Elsesser said the Committee on Health and Wellness may reward students who obey the radius. "We've talked about handing out gift certificates, candy, or things like that when we see someone smoking outside the



Kelly Commerford, freshman, stands less than 25-feet from Parker Hall's front door.

See SMOKING, A6

BRIEFS

Drama Club presents Vagina Monologues

Vagina Monologues will be performed Feb. 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the North Hall Auditorium. Cost is \$3 for students.

History Club gathering

The History Club invites students for a night of bowling at Bud's Lanes on Feb. 9 at 4:35 p.m. Cost is \$2.50 per person per game. Contact Tara Bolkathen tbolkathen@uwrf.edu with questions.

Campus hunger and homelessness meeting

Campus and Community Fighting Hunger and Homelessness is having an informational meeting on Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Falcon's room in the Student Center. All students and majors are welcome.

Human Resource Management meeting

The Society for Human Resource Management meeting is Feb. 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Presidents Room in the Student Center.

For more information e-mail abrinavogland@hotmail.com.

Spring graduates

The deadline to apply for spring commencement is Feb. 13. Applications are available in the Registrar's Office at 105 North Hall. There is a \$40 application fee for all graduating seniors. For more information contact Judy George at 425-3581.

Poetry reading

Visiting author Betsy Brown will be reading from her poetry book Feb. 13 at 3:30 p.m. in the Library breezeway. For more information or questions contact Jenny Brantly at jenny.s.brantly@uwrf.edu.

Sledding extravaganza

Join KinniConnections at Hoffman Park Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. for an evening of sledding. Meet at Hoffman Park or in the Leadership Center at 6:45 p.m. to carpool. Anyone is welcome to attend the free event. Sleds, candles and fun provided.

Faculty work displayed in library

During the Month of February, the Davee Library will showcase books, chapters, articles, papers, materials pertinent to successful grant requests and other noteworthy creative work submitted by UW-River Falls faculty and staff. The highlight of the month long celebration of faculty submissions is an all campus reception from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Feb. 24. Refreshments will be provided.

Gay/Straight Alliance

The Gay/Straight Alliance invites all students to attend weekly Tuesday meetings at 7 p.m. in the South Hall Alumni Room.

Radio positions open

Pure Radio 88.7 has several show openings for spring semester 2004. Anyone interested can pick up an application outside the Radio Station in 306 North Hall.

Register for resume referral service

The resume referral service is an online database that UW-RF Career Services uses to connect our students and alumni with employers who are seeking full-time employees. It allows students and alumni to upload their resumes to our database to be sent to employers or school districts who have position vacancies.

Contact Career Services at 425-3572 or more information.

STUDENT SENATE

—Currently Student Senate is working to increase the maximum number of credits students can take before they begin incurring financial penalties. The number of credits is 365 and Senate is looking to increase the number to 385. The possible change will be beneficial to double majors who often exceed the 365 credit limit. Matt Schuelke, Senate president said they are trying to keep the plateau system.

—Senate recently unveiled the Rental Issues Office (RIO). This office can be found by searching the Student Senate Website. RIO features a number of rental properties in the area for students to

check out, links to the housing authority and renters' rights.

—The weekend of March 5 and 6 Student Senate will be hosting "Building Unity." This diversity event will feature workshops, and speakers.

—Also March 5 and 6, Relay for Life, a benefit for cancer research, will be held at River Falls High School.

—Student Affairs Academic Affairs director is working on administering a student survey. The survey will be used to evaluate Student Senate.

—The annual United Council budget is available in the Student Senate Office for students to review.

PUBLIC SAFTEY

Underage drinking citations issued

Anne Cloeter
View Points Editor

- After an RA smelled alcohol in a resident's room in Crabtree Hall Friday, an officer knocked and entered the room. He found Christopher R. Bernsten, 18, lying on his bed. Bernsten was given a Breathalyzer and issued a \$243 citation for underage consumption.

- Steven A. Hoaglund, 20, Alex A. Kransny, 20; Adam E. Malone, 19; Lisa R. Solem, 20; and Samantha A. Bruley, 18, all

received \$243 underage consumption citations in Stratton Hall Saturday.

- An officer was called to Johnson Hall early Sunday morning after an RA reported an allegedly drunk male in the second floor bathroom. The officer went to the resident's room and found empty beer bottles on the floor. Haley T. Saner, 18; Chase A. Carter, 20; and Ryan L. Steelman, 19, were all issued \$243 tickets for underage consumption.

Regional high school students featured in campus art exhibition

Sarah Day
Assistant News Editor

High school students from around the region have their artwork displayed at UW-River Falls in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building.

Susie Zimmer, program assistant for the art department and art gallery, said the high school exhibit is beneficial for students, the University, faculty and alumni relations. The event is used as a recruitment tool for the art department.

"The exhibition enables the art department to stay in contact with the high schools and is an opportunity for the high schools to stay in touch with the University," Zimmer said.

This benefits the art department because it allows them to have contact with high schools for student teacher placement.

The exhibition has been held for the past 30 years and this year's coordinator, Michael Padgett, art department chair, said the show is one of the most important outreach programs for the department.

"The exhibition helps to reconnect the University with regional art teachers and is a good networking tool for us," Padgett said.

He also stressed the benefit of the exhibition for the community.

"A sense of community is shared because of it," Padgett said.

"There is a lot of local interest to see if their high school is represented."

He added that many of the schools' teachers graduated from UW-RF, so staying in contact with them is important for alumni relations.

High schools from both Minnesota and Wisconsin within a 100-mile radius are invited to participate in the exhibition. The high schools are sent packets that include information from admissions, fact sheets on the University and dates of the exhibition. They are also invited to attend the workshop on Feb. 6.

Ten high schools are featured in the exhibition including River Falls, St. Croix Central, Jefferson, White Bear Lake, Ellsworth, Prescott, Apple Valley, Roseville, Stillwater and Black River Falls.

This year 16 high schools with 220 students and 25 instructors participated in the workshop.

The day begins with a welcoming reception in the Blanche Davis theater to meet UW-RF art instructors. Students are then invited to attend the different workshops. There are 12 workshops, from which students choose four. Some of the workshops are hands-on while others are demonstration only. Some workshops include marbling, bead-making, glass blowing and etching.

Every art faculty member is involved with the exhibition, as well as about 30 UW-RF art student volunteers. UW-RF students will help direct the high school students, answer questions, run workshops and put together the packets that are sent out to the high schools.

Katie Hart, a senior art major, has been involved with the show for the past four years. She works in the art department office, helps organize the show and answers questions.



Photo by Teresa Schmitt

Freshman Chelsie Harder examines area high school artwork on display at the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building.

She enjoys being a part of the exhibition. "I enjoy meeting the kids. Most of them ask intelligent questions and a lot of them are very respectful," Hart said. "They seem excited to be here and they want to learn all they can."

Ami Tockman Swerdlick, a senior art major, has been involved with the high school exhibition for the past three years. This year she is teaching the marbling on paper workshop. She says that marbling is a surface design technique from Asia that dates back to the 12th century.

Her workshop is all hands-on. "I enjoy showing kids how to do something they have never done before," Tockman Swerdlick said. "I like to see how excited they get over learning how to do a new technique and feeling good about their accomplishment."

Padgett believes the exhibition has been so popular because it is an opportunity for high school students to have their work displayed in a professional gallery.

"They consider that an honor," Padgett said.

The exhibition runs from Jan. 26 through Feb. 6 in the art gallery on the first floor of KFA. Each high school is allowed to send in three pieces of artwork to be displayed for students and the local community.

Ridley named new CAFES dean

Missouri professor backs out of position before start date

Karyn Nelson
Online Editor

For Stephen Ridley, not much has changed in the last few weeks. He still has the same office and performs the same duties as last semester. But he lost a very significant word in his title: Interim.

As of Jan. 1, Ridley is the new dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES), a position he has held on a temporary basis since William Anderson stepped down in 2002.

"I really felt I had some experience and knowledge to bring to the position," Ridley said. "I'm not one that's stuck in the past — I'm always open to new ideas — but at the same time I have a historical perspective with the college."

Ridley has a long history in agriculture education and with UW-River Falls. After receiving his undergraduate degree at the University of Maine, Ridley spent two years in the Peace Corps as a teacher in Africa.

Following his return to the United States, Ridley taught high school agriculture in Old Town, Maine, for a year.

"That's what drove me to graduate school," Ridley said jokingly.

Ridley completed his graduate work in microbiology and food science at the University of Maine. He came across the food science faculty opening at UW-RF in his job search. After visiting the school, Ridley said he liked the area and the University, so he accepted the job and moved to River Falls with his wife, Janet, in 1974.

However, Ridley wasn't sure if he'd stay in Wisconsin.

"It was a big move for me," he said. "At the

time we weren't sure if we'd stay but we fell in love with the area."

Ridley is tenured in the animal and food science department.

His first taste of administration came around 1980. The dean at the time, James Dollahon, decided to take a sabbatical and Ridley was asked to serve a one-year term as the assistant dean. After Dollahon's unexpected death, Gary Rohde assumed the position of dean and Ridley was asked to stay on as the associate dean, a position he held for 18 years.

"During that time, I learned a lot about how this office should and could perform," Ridley said.

Following Rohde's retirement in 1998, William Anderson took over the dean position and Ridley continued as his associate. When Anderson decided to return to teaching in 2002, Ridley was named interim dean until a new one was hired.

More than 30 others applied for the position, said Leon Zaborowski, dean of outreach and graduate studies, who chaired the search committee. Six were invited to visit UW-RF; five visited campus. One withdrew from consideration leaving four finalists competing for the position.

"I believe any one of them could have made a good dean," Zaborowski said. "Once you get down to the final group everyone can do the job."

Zaborowski said the candidate who withdrew after visiting accepted a presidency position at another campus.

"That gives you an idea of the quality of people we looked at," he said.

Ridley was named a finalist for the position but was not offered the job. Instead David Hammer, a professor at the University of Missouri in Columbia, was named dean and was to start Jan. 1. However, personal circumstances prevented Hammer from moving to River Falls, UW-RF Chancellor Ann Lydecker said.

"The administration at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls was very supportive and understanding and did all they could to help," Hammer said. "Unfortunately, too much time was required to resolve my situation and it became necessary for the college to move forward."

Ridley said he was "optimistic about what he [Hammer] could have brought."

"I think he was very highly qualified," Ridley said, adding Hammer had heard good things about him in the agriculture community.

"I can say that the opportunity was my 'dream job' in many ways," Hammer said. "I was attracted to the position because of the excellent academic reputation of UW-RF, its membership in the nationally-known University of Wisconsin System and the unique challenges of focusing on my particular area of expertise and interest."

Hammer remains in his faculty position in Missouri. His resignation before his start date left some uncertainty among the college, Ridley said.

"It was almost like being stood up for a date," he said.

"It's something he [Ridley] will have to deal with," Lydecker said. "We get over these things and move on. We realize that he [Hammer] wasn't the only fish in the pond."

"I don't think there is any animosity," Zaborowski said. "It just wasn't meant to be."

Zaborowski is confident Ridley will do well in the position, as any of the other candidates would have.

"Why Steve was asked last, I can't say," he said. "They were all first-rate but someone has to be asked first."

Though Ridley starts his reign as dean in a somewhat awkward position, he has high expectations for what will come, as does Lydecker.

See DEAN, A3

Students receive USDA summer research scholarships

Lucas Pokorny
Staff Writer

Five students from the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) will experience what no other UW-River Falls student has experienced before.

This summer, the students will spend 10 weeks participating in the CAFES/ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Research Experience program at a university of their choice. The students will earn a \$3,000 scholarship, academic credit and graduate school experience for participating in the internship.

"There are very talented students in the college; however, a 60 to 80 percent majority of students have no firm knowledge of college since they are first generation college students," CAFES Dean Stephen Ridley said. "Very few come with the idea of gaining a Ph.D. or a graduate degree."

Ridley said the program will introduce students to a graduate degree and give them short-term experience as a graduate student.

Two weeks ago, a research committee met to choose who will participate in the program. The five students chosen were horticulture major Andrew Mizgalski, biotechnology major Marion Majeske, agriculture business major Elsa

Arnold, geology major Nicholas Vreeland and animal science management/equine major Tammy Golas.

Arnold said she became interested in the internship because it will give her a chance to decide if graduate school is something she would be interested in or not. She also said it will help her financially because the school will pay for all her expenses.

Arnold always wanted a summer internship but nothing had worked out in the past.

"This opportunity was different in that you can work with whatever area you want," Arnold said. "As an agricultural business major not interested in sales, it's hard to find internships that are actually something you want to do."

Like Arnold, Vreeland said he took the internship because it will give him a taste of what graduate school would be like.

However, that wasn't the only reason Vreeland applied.

"It will give me great experience in the field, and it will look great on my resume and grad school applications," Vreeland said.

The Assistant to the Dean, Laura Walsh, said there were a total of 11 applicants for the internship. The applicants came from a variety of majors offered through CAFES, including horticulture,

food science, geology, animal science, agriculture business and biotechnology.

Purnendu Vasavada, Food Science Professor and chair of the Committee for Research said "all of the areas were recognized and that was unique in my book because some areas don't involve as much research as others."

According to Walsh, the 11 applicants followed certain criteria when applying for the internship.

She said the committee based its decision on select criteria. The committee looked at academic performance, research aptitude experience, two recommendations by an academic supporter and an essay on why they wanted to be a part of the program.

"The candidates were remarkable," Vasavada said. "The committee was unanimous in the top five."

Vasavada said the criteria was solid enough for the committee to come up with a decision. Ridley said the program will take place at six larger universities. The universities participating in the program are UW-Madison, University of Minnesota, Kansas State, University of Nebraska, Iowa State

and North Dakota State. The interns have the choice of studying at any of these universities.

Vreeland is not certain on where he will be studying but he is thinking about going to Iowa State to study glacial mechanics.

Arnold said she is also not sure where she wants to study. She is thinking about UW-Madison where she will study in the production economics area.

Ridley said the program will receive a three-year grant worth about \$99,000 from the USDA.

Ridley said the USDA uses a program they call, "challenge grants" to improve the quality of undergraduates in the agricultural fields. CAFES has received about eight or nine of the grants in the past two to three years, worth approximately \$100,000.

Ridley said when the grant runs out he hopes to continue the program.

"The expectations of the USDA would be to keep going with the program," Ridley said.

For the first year, Ridley said, the program will include five students, but the years to follow there will be six.

Committee searches for Nylander's replacement

Micheal Foley
Assistant Editor

When Virgil Nylander, Assistant Chancellor for Administration and Finance, retired in December, he left UW-River Falls with some big shoes to fill.

In the wake of his departure, Mary Halada, former assistant to the vice chancellor, must now preform his duties on an interim basis in addition to her regular duties. Fifteen others have been appointed to a search and screen committee to find the best person for the job. After the committee narrows the pool of applicants, Chancellor Ann Lydecker will make the difficult decision of who will slip into Nylander's old shoes.

"There will never be another Virgil Nylander," Lydecker said. "He is one of a kind."

"He has seen the campus through many different eyes," Lydecker added. "We won't be able to find anyone with the range of experience from the academic side to the administrative side as he had."

The search and screen committee, chaired by UW-RF Chief Information Officer Gary Smith, is conducting phone interviews with nine semi-finalists from the original pool of 35 applicants.

"The candidate pool is very strong," Smith said. "It's going to be a challenge to whittle it down to a smaller number. There is going to be a lot of debating."

The committee was formed in late December after Lydecker completed the job description and posted the notice through Human Resources. The group is responsible for eliminating applicants who don't complete the application process or don't meet the qualifications. The group must also analyze qualified candidates for strengths and weaknesses and select the top applicants for phone interviews.

Once phone interviews are completed, the committee will narrow the list down further and contact applicant's references. Based on all the information, the members will select two to five finalists for Lydecker's decision.

Some of the qualities and qualifications the committee is looking for are good financial management, administrative, supervisory and communications skills, and a sense of humor, Smith said. While the committee uses the position notice as a guide to narrow applicants, Lydecker's expectations far exceed anything that can be written into a job description.

"We are always looking for God or a person with superhuman pow-

ers who can juggle mountains of tasks and keep everybody rolling positively ahead," Lydecker said. "It's one thing to know how to manage a budget but it's a different thing to know how to manage people."

Lydecker's urge to find the best possible person is a testament to how important the position is to UW-RF and the surrounding community.

"You could say this vice chancellor of administration and finance is the third from the top with the chancellor and the provost being above," Smith said. "This position also acts as our chief business officer. Each campus in the UW System assigns a CBO. The CBO, chancellor and provost meet as a group to determine visions and directions for the UW System as a whole."

Not only is the position important for the business operations of the University, but its also important to students. Leadership Development and Programming Board Chair Jeremy Tilsen, who serves on the search and screen committee, recognizes the position as a crucial one for students at UW-RF.

"This person will make a lot of decisions on all levels about many different things," Tilsen said. "They will make decisions on parking, which directly affects students. They will make decisions that will affect the entire community. This person is very much a campus representative when the chancellor is out of town."

Because the position is vital, Tilsen urges all students to become involved with the final decision-making process. He suggests students ask the finalists questions when they visit campus for their final round of interviews.

Smith said each finalist's campus visit will be announced on campus e-mail and on events calendars. During each visit, members of the campus community will have a chance to ask the applicant questions during an open forum.

"The on-campus interviews will be quite grueling from the candidates' perspective, probably a day to a day-and-a-half each," Smith said. "Everybody on campus will have an opportunity to interact with these individuals. I'm sure the chancellor will appreciate any feedback from anybody, especially students and faculty."

Meanwhile, Halada is serving as the interim vice chancellor of administration and finance. She was Lydecker's logical choice to substitute for Nylander until his replacement is found because she is familiar with the budget and the state-level representatives.

"We are very fortunate that Mary Halada worked side-by-side with Virgil on so many things," Lydecker said. "She is very capable of filling that spot on an interim basis right now, but she is sort of doing two jobs. The job she does is not one that someone can just step into."

Before taking on the interim role Jan. 2, Halada's titles included University budget director, Kansas City Chiefs coordinator and assistant to the vice chancellor of administration and finance, among several other responsibilities.

"My philosophy is that if I'm someone's assistant, then I do whatever that someone needs me to do, as delegated," Halada said. "Some days that may be going to Madison in his place. It might be going to meetings here and representing him. Or he may give me a project that he needs help on. It's pretty broad."

Halada said she is putting in a lot of nights and weekends at the office since she has taken on the additional responsibilities. Much of her day is filled with meetings and catching up on material she needs to read to stay in the loop with the University and the UW System.

Perhaps the biggest difference Halada experiences is helping people who report directly to the vice chancellor, including about 10 directors. She said she spends a lot of time meeting, supporting and communicating with them.

Despite working 12-hour days, Halada said dealing with the pressure of holding down two jobs seems easier because "the days fly by."

"I have this feeling that I need to know a lot," Halada said. "I feel like I need to read every piece of paper that comes through. I try to look at my calendar every night to find out things that need to be done just for tomorrow."

Halada must hold down both positions until July 1 at the latest. The committee hopes to finish phone interviews and contact references this month. Finalists will be announced and on-campus interviews will be held before spring break.

DEAN from A2

"He [Ridley] brings stability, someone who knows the faculty and campus," Lydecker said. "He's got plenty to do in terms of shaping programs."

One of the first tasks Ridley will tackle is cementing plans for a new dairy learning center. While plans for the center have been in the works for almost a decade, the proposal seems to finally be taking shape.

"We're very hopeful the new dairy facility will go to bid in June," he said. If it does, students could start using it as early as the fall of 2005.

To reach his goals, Ridley knows he will need an outstanding faculty behind him. Luckily, Ridley said it's already in place.

"We have a really strong faculty," he said. "I think it is important for a dean to always keep in mind to help faculty do what they want to do. Faculty members want and need to grow in their jobs."

The faculty includes nine

young untenured professors, who Ridley said, "have passed a very rigorous search process. I want to do everything I can to keep them."

With the help of the faculty, Ridley will address curriculum and enrollment, items Ridley said "are at the top of my list."

Ridley hopes to increase the opportunities for hands-on experience within the CAFES curriculum while preserving the academic aspect.

"One thing we are hearing from employers is college graduates are smart and educated, but they don't have experience," Ridley said. "Employers are saying they need more abilities."

With a growing population in the area, Ridley would like to see increasing enrollment as well. The college is already showing growth. This fall, CAFES brought in 339 freshmen, 200 more than last year.

Area growth is also providing some unique challenges for agriculture, Ridley said.

"This area is undergoing transformation from strong rural to substantial urban," Ridley said.

"The question is, can agriculture co-exist with urban sprawl?"

That question can only be answered with time but Ridley hopes the University can "be considered a resource for farmers wanting to work with residential development."

Though the area is rapidly changing, Lydecker expects UW-RF to remain a strong force in agricultural education. She expects Ridley will "set big goals and make things happen."

"Agriculture is one of our primary strengths historically and we plan to keep it that way," Lydecker said. "The direction we go in the next few years will determine how well we maintain our strengths."

"He [Ridley] brings stability, someone who knows the faculty and campus. He's got plenty to do in terms of shaping programs."

Ann Lydecker
Chancellor

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EDITORIAL

Students may not be aware of the newest budget problems but they affect them in the worst of ways.

The great governor of Wisconsin, Jim Doyle and the state Legislature took \$26 million from the UW System auxiliary fund budgets. A budget that in anyone's mind, including UW-River Falls administrators, should not have been touched.

Although UW-RF administrators knew about the budget raids last semester, the campus departments are currently trying to deal with a \$922,522 deficit that will be paid within the next two years.

The fund, which is similar to a savings account, is made up of money from things like special course fees and residential services like room and board.

Dan Leistikow, Doyle's press secretary, said the decision to take the money from the UW System was not an easy one.

It should never be easy to steal money from students. Doyle of course is claiming the decision wasn't easy to make, since he inherited the problem. How often do you hear someone step up to the plate after the fact and say, "You're right, I stole your money." It's never anyone's personal responsibility when things go wrong.

But, unfortunately, for students and the UW System, this is not the first time that auxiliary funds were raided. In 1985 the University regretfully handed over another \$900,000 of auxiliary money.

Leistikow wouldn't say if this would happen again but he encouraged flexibility on the part of the UW System.

Sure, flexibility is important but how flexible should we become? UW-RF and other schools in the system are already bending over backward. Any more flexibility and we will be backflipping

What the governor and legislature have effectually done is steal from Peter to pay off Peter. That's right, instead of applying for state financial aid each year, students might as well dig deeper into their own pockets or put in a few extra hours at their summer jobs. They are funding the same grants they are receiving.

for the Legislature.

There must be dozens of areas to skim funds from.

Highway maintenance,

tourism, department of

natural resources, law

enforcement, unemploy-

ment compensation, wel-

fare and even K-12 public

education didn't get

slammed as badly as the

UW System. If the state is

in a serious jam, all these

areas should take their fair

share of cuts. The UW

System shouldn't be sin-

gled out to take on the

largest burden.

No one can give us a real

reason why the the UW

System was selected as the

victim, but everyone seems to be jumping on the bandwagon of not letting it happen again.

Plain and simple, it shouldn't have happened in the first place.

Maybe students were too quick to jump at balancing the tuition increases with awarding financial aid. If the state didn't have to match the increases, students may not have to essentially provide money for their own financial assistance.

What the governor and legislature have effectually done is steal from Peter to pay off Peter. Instead of applying for state financial aid each year, students might as well dig deeper into their own pockets or put in a few extra hours at their summer jobs.

They are funding the same grants they are receiving.

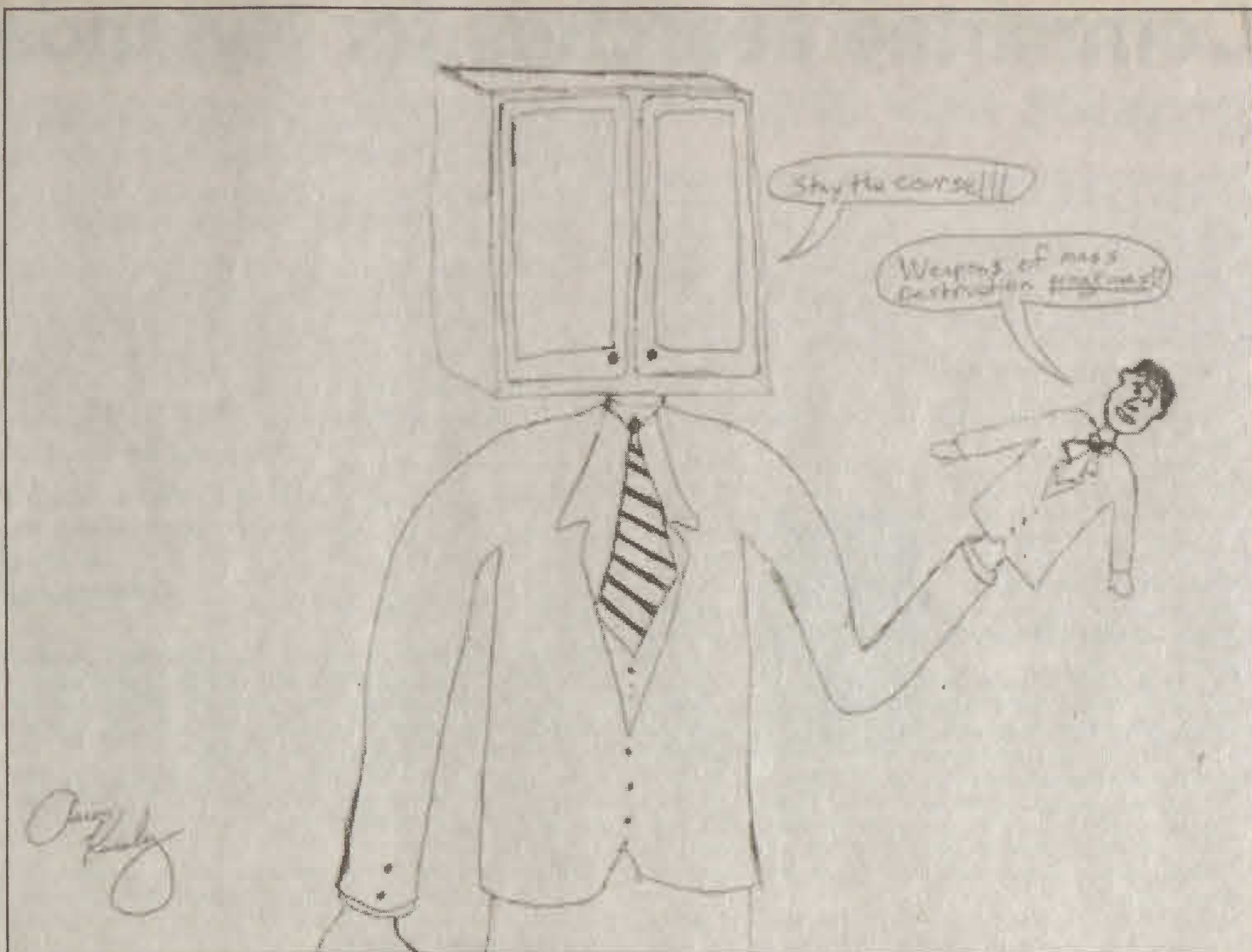
This isn't what United Council had in mind as it gathered students from across the System to lobby for a link between financial aid increases and tuition increases.

The biggest thing Doyle needs is to be taught a lesson about the wrong-doing of stealing.

Looking to the future, we hope students realize they are supplying their own financial aid when paying for residential services and special course fees.

Hopefully Doyle will have an answer to what UW-RF should do with the empty South Fork Suites if there isn't enough money to buy furniture because he and the legislature took it.

Next time we hope Doyle and the Legislature will think twice before taking money without asking permission.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Back up America

This semester I think it is important for democrats, students and faculty to stop bashing their country. They need to stop taking America for granted. They need to stop coming up with lies and misconstruing facts. They do this to make a nice little sympathetic case about how the white, rich, straight males are oppressing everyone, even other countries.

Feminists would like you to think that they live under a patriarchy. The fact that women, on average, make 75 cents to the dollar of their male counterparts make is evidence to them. This is true. It is, however, also true that women make up 54 percent of the workforce but men make up 92 percent of the deaths in the workplace. Men do far more dangerous work, thus should be compensated for this. Another 'fact' they use to try to sway you is that 10,000 women die annually of anorexia. This is just a lie; Kelly Oliver, a leading feminist, has admitted that it is a false number used to draw supporters. The actual number is more like 100.

Unfortunately, but it is quite a bit less than they would lead you to believe. Sorry, but if you have to lie to make your point, I do not find your case to be all that strong.

Some economics teachers and student leaders would like you to

believe that we went to war for oil. Well, that and to take over the world, obviously.

These people need to look around and try to use the common sense part of their brain. The British Empire dominated Ireland, India, Arabia and Rhodesia, along with others. The Roman Empire ruled Britain, Judea, Gaul and Macedonia. Our buddies, the French, ruled Vietnam, Algeria and Lebanon.

Where is our empire? Here is the real fact. America has handed out more than \$500 billion in foreign aid since the end of World War II. That is \$500 billion more than anyone has given us. We go into a country to help it, not to rule it. It is just one more lie that the left produces.

These student leaders and teachers tell me to ask questions about our current "regime." Well, I want to question them but I get called a Nazi even for suggesting it. They are proven liars and they admit to misleading us. I urge these people to use their little America-hating heads to try to cover it up better (if you're going to lie to me).

A.J. Oscarson, student

Take part in campus diversity

Students of color see and experience many things off and on-

campus that the normal white American students may not experience. As minority students walk in the entrances of various establishments or down Main Street, we can feel eyes penetrating our rich dark skins. On campus, where many of us consider a "home away from home," we face similar issues. In 90-95% of the classes we sit in, we are the only persons of color. We sometimes feel like a fly in a huge jug of milk. During certain lecture topics, after finally reaching the little section in the entire syllabus that deals with our history, we feel the sense of being looked at to represent or speak on behalf of the entire race, ethnicity, or culture. Of the many subjects offered year round, African American History is offered for a measly three weeks during the summer. Looking at the school's catalog and Web page, there is little variety. Most of the students featured are Caucasian. The organizations that have the most to do with changes mostly consist of white students. True, there are more white students than minority students on campus but the fact is that the minority students, don't want to participate or make a difference. This has to change.

There seems to be a myth that you have to be of the various descents or cultures to join the AAA, AASA, and LSO. This is NOT TRUE. All these organizations have members from a vari-

ety of backgrounds and cultures. No, they don't sit around discussing affirmative action issues. They discuss issues relevant to the entire campus and volunteer like most organizations. I urge you to make these New Year's resolutions: join a club other than the one where everyone in it is your friend and looks like you. Do something out of your usual comfort zone starting this semester and hopefully continuing for the rest of your very short life. It may be scary at first, but it is such situations that make you a stronger person and build character. To students of color, I urge you to be more open-minded. Instead of transferring or dropping out, stay here and prove to yourself that you belong, if you have any doubts. Prove to those who may think that because of your complexion, you must be stupid or were only accepted to "their" school because of good old Affirmative Action. If you haven't heard, quitting never solves anything. My intent in writing this letter is to raise questions many of us don't think about because we have become used to the white world. We as tomorrow leaders can help solve the ethnic, racial, homophobic and sexist problems that still exist on and off campus. Quoting John Dewey, "Education is not a preparation for life; education is life itself."

Leon Gbee, Student Senator

Online editor revamps Voice Web site

If you visited the Student Voice Web site anytime last semester, let me be the first to apologize. Because we didn't have an online editor, it displayed our last issue of last year all semester.

We needed an online editor, so I accepted the job. If I'd have known what I was getting into, I'm not sure I would have taken it.

My experience in Web design was limited; I updated a site on a daily basis last summer, so I had a basic knowledge. I've always learned programs quickly, so I decided I was up for the challenge.



After consulting with the new editors, we decided there could be a lot of improvements on the site, so we scrapped the old one. My job over winter break was to build a new one. It was an adventure, let me tell you. I must have built at least 10 different sites, experimenting with different styles and features of Dreamweaver. In the end what you see online is what I felt was

KARYN NELSON most visually

appealing and easiest to navigate.

Like the old site, the new one is modeled after the paper, with News, Sports, Viewpoints and Offbeat as the main sections. An archive where you can find stories from several years past is also under construction. You can

also find information about the Voice itself: Who works here, what our mission is, how to contact us and even how to get a job here.

Just like the paper edition got a face lift last summer, the Web site got one this January. Both makeovers had the same goal - to be more professional. We're adding more photos and graphics to the pages. We have more photos than we can use in the paper, so we'll try to put more online. The photographers do an excellent job but black and white newsprint often shadows their art. Now, all photos can be viewed in color.

We want you to have the news when it happens. Though our small staff is often limited in time, we'll post stories of breaking news as we get them. With a weekly paper, many stories are

outdated before the paper comes out. In the online version, we hope to have the most recent student news online. We also want to provide links to places where you can find more information on the topic.

Though the goal is to have everything up and running this week, we could hit a road block or two along the way. Please be patient while we work out bugs in the new site and while I learn the in and outs of web development and online news. If you have any ideas, please contact me at karyn.l.nelson@uwrf.edu.

Even with the Web edition, we want you to keep reading the printed version of the Voice. The Web is a convenient way to look up past stories, but there is still no replacement for having a copy of the Student Voice in your hands.

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Student Voice

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

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

Letters concerning coverage or content should be directed to: Student Voice, 410 S. Third Street, 304 North Hall, River Falls, WI 54022.

The opinions expressed in edito-

rials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper's adviser, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

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

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

Letters to the editor become the property of the Student Voice and cannot be returned. Only one letter

per person per week will be accepted. The student retains reprint rights to all published material.

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

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

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Women should carry guns

One of the great ironies of the cultural war over gun rights is that women are generally more anti-gun than men. Violence against women is an extremely serious problem, yet women are constantly told to forgo the most effective means of self-defense. The following is a true story from Dr. Michael S. Brown.

A young woman known to my wife was abducted and raped recently by a sex offender on parole. She is now HIV-positive and the assailant left town before police could build an airtight case. Another woman in our area was forced to change her name and move to a new home because her attacker knew her identity. A woman I know and two female family members were terrorized by an intruder who entered their home at 5 a.m. The man escaped before the police could respond to a 911 call and he has not been caught.

Contrast this to a case in Arizona where an unarmed woman was raped, shot and left for dead. The attacker then forced his way into a private home where he was promptly shot and killed by a second woman with a handgun. He will not rape again.

Episodes like this happen around the country, but are ignored by the national media. (Women and Guns Dr. Michael S. Brown)

When it comes to a person's right to carry a firearm, especially a woman's, I have never met a liberal who makes sense, or who is consistent. On this topic, the left's extreme arrogance, which I call Mad Democrat Disease (very similar to Mad Cow Disease), indirectly causes hundreds of thousands of women to be raped every year while the left does nothing but condone rape by fighting conceal and carry laws everywhere they are up for a vote.

In the states with personal protection acts, more than 200,000 women per year fight off sexual attackers with a gun. That's an average of 548 women per day who do not get raped because they protected themselves with a handgun. In those cases, the gun is never fired 92 percent of the time. It just poses a neutral-

izing threat to the attacker.

Where are all the feminists at? Don't those silly women over at N.O.W. understand that this is a great way for women to defend themselves and stop being constant victims of men? You would think that N.O.W. and other women's rights organizations wouldn't want men to be raping women but they must want these types of attacks since they don't want women to carry guns.

ANDY PARRISH

As usual these leftist groups never bring logic into anything they do. So why would they start now?

How often have we heard left wing liberals claim guns are evil in and of themselves? When was the last time you saw a gun load itself, jump off a table, walk into school and kill students all on its own?

This form of logic permits me to share some statistics from the Department of Justice and the CDC. These statistics were compiled under the Clinton-Reno regime.

First, what is more dangerous, guns or doctors? Let's look at the facts: Number of physicians in the US, 700,000; accidental deaths caused by physicians per year, 120,000; accidental deaths

per physician, 0.171 (U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services); number of gun owners in the United States, 80,000,000; number of accidental gun deaths per year (all age groups), 1,500; accidental deaths per gun owner, 0.0000188.

Statistically, doctors are approximately 9,000 times more dangerous than gun owners. Some will make the argument that doctors save lives and they are right. But then they must also concede the fact that for every one life lost to a gun, 65 lives are saved by a gun (DOJ).

Where, I ask you, is the logic for banning guns before we ban doctors? The argument against handgun use for personal protection is based on faulty facts, emotional pressure and political correctness. In fact, handguns save many lives from people who are out to hurt our loved ones and other innocent people.

I have to bring this article to a close before the gun store closes. I plan on getting a handgun for my girlfriend so she does not become the statistic of a violent crime.

Support our troops, support our president and have a great conservative day.

Wisconsin gun battle falls one vote short

Last Tuesday, the Wisconsin Assembly regrettably opted, by a one-vote margin, not to override Gov. Jim Doyle's veto of Senate Bill 214, best known as a conceal and carry law.

It just goes to show that fear is still as controlling an emotion as ever.

They're afraid. But rather than being afraid of bad people with guns, they're afraid of guns.

According to an article posted on the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Web site, Assembly Democrats who voted against the override were using epithets like "guns will beget guns" and stories of police officers who will be forced to "assume that each person is carrying a gun, and they are armed and dangerous," to justify their votes.

They're relying on a misplaced mistrust of police officers and using images of overly violent cops to back their argument. It's an image even I would fear if it were true.

But the reality is that most police officers won't go around being nervous all day just because a law allowing Wisconsin residents to exercise our Second Amendment privilege passes. Like any other day, they'll only be nervous if they're given a good reason. Law-abiding citizens like myself would have no difficulties in carrying concealed firearms and not threatening a police officer's daily duty.

It's the non-permit-holding gun possessors who wave firearms around like Yosemite Sam that police officers will continue to be concerned with. And it's those same people gun supporters are also concerned with.

Let's face it, the world isn't a

safe place. There are a lot of crazy people out there and I admit I don't trust all of them to have guns. But I certainly trust my mental capacity and ability to safely carry a firearm and protect myself from those people.

I grew up around guns. Safe firearm handling is second nature to me. So why should a law prevent me from having a firearm when there is a good chance a person who would do me harm already has one?

Like putting on a seatbelt when getting in a car, carrying a concealed firearm is simply a

KYLE WEAVER safety precaution.

You put it on but hopefully you never really need it. Nevertheless, it's there just in case.

To deny anyone their guaranteed right "to keep and bear arms" to protect themselves is no different than denying them their freedom of speech. I find it quite ironic that many of my fellow journalists, practitioners of the First Amendment, can live by one rule and completely deny another. Both are guaranteed under the same Bill of Rights, written as the first and second orders of business and placed ahead of such rights that prevent illegal search and seizure, cruel

"Like putting on a seatbelt when getting in a car, carrying a concealed firearm is simply a safety precaution. You put it on but hopefully you never really need it. Nevertheless, it's there just in case."

and unusual punishments and guarantee the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury.

My friends, my fellow students, my colleagues, it's time we stop picking and choosing the rights that fit us best. If we want the Bill of Rights to stand for something, we have to accept all of them.

I'll be getting in line for my permit just as soon as I'm able, but I guess it will have to wait until next January.

The bottom line is, if laws make it a crime to carry a gun, only criminals will carry guns.

Berlin Wall taken down for good reason

True or False: It's a good idea to separate people with a great big wall. I'm going to go out on a limb and say false. Take the Berlin Wall that was erected in 1961 by the east Germans and designed to accomplish two goals: To stop the free flow of information from the west into the communist east but, more importantly, to stop east Germans from following an estimated 500,000 defectors who decided communism was bad and fled to the West.

In 1991, it was finally admitted that the "wall" idea was a bad one. That is the year communism fell, along with the wall.

Enter Ariel Sharon, prime minister of Israel and buddy of President Bush. He announced this spring he was going to build a wall along the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from entering Israel and committing suicide bombings and other terrorist acts. That was the collective sigh of the world you just heard.

He doesn't mention that he will be using Palestinian land for the wall. In doing this,

Israel has seized thousands of acres of Palestinian farmland. He also fails to mention that 95,000 Palestinians, 4.5 percent of their West Bank population, fall into areas where the wall veers into the West Bank. Suddenly, they are homeless.

Israel claims the wall is the only way to prevent terrorist attacks and ensure peace. I must say, nothing says peace like a 370-mile long wall to keep Palestinians out.

DEREK WILLIAMS The United States was a staunch opponent of the Berlin Wall, claiming it was a human rights issue. Every president we've had was vocal in his opposition of the Berlin Wall. We didn't even acknowledge the legitimacy of the east German government until 1972.

I have to give credit where credit is due. President Bush has been a soft-spoken critic of the wall Israel is building. That being said, Bush talks a lot. He talks about terrorism, Iraq, the economy and even AIDS in Africa. Why has he been mum when it comes to something titled "apartheid wall" and "racist wall?" Why has he been silent about an idea deemed so bad on an interna-

tional level that the actual construction of the wall is on trial at The Hague?

President Bush is absent on the issue for a few reasons. Most importantly, he just climbed into his pre-election protection suit, which guards the president from choking on pretzels and talking about significant international issues other than terror. Also, it is a standing U.S. policy to back Israel no matter what.

That is why Israel, the 16th richest nation in the world, receives a third of all U.S. overseas aid. It's also why Israel has benefited from 20 U.N. Security Council vetoes by the United States. Apparently the U.S. needs a friend in the Middle East badly; we're willing to give them just about anything they want. That is very good for Israel because without us they'd probably vanish.

It is an absolute travesty that the Israelis are being allowed to separate themselves from the Palestinians. It is even worse that a state-sanctioned 25-foot high wall covered in barbed wire and guarded by armed soldiers is being used to do it in an attempt to further the "peace process."

Some peace process.

Students also have rights in River Falls neighborhoods

It has recently been brought to my attention that the residents of my neighborhood have a problem with the college students who live there. Big surprise, considering the attitudes many River Falls residents have toward students.

I live in the "Swinging Bridge" neighborhood, which includes West Cascade, Vine and State streets.

Some of the permanent homeowners in my neighborhood decided to start an association to discuss their concerns and brainstorm ways to improve the area.

Although this is admirable, they should include students, too, especially since many of the complaints concern them. We are residents and we have rights.

Just because we don't own the houses we live

in, doesn't mean we don't have pride in our neighborhood.

The association's newsletter states that members don't want more single-family homes turned into rentals. The next sentence says "a neighborhood's strength comes from a mixture of ages and backgrounds living together."

SARAH MATARA

Don't these two statements contradict each other? The newsletter also states the association wants to get to know their neighbors better. If this were true, they would address their concerns to us personally, not in a vague newsletter or through a landlord, which is how I got the newsletter.

For example, our landlord received a complaint saying we have eight people living in our house. We have three. Instead of siccing the city inspector on us, ask us. Get your facts straight before you start pointing fingers.

There was a complaint about students having

disrespectful signs in the yards. I saw nothing disrespectful or obscene. The First Amendment allows freedom of speech. Just because you don't agree with it doesn't mean it can't be there.

We confronted one neighbor about the complaints, and she wouldn't give us a straight answer. She kept telling us how friendly everyone was and just wanted to address some issues.

Friendly is not defined as going behind people's backs and not giving them a chance to have a say. Neighbors stated that rental housing in the area is rundown and needs cleaning up. If we didn't have pride in our neighborhood, we wouldn't have spent a month painting our house.

If they want to blame us for littering, how about the dozen bags of leaves at the end of our neighbor's driveway? They should have been disposed of in the fall.

There seems to be a negative attitude toward students in River Falls, whether its parking, parties or students living in certain neighborhoods.

This bothers me, especially since teachers, University faculty and staff live in these neighborhoods. Without students, they wouldn't have jobs.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: Students bring vitality and prosperity to this town.

If we're all going to live together, we have to address everyone's concerns, not just "permanent homeowners."

I will be at the next neighborhood association meeting and the picnic the Rugby house is throwing for them this spring. I should have been invited to the first two meetings, considering my house was a subject of supposed concerns.

To the Swinging Bridge Neighborhood Association: If you have something to say, say it to our faces.

To students living there and other neighborhoods like it: Beware of what your neighbors concerns are and get involved.

How has the smoking radius affected campus?



Kevin Thornton, Graduate Student

"I like it because I'm a non-smoker obviously. It's helped because when you walk out of a building you're not walking into a bunch of people smoking."



Karen Pedersen, Sophomore

"I don't really feel like it affects me that much. It's not even on my radar."



Allen Riley, Sophomore

"I have to admit it's nice not having to walk through a cloud of smoke to get into the building. I haven't really seen anyone smoking on campus."



Sara Odell, Junior

"I guess I haven't even noticed. I guess it has (helped) because I haven't seen anyone smoking close to the building."



Tim Setala, Senior

"I don't really think it makes a difference. I think it's a waste of time."

PHOTO POLL
by Eric Ebert

SMOKING from A1

radius," Elsesser said.

Receptacles previously found by building entrances have now been removed and there are signs on doors stating the new policy. Ballou said as the semester goes on and the weather improves, UW-RF will not forget about the smokers.

"We expect to move and set up new receptacles around campus after things warm up and we'll see where smokers gather and be as accommodating as we can be with them," Ballou said.

Susan King, a student at UW-RF who quit smoking five months ago, believes the

school should provide smokers with a better alternative than just a receptacle.

"What if it's raining or snowing out? I believe smokers should have some sort of shelter set up for them to go and stay out of the bad weather," King said.

The Committee on Health and Wellness recently received grants from the American Cancer Society and the Tobacco Control Board to help educate students about the risks of smoking.

Lydecker, who has a son who battled a drug addiction, understands that it's not easy to quit.

"I've seen first hand how hard addictions can be to overcome," Lydecker said.

Ballou also said UW-RF is not in the business of telling people how to live their lives. "Our policy on smoking is no different than

our policy on drinking or parking," Ballou said. "We just want to make sure people are informed about the issues. We are not anti-smokers, but rather pro-smoking radius policy."

Keven Syverson, UW-RF health education coordinator, believes society's smoking beliefs have evolved over time and this is just another step.

"Twenty-five years ago, no one would have ever imagined a smoke-free building, so this is another phase in the cultural shift," Syverson said.

Sophomore Jeremy Duxbury, a nonsmoker, thinks the policy is a good one.

"I don't have a problem with people who smoke but at the same time they are the minority and should also respect us who choose not to," Duxbury said.

KEATING from A1

that the coach is like the captain of a ship. They must have control through both rough and easy waters and be the last to bail out if the ship is sinking.

"He never carried any negative parts with him," Corrine said. "When the game was over, it was over."

Keating touched many lives through this program and wasn't afraid to show that he loved the players.

"Mickey was always into giving hugs no matter how stinky and sweaty the guys were,"

Freeman said. "We'll really miss him, and I know I'll never forget him. We were extremely lucky."

A jersey now hangs by the scoreboard at Hunt Arena with Keating's name on the back. His initials are painted behind each goal on the ice. The players will also wear the initials on the back of their helmets in remembrance.

"He meant so much to me and the rest of the guys, I don't think he really knew," Novak said. "If I could just talk to him one last time, I would just thank him and tell him that I love him."

"You don't change a Mickey Keating, he was all the qualities you want in a winner," Talafoous said. "Mickey was Mickey and that's what made him special."

RAIDS from A1

to student organizations for coverage."

In November, former Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance Virgil Nylander learned that almost all auxiliary accounts at UW-RF were being annexed by the state.

Nylander said last year that "distributing the pain" of the budget raids to different departments, clubs and organizations was a difficult and troubling task.

"People in some departments were almost physically ill when we told them their budgets would be reduced," Nylander said. "The people who make the

decisions don't understand the implications."

Nylander noted that the money being raided comes from working budgets, not "rainy day" funds.

For now, campus administrators are trying to deal with the problem while looking to the future.

"My key thing is to make sure this raid doesn't happen again," Chancellor Ann Lydecker said.

Lydecker is working with state legislators and UW officials to "make sure they understand that financial aid cannot be funded by raiding 128 accounts."

"Financial aid should not be funded off the backs of students," Lydecker said.

Lydecker said she's most concerned about the governor leaving the door open for the same

thing to happen again by not "sunsetting" the legislation, leaving open the option of similar raids in the future.

Leistikow said it's unlikely the state will have to go back to the universities for money, but didn't rule out the possibility.

"We don't expect to have to use that fund in the future but we don't know what the ups and downs of the economy will bring," Leistikow said. "It's important to have flexibility."

But for administrators, the 2004-05 raids looks like déjà vu. Halada said that in 1985 the state legislature took almost \$900,000 of auxiliary funds from UW-RF in a similar annexation of state university funds.

"I don't know if that means we're on a 19-year cycle," Halada said. "I hope we're not."

GENERALS from A1

tion subcommittee to offer feedback on student issues. Currently that subcommittee is taking a wait and see approach to the new general education proposal.

"The new requirements aren't all that different from what we have now," Student Senate President Matthew Schuelke said. "We'll have to see what happens."

A second Faculty Senate meeting to discuss this issue is scheduled for 4 p.m. Feb. 12 in the Student Center.

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UW-RF student
spends winter break
researching at the
South Pole.
See B5

February 6, 2004

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Section B

Melzer leads men past Pointers

Falcons beat No. 12 Stevens Point for first time in a decade



Eric A. Page
Sports Editor

If there was any debate going into Tuesday's men's basketball game between the UW-River Falls Falcons and the No. 12 ranked UW-Stevens Point Pointers as to who is going to win the WIAC's Player of the Year award, it ended shortly after tip-off of the Falcons 70-59 victory.

The game featured the conference's two best players — UW-SP's Jason Kalsow and the Falcons' Rich Melzer. Melzer, who had never beaten the Pointers, set the tone early when he hit a jumper to put the Falcons up 2-0 and scored nine points in the first eight minutes to propel his team to a 12 point halftime lead.

"Rich played great tonight," Falcon coach Rick Bowen said of the senior's 25-point, eight rebound and five assist performance. "But a lot of other people stepped up and gave him help."

C.J. Becker played huge for the Falcons. The senior guard hit 4-5 three-pointers in the first half and another in the second to finish with 15 points.

"C.J. was special tonight," Bowen said. "To win a big game, somebody has to step up and be special."

Becker was not only phenomenal on offense; he, along with freshman Hans Hoeg, held Pointer marksman Nick Bennett

to only 13 points.

The Player of the Year debate was the first of many things that ended Tuesday at the Karges Center.

The Falcons 18-game losing streak to the Pointers that dated back to Dec. 13, 1994 was snapped. Bowen had never defeated Pointer coach Jack Bennett, who was hired during that streak, and the Falcons hadn't beaten the Pointers in Karges since 1990.

A relieved Bowen grasped the significance of the victory with solemn composure, despite its historical context.

"The biggest relief is that it was a key game for us in the conference and it was the next game we needed to win to keep pace," he said.

The Falcon players appreciated that the win is just one piece of their season and that they can't overlook Saturday's match-up with UW-Eau Claire.

"This team right now is pretty good," Bowen said after his team committed only four turnovers against the Pointers. "They are incredibly focused. They know what's out there and they want to (win the conference). They do not look past the next game. I am really enjoying coaching them."

The element of team was apparent as the Falcons dominated the Pointers from start to finish.

After Melzer put the Falcons ahead 2-0, the firing squad of

Jeff Holt, Becker and Micah Helfrey knocked down three straight threes to give the Falcons an 11-5 lead. The Pointers couldn't stop the Falcons because they never knew who would strike next.

Jesse Lam went 4-4 from the field to score eight points. Holt finished with eight points and Helfrey scored six. Billy Halter was held to four points but handed out seven assists. Hoeg also scored four and pulled down six

rebounds.

Kalsow led the Pointers with 15 points and six rebounds but committed four turnovers.

With the win, the Falcons moved into a tie with the Pointers for third in the conference standings. Two games behind conference-leading UW-Whitewater.

The Falcons, 14-6, 7-4 in the WIAC, will host Eau Claire Saturday in the first game of a double-header starting at 5 p.m.



Photo by Eric A. Page

C.J. Becker drives past Stevens Point's Jason Kalsow in the first half of Tuesday night's game. Becker scored 15 points on 5-6 three-point shooting.

Bringing out the dead

Are you kidding me? How many times do I have to write this column?

Tuesday night at the Karges Center the Falcon men's basketball team beat the No. 12 ranked team in the nation.

Never mind that they hadn't beaten UW-Stevens Point since Dec. 13, 1994, and forget that they hadn't beaten them at Karges since 1990.

Consider the seasonal context of the victory — the win kept the Falcons in contention for their first conference title in more than 50 years — and think back just two short months ago to when the Pointers embarrassed the Falcons 56-38 in the WIAC opener.

Think about the marquee match-up of the conference's two best players — the Falcons' Rich Melzer and the Pointers' Jason Kalsow — and the fact that Melzer was looking to erase the stench of his seven point debacle against the Pointers earlier this season.

So when the Falcons came out and domi-

nated the Pointers like a vixen in a gothic porn film, what did you do?

You came out like the gallery at a chess match.

"Oooh, ahhh. King to b4, what a move."

No you idiot, that was Rich Melzer shaking a Pointer defender and finishing with a left-handed dunk.

When C.J. Becker was dropping threes like a class

you're failing, what were you doing?

Hey, you in the second row, you were talking on your cell phone to some girl you thought you were going to score with after the game. Meanwhile the Falcons were having a scoring orgy on the court. And I saw you downtown and the only date you had was with a "red-headed slut."

How about the guy in the fourth row picking at his face, trying to remember whether or not he has reading to do for his 9 a.m. class, which I guarantee you he didn't make it to.

When the Falcons were mauling the Pointer offense into 37 percent shooting in the first half and Melzer was making

Kalsow look like a three-legged ballerina, where was the crowd?

I have pleaded with you and I have given advice and you still show up to the games with all the fervor of a sloth.

No, a sloth has a pulse.

The cheerleaders, in their efforts to pull emotion from your desolate souls, could be building credentials for a career at a mortuary. Though a corpse may give them more

to work with.

"The buzzer sounded and there was an immediate mob-scene — not on the floor — at the door. Sorry to make you miss curfew."

throw line.

Tuesday, with the Falcons ahead by nine in the second half and a Pointer at the line with a chance to pull within seven, I heard two people yell, "You suck."

See PAGE, B2

All knotted up

Men's hockey stalemated in weekend play

Michael Foley
Assistant Editor

Freshman forward Tyler Kostiuik scored a game-tying, third period goal on Friday and Saturday night to help the No. 5 ranked UW-River Falls men's hockey team earn its second and third straight ties. The Falcons tied the Yellowjackets 2-2 Friday at UW-Superior. Saturday, UW-RF tied the Saints 1-1 at St. Scholastica with Kostiuik's score coming on a penalty shot.

Kostiuik's heroics gave the Falcons two points in the NCHA standings during the weekend, which were just enough to remain in second place while front-runner St. Norbert took a commanding lead. The second-ranked Green Knights all but secured the regular season crown with 18 points with only four NCHA games remaining. UW-RF, UW-Superior and Lake Forest are bunched up in the race for second with 13, 12 and 11 points, respectively. All three have five NCHA wins.

"I thought we played tremendous hockey both nights," Falcon head coach Steve Freeman said. "On Friday

night we played an extremely strong defensive game and that was the hard part. On Saturday night we played so well offensively and we had the puck the whole game. When you outshoot a team 20-1 in the second period and come away with nothing, it's extremely frustrating to settle for a tie."

Friday the Falcons took the early lead when Jamie Steinert beat the Yellowjacket goaltender with a shot from the top of the left circle at 10:40 in the first period. Rob Novak and Nate Hansen earned assists on the play.

The Yellowjackets responded with two goals in the second period. UW-RF came back at 3:40 in the third period when Kostiuik scored from just off the right side of the crease. Aaron Degerness and Matt Elsen, tallied

assists on the game-tying goal.

Saturday night against St. Scholastica the Saints took the early lead midway through the first period. Saint goaltender Corey Wegtech kept the Falcons at bay, stopping 36 shots in the first two periods.

With just more than 4:00 left in the third period, a CSS defenseman panicked and covered the puck in Wegtech's crease during a flurry, giving the Falcons a penalty shot attempt. Kostiuik took the shot for UW-RF and zig-zagged slowly in front of the net lifting it over Wegtech and into the net at the last second to bring the Falcons even.

"We got to pick one of the five players who were on the ice to take the penalty shot," Freeman said. "I had a gut feeling about Tyler, after seeing him do such a good job in practice. I knew he had a good chance of scoring, but I didn't point him out right away. We had a timeout right

before the penalty shot and I didn't want to put any pressure on him. He looked pretty calm, but on the inside I knew he was bubbling."

Both UW-RF goalies did their parts during the weekend. Andy Scanlon saved 36 of the 38 shots he saw on Friday night. Dan Meneghin stopped 17 of 18 on Saturday.

The Falcons have had trouble scoring this season, despite returning most of their forwards from last year's high-scoring squad. They have gotten plenty of shots on goal (35 per game) but all those shots haven't translated into many goals (3.3 per game). Freeman remains puzzled why his team can't seem to shake the slump it is in but he also credits the goalies of the NCHA with some outstanding play.

Freeman now shifts his attention to the four remaining regular season games, which will determine seeding for the NCHA postseason and a potential

See M. HOCKEY, B2

Women skate past Blugolds

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls women's hockey team earned a sweep over UW-Eau Claire last weekend at Hunt Arena.

The Falcons won Friday's game, 4-1, and came back on Saturday for a 5-2 win.

Saturday, Lou Paulson scored twice and had one assist to help lead the Falcons to the 5-2 win.

The score was tied 2-2 after one and the Falcons led 3-2 after two.

UW-EC took a 1-0 lead at 5:54 when Karen Hebert scored from the point. It was her fifth goal of the year. UW-RF tied the game at 7:27 when Rachel Goodwin scored her third goal of the season with an assist to Ali Slinden. The Blugolds went ahead 2-1 at 13:26 when Allison Campbell scored a power-play goal. The Falcons tied the game again at 19:20 when Jodi Hensch scored on a shot from the point. It was her fifth goal of the year and she was assisted by Paulson.

The Falcons went ahead 3-2 at 3:12 of the second period. Lindsay O'Keefe scored a

power-play goal with the Falcons holding a five-on-three advantage. Hensch and Lindsay Carlson got the assists. It was

O'Keefe's 10th goal of the year.

The Falcons notched two more goals in the third, both from Paulson. She scored at :26 with

assists to Magnuson and Slinden and at 9:30 with assists to

See W. HOCKEY, B4



Photo by Eric A. Page

Lou Paulson celebrates Lindsey O'Keefe's game-winning goal in the second period of the Falcons' 5-2 win over Eau Claire Saturday at Hunt Arena.

NCAA nixes Div. III red-shirting

Eric A. Page
Sports Editor

Picture the UW-River Falls men's basketball team this season without Rich Melzer. Stretch the imagination further and envision the Falcon volleyball team this past fall without the services of All-American Melissa Trvdik.

What do the two have in common? They both used a red-shirt year as freshman and have reaped the benefits of the extra year of experience.

Trvdik, a two-time All-American, and Melzer, who is well on his way to his second selection, would not have had that option under new legislation passed at the NCAA's legislation convention in Nashville, Tenn. Jan. 9-11.

The legislation eliminated red-shirting in NCAA Div. III athletics. The rule states that an athlete will lose a year of eligibility if they participate in an event or practice after the date of the team's first competition. This essentially limits an athlete's involvement with a team to four years whereas a red-shirt could practice with the team for a year and play for four.

Falcon volleyball coach Patti Ford was one of three representatives UW-RF sent to the convention.

"I think there was a misconception that more people use the red-shirt than not," Ford said. "There tends to be a competitive advantage when teams are allowed to red-shirt and several conferences have already established rules against it."

The NCAA was aiming to eliminate that advantage while keeping in mind the financial strains a fifth year of college can impose on a student athlete at the Div. III level where there are no athletic scholarships.

The Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) had already eliminated red-shirting. In the case of the private schools in the MIAC, it makes sense financially when students are paying upwards of \$25,000 for a year of school. At UW-RF it is less of an issue.

"It was private-school legislation," UW-RF Director of Athletics and men's basketball coach Rick Bowen said. "Our UW System chancellors supported it and that is certainly their prerogative. There was a perceived problem and there really wasn't. All along it has been the student's decision (to red-shirt) and I think this is going to affect students as much academically as it will athletically."

In the case of Melzer, he used his freshman year to concentrate on academics in order to be eligible, which Bowen said helped him immensely in making the transition to college.

"That year allowed Rich to prove to himself that he could handle a college load without being under the pressure of per-

forming in games," Bowen said. Trvdik did not go out for volleyball in the fall of her freshman year because she wanted to concentrate on making the adjustment to college academically. She started practicing with the team in the spring which she couldn't do under the new rule.

"They (the NCAA) thought that red-shirting was being forced on kids and it wasn't," Bowen said.

"One of the most important things in education today is to give people a choice and we have totally eliminated that."

John O'Grady
Head football coach

doesn't think it is going to have a sweeping effect on Div. III athletics.

"I don't think it is going to change the face of Div. III sports," Ford said. "I think it will be felt differently in different sports. Traditionally we have seen it more in football. You'll have to look at more creative ways to utilize players so there is not an attrition happening because someone is not playing."

The new legislation has Falcon football coach John O'Grady scrambling to come up with alternatives. One option is to allow a player to practice for the first two weeks and then go on a weight program for the rest of the season without participating in practice.

Another is to have reserve

players play in junior varsity games as some MIAC schools already do.

"I am sure in their wisdom the people that made this decision certainly did not fund any junior varsity games," O'Grady said. "I am assuming that because they made that decision they will put the money there for us to do that, but making that assumption now days doesn't normally happen."

For O'Grady, who competes with nearby Div. II schools for talent, the new rule creates a recruiting headache. He said WIAC coaches have considered encouraging players to go red-shirt at a Div. II school and then transfer their sophomore year.

With UW-RF and other WIAC schools having so many athletes majoring in education it is unrealistic to think the student would complete the program in four years, which means they will be around a fifth year regardless.

"One of the most important things in education today is to give people a choice," O'Grady said, "and we have totally eliminated that."

Ford said one of the NCAA's intentions was to sway student athletes from focusing only on athletics and allow them to get involved in other campus activities.

Bowen said the negative consequences overshadow any optimism.

"If a person wants to not participate in their freshman year and save that year, after the first game, I am going to lose contact with that kid," he said. "Along with that comes the loss of academic monitoring and a whole bunch of other positive things."



Photo by Eric A. Page
All-American basketball player Rich Melzer (34) is one of many Falcon athletes who have taken advantage of a red-shirt year. New NCAA legislation has banned red-shirting by Div. III schools.

Swimmers struggle in dual meets

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls men's and women's swimming teams lost dual meets against UW-Eau Claire and UW-Whitewater Saturday afternoon in Eau Claire.

In the women's meets, Eau Claire topped the Falcons, 106-25 and Whitewater beat UW-RF, 81-44. In the men's meets, Eau Claire won, 88-49 and Whitewater won, 77-55.

For the women, Kelly Deters won the 100m

backstroke in 1:07.05 and she was second in the 50m freestyle in 26.66. Rachel Clark placed second in the 100m butterfly in 1:03.64. Laura Schultz placed second in the 400 IM in 5:12.07. The Falcon 200m free relay team of Deters, Lucy Williams, Clark and Schultz placed second in 1:48.66.

For the men, Kyle Palmer won the 100m breaststroke in 1:04.79 and the 200m breaststroke in 2:22.48.

The Falcons will swim at UW-La Crosse on Friday. Action starts at 6 p.m.

M. HOCKEY from B1

NCAA tournament at-large bid if the Falcons falter before winning

the Peters Cup. The Falcons face a challenge Feb. 6 and 7 when No. 2 St. Norbert and No. 8 Lake Forest come to Hunt Arena. Friday night's game looks to be the highlight game of the nation. "I think it will be an electric

atmosphere in the building," Freeman said. "Any big home crowd really helps carry the team."

The puck drops at Hunt Arena at 7:05 p.m. both Friday and Saturday night.

PAGE from B1

The second was an echo.

So let me throw props to the "River Falls super-fan." You really threw him off his game.

By the way, he made both shots.

In spite of your indifference, the Falcons held on and the Pointers never got closer than seven.

So when Melzer broke loose from the press and hammered a two-handed dunk that was the old-fashioned point on a win that popped a 10-year old pimple on the face of the Falcon program, what happened?

Pandemonium. Hysteria. Bleacher boards breaking beneath your feet. Not quite.

You stood up, stretched your legs – heaven forbid you get "bleacher back" – and took advantage of the opportunity to put your coat on.

The buzzer sounded and there was an immediate mob-scene – not on the floor – at the door. Sorry to make you miss curfew.

Ten years, an 18-game losing streak snapped and by far the biggest win of the season. The memory of it will dance in your mind for years to come.

You could have been a part of it.

Instead you sat there holding a conversation that you forgot before it was over and your eyes glazed over as history unfolded before you.

I give up.

Standing their ground

Falcons' loss to Pointers reveals vast improvement



Photo by Eric A. Page
Chantele Melgaard splits two Pointer defenders while making an assist during the second half of the Falcon's 88-76 loss Wednesday night. Melgaard finished with 14 points.

Eric A. Page
Sports Editor

The last time the UW-River Falls women's basketball team faced UW-Stevens Point it lost a lopsided 94-50 game on the road.

Wednesday night, in a very different game, the Pointers escaped the Karges Center with a 88-76 victory.

The match-up offered the Falcons an opportunity for redemption or least a chance to gauge their improvement since the trouncing they received on Dec. 2.

The Pointers, who came into the game ranked No. 7 in the nation by D3Hoops.com, were caught off guard by an aggressive Falcon team with nothing to lose.

The first half alone featured five ties and five lead changes.

Unintimidated by the Pointer's swagger, the Falcons came out early and took an 8-2 lead after Melanie Preiner hit back-to-back three-pointers.

The two teams went back and forth with the Falcons maintaining their advantage until the Pointers pulled even at 15-15.

The Pointers Becky Pepper hit

two jumpers sandwiched around a Chantele Melgaard layup that gave the Pointers a two-point lead midway through the first half.

The Falcons kept pace during the next two minutes and pulled even again at 23-23 before a deliberate Pointer offense began to pull away.

The Falcons were within five at 34-29 with two minutes to play in the half but an 8-0 Pointer run gave the visitors a 13-point half-time lead.

The Falcons came out of half-time in a scrambling 2-2-1 press that created confusion in the Pointer backcourt.

Powered by nearly six minutes of holding the Pointers without a field goal, the Falcons cut the lead to eight after a Darcy Olsen free throw with 11:43 to play.

The Pointers again pulled out to a 13-point lead at 62-49 but the difference between Wednesday and the Dec. 2 game was the Falcons never let it get out of hand.

The Pointers grabbed their biggest lead of the night at 68-52 with seven minutes to play. The Falcons snapped off an 11-2 run during the next five minutes to

pull within seven at 70-63 with two minutes remaining.

The Pointers made 13-15 free throws down the stretch to seal the win.

The Falcons equaled the Pointers' 50 percent field goal shooting but shot a chilling 58 percent from the line, including 13-20 in the second half. The Falcons were also out-rebounded 48-27.

Erin Effle led the Falcons with 20 points, three rebounds and three assists on the night.

Melgaard finished with 14 points while Traci Reimann chipped in with 11 points. Preiner finished the game with eight. Miranda Biteler scored seven points and handed out four assists while Gina Astedt recorded a game-high six assists and scored five points.

The Pointers were led by Amanda Nechuta with 19 points. She was one of five pointers in double figures.

The Falcons are now 11-9 overall, 2-9 WIAC, with five regular season games remaining.

They return to action Saturday against UW-Eau Claire at 7 p.m. at the Karges Center.

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Raising the bar

Micheal Foley
Assistant Editor

The UW-River Falls women's track and field team looks to maintain what it built during the last year's campaign. In 2003 the Falcons women scored 31 points and placed seventh of nine teams in the WIAC indoor meet in March.



Steph Dura



Jen Leis

showed how much they had improved by turning out 50.5 points and grabbing fifth place. High jumper Jill Crandall, shot putter Steph Dura and discus and hammer thrower Jen Leis qualified for the NCAA Div. III national meet.

Leis placed eighth in the discus with a toss of 142-8, which earned UW-RF one point on the

national stage. Crandall placed 15th in the high jump with a leap of 5-1. Leis and Dura placed in the hammer throw or the discus.

This year, Crandall is a sophomore and has already cleared 5-4 in practice. Leis and Dura are also making waves in their throwing events. Though the women are lacking in numbers this season, the quality of their athletes should earn them some points at nationals again this year, Falcon head coach Don Glover said.

"We've got three women qualified for nationals already," Glover said. "We could conceivably get points at the national meet on the women's side. That would be awesome if we could go to nationals and score 10 points."

So far the Falcon women have participated in two indoor meets – at UW-Eau Claire and at St. Cloud State University.

At UW-Eau Claire, the women finished fifth of seven teams and scored 67 points. The Falcons only missed third place by 21 points. UW-Eau Claire was the only WIAC team to outscore the Falcons at the meet. UW-Superior only managed 21 points. No team scores were kept at the St. Cloud State University meet.

Senior Katie Mitchell is the fastest sprinter on the team. She will handle the 60m and 200m races indoors and move up to

100m and 200m outdoors. At the St. Cloud State meet she placed fourth in the 200 in 27.32 and fifth in the 60 in 8.22.

Joining Mitchell in the sprinting blocks will be junior Tiffany Reber and junior Jill Breutzman in sprints and hurdles.

Even though the Falcons don't have any strong competitors in the 400m, several cross country athletes anchor the 800m and up, led by seniors Marian Christen and Amy Schultz. Junior Sara Rudesill and freshman Amanda Kozinsky will also add to the depth in the distance events.

Crandall and volleyball middle hitter Kiah Sagami will do the high jumping duties. While Crandall reaches for 5-6 and up, Sagami will look to move above 5-0. Freshmen Valerie Lemens will serve her duties in the triple jump while Sagami will long jump.

The Falcons also have two female pole vaulters – juniors Gina Anderson and Joy Hemmesch.

The throwing events is where the Falcons will score a lot of points this season. Not only are Dura and Leis already qualified for nationals, but Haylee Hall is challenging both of them. All three can compete in the shot put, discus, weight throw and hammer throw. Glover expects the Falcons to have the best discus crew in the conference when the outdoor season rolls around.



Photos by Micheal Foley

Above: Jill Crandall approaches the high jump bar Saturday in St. Cloud. The sophomore has already qualified for the national indoor meet in March. Below: Katie Mitchell crouches in the blocks in preparation for the 60m sprint Saturday. She will lead the Falcon sprinters around the track this spring.

Falcon women impress at St. Cloud

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls men's and women's indoor track & field teams gave some outstanding performances in the team's second meet of the season at the Husky Invitational held Saturday in St. Cloud.

For the women, Steph Dura won the shot put with a toss of 42-8 3/4; Dura also placed fourth

in the weight throw with a 43-11 1/2 effort. Jen Leis placed second in the weight throw with a toss of 51-4 1/2 and she placed fourth in the shot with 37-7 3/4 effort. Jill Crandall placed second in the high jump with a leap of 5-2 1/2. Marian Christen placed fourth in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:31.28. Katie Mitchell placed fourth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 27.32 and fifth in the 60-meter

sprint. She ran the 60 in 8.22.

For the men, Phil Richter placed sixth in the triple jump with a leap of 41-2 1/2 and Mark Hartwig placed seventh in the 3,000-meter run, finishing the race in 9:37.29.

There were no team scores kept.

The Falcons will next compete at MSU-Mankato on Saturday with competition starting at 9 a.m.



Photos by Micheal Foley

Above: Andy Poterucha clears the bar in the high jump at the Falcons meet in St. Cloud on Saturday. Below: Sophomore Erik Olson looks to be one of three big throwers for the Falcon men this spring.



Micheal Foley
Assistant Editor

This year, UW-River Falls men's track and field is not a team of all rookies. In 2003 the Falcons reinstated its men's track and field program that was dormant for several years. It will look to place higher in the WIAC at the outdoor conference championship meet in March and the outdoor conference championship meet in May.

Last year the Falcon men's indoor team placed last in the conference with only 21 points but only missed sixth place by five points. Likewise, the outdoor team finished eighth with 11.5 – just 43 points from sixth place.

"I would like to see us place in the top five in the conference meets and I'd like to get some people qualified for the national meet," said Don Glover, head track and field coach at UW-RF. "The WIAC is the best conference in the nation. The national champion always comes out of this conference. The men last year were last but it was their first year of track."

So far the Falcon men have participated in two indoor meets – at UW-Eau Claire and at St. Cloud State University. Glover said he has seen

some promising performances from his athletes so far. At UW-EC, the men finished third of seven teams and scored 107.5 points. Both teams ahead of the Falcons were from the host school. The only other WIAC team in the meet, UW-Superior, only managed five points. No team scores were kept at the St. Cloud State University meet.

Though one of the team's most exciting runners hasn't competed yet this year, senior Weesayma Kennedy, is eager to jump out of the blocks in the 60m and 200m sprints indoor and the 100m and 200m outdoor. Last year Kennedy set new indoor and outdoor team records in the 200m with his blazing speed.

Joining Kennedy among the sprinters for the men's team will be freshmen Greg Greene, Rick Stewart and Phil Richter. Sophomore Mike Zander looks to be the team's top 400m runner.

Senior Dan Booth will anchor a young core of middle distance and long distance runners including freshmen Cary Cardinal, Scott Reise and Jake Kocak, as well as sophomore Ben Kirmse. Coming off a successful cross country season is freshman Jason Quarford and sophomores Mark Hartwig and Eric Nordgren.

The Falcon jumping core is blessed with a few more experienced athletes, even though the top three triple jumpers are freshmen. Clint Christy, Matt Zeilder and Richter will all compete in the triple jump – a first for the team. Christy and Greene will also take on long jumping duties. Christy may also be looked upon to high jump for the Falcons but senior Dean Harder and junior Andy Poterucha have already cleared 6-4 in practice this season. Freshman Lance Wiersma will also look to participate in the high jump.

The Falcons also have one multi-event athlete. Freshman Mark Bookman will fill a hole in the heptathlon.

In the throwing events – weight throw, shot put and discus – the Falcons have seniors Steve Berg and Cole Bliven along with sophomore Erik Olson. Olson looks to be a stand-out in the discus while Berg and Bliven should do well in the weight throw and shot put.



Don Glover

Growing pains

After losing at St. Norbert by a 6-3 score Jan. 17, the second place Falcons will look to close the gap on the first place Green Knights. St. Norbert is riding an eight-game winning streak, while the Falcons have just one win in their last five games. Their last loss came at the hands of the Knights.

Jan. 31 results

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs-Assst.-Steals)
Holt 8-2-0-0, Helfrey 6-3-3-0, Becker
15-3-2-0, Halter 4-4-7-0, Melzer 25-8-
5-2, Lam 8-2-0-0, Hoeg 4-6-1-1.

Swimming

Women

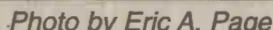
Jan. 31 results
At Eau Claire Triangular

Men

Track and Field

Men

Jan. 31 results
At St. Cloud
Team results: none
Falcon Top-five Finishers
None



She was assisted by Carlson. The Falcons claimed the only goal of the third period when Carlson scored her seventh goal of the year with Magnuson assisting.

Falcon goalie Amber Lindner improved her record to 7-1 for the year making 26 saves. Blugold goalie Sara Steinhoff stopped 30 shots.

The Falcons, now 11-8-1 overall and 7-4-1 in the NCHA, host UW-Superior this weekend at Hunt Arena. Games start at 1:05 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Ballots will be tabulated during the game and results may be announced as soon as the second intermission.

Ali Miesen had one of her best efforts of the season in a double dual meet at Eau Claire on Saturday. She placed fifth in the 100 breaststroke in 1:21.66 and fifth in the 200 breaststroke in 2:56.44.

Southern Exposure

UW-RF physics major joins research team at South Pole during break



Submitted Photo

Sophomore physics major John Eisch spent one month during winter break monitoring the freezing of two ice-top detectors and recording data at the South Pole.

Eric A. Page
Sports Editor

Many college students head south during winter break. Florida, Texas, California and Mexico are some of the most popular destinations.

This past break, UW-River Falls sophomore John Eisch went a little extreme. He went to the South Pole.

Eisch, a physics major, has been working for the past year-and-a-half on an international research venture called Project Ice Cube. UW-RF is one of only 20 universities world-wide involved and researchers from each converge at "The Pole," as they call it, to gather research.

Eisch, a Wisconsin Rapids native, learned of the project when he was in eighth grade and followed it through high school. He chose to attend UW-RF based on its involvement in the project.

"My high school physics teacher got his masters degree in physics education here, so he knew the professors," Eisch said.

"He communicated my interest to them, so when I showed up they already knew that I was interested. When I wanted to start doing research they said sure."

Under the supervision of physics department Chair Jim Madsen and Professor Glenn Spiczak, Eisch went to work. After watching his two professors and a fellow student make the trek south last year, his interest peaked.

He worked part of this last summer and fall on a prototype detector here which is virtually identical to the one installed at The Pole," Spiczak said. "So they knew he was familiar with the project."

Spiczak refers to the National Science Foundation (NSF), which oversees the project.

"We told the NSF that as part of our collaboration we need to have our undergraduate students involved," Madsen said. "We have a commitment that when we have a good student that can make a contribution that they will have the opportunity to par-

ticipate."

So during finals week, when most UW-RF students were packing their bags for home, Eisch embarked on the 32-hour trip to The Pole.

After 20 hours of commercial flights from Minneapolis to Chicago to Los Angeles to Auckland, New Zealand to Christchurch, New Zealand, Eisch boarded a C-130 cargo plane to McMurdo Station on the coast of Antarctica where he spent the night. Another four hour trip on a C-130 the next day and he had arrived.

"I was impressed with how big the station was and how much was going on down there," Eisch said. "I was surprised at how much activity was going on."

The colony of researchers at The Pole, which never exceeds a population of 200, occupies an old station on the ground while a new station raised on stilts is being constructed.

Eisch joined the project right away. His responsibilities for the month he spent at the station were monitoring the freezing of two ice-top detectors and recording data from a detector deployed last year.

"We needed to make sure that the oxygen level in the water was low enough, so we didn't get

bubbles in the ice," Eisch said. "I mostly just made sure that everything was working all the time, so we could have crystal clear ice."

He also kept a Web log of his experiences.

Each day Eisch would wake shortly before dinner time and eat before checking his e-mail. The satellites for his e-mail did not come up until 7 p.m. After that Eisch would hike the kilometer to where the tanks were located and monitor those until midnight when he compiled the daily logs to be sent back to the United States.

After a midnight snack and some number crunching, Eisch would head back to the tanks at around 4 a.m. to make sure everything was in order. Then, after a quick breakfast, he would head to bed.

Though he was away from home for the holiday season, Eisch did not miss out on its appetizing incentives.

"We had a big Christmas dinner," Eisch said. "Part of what they do to keep morale high is they have really good food."

The project is the spawn of an earlier project called AMANDA which originated at UW-Madison in the late 1980s. AMANDA, which stands for Antarctic Muon and Neutrino Detector Array, was the first generation of high powered neutrino telescopes.

Unlike protons and electrons, neutrinos have no charge and are virtually undetectable as they travel through the Earth. However, they occasionally intercept the nucleus of an atom, creating a ray of light called a muon which reveals the path of the neutrino.

Project Ice Cube is simply that. It is a gigantic cube of ice, one cubic kilometer that will be fitted with 5,000 detector modules. AMANDA had only 700.

Using the Earth as a filter and the crystal-clear ice of the South Polar Cap to house the telescope, Ice Cube will hopefully detect enough muons to trace the paths of the neutrinos back to their origin and gain a better understanding of how they're created.

The project, which Madsen brought to UW-RF during a one-year sabbatical, has been approved for funding through 2012.

"Our involvement in this project allows us to say to someone in high school that they can come here and work on it through their whole education," Madsen said. "At this point we can even say they can work on it through grad school."

That is exactly what Eisch, who will work on related research this summer at the University of Delaware, wants to do.

"I want to go someplace within the group of universities that are working on this project," Eisch said. "Madison or Berkeley would be nice."

HOROSCOPES

By staff psychic Rachel Gaynor who is a princess, no matter what anyone else says.

ARIES (March 21-April 20)

There is one professor who is unbearable this semester. He assigns 15-page papers and promises that no one will be able to get an A in class. Remember they are humans and humans have weaknesses too. Find those weaknesses and use them against your professor to get an A.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Little kids are lucky; they get recess and nap time. The next class you have and don't really like, bring your nap mat and roll it out on the floor and tell your professor you're sleepy. Then proceed to take a nap. If they get mad, throw a fit. It worked when you were young, why won't it work now?

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Once again, you have had too many drinks at the bar and think you heard someone talking about you. Don't try to be macho and fight anyone at the bar. You will end up getting hurt and getting thrown out on the street in the cold.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

You may be noticing a little weight gain due to the holidays and the fact that all you did over break was eat. Your friends, however, are looking skinnier every day. Bake cookies and cakes for your friends and they will gain weight and you won't have to diet or exercise.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

New Year's resolutions are hard to keep. Instead of making a goal to quit smoking or to lose weight, go against the flow and make a resolution to start smoking and gain weight. It will be easier to accomplish and then you won't be down on yourself for being a failure.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

Everybody likes to get a little action every now and then. If you're single and you are trying to pick somebody up, just make sure you know their name and some details about them so you won't feel as bad the next day when you actually have to face them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

The ratio of males to females on this campus is impressive. Girls have to try hard to find a guy and will be lucky if he's single and normal: Single guys should try to make themselves known to the cuties in their class and let them know you have the qualities they want even if it's not true.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

The temperatures are below zero and the snow is more than a foot deep in some places. Driving to class is a great idea to students living off campus. Just remember that parking is a problem and you have to get there early to fight off other students for a spot. If you can't find a spot, consider it a sign and just turn around and go back to your nice warm apartment or house.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

If you have been cheating on your significant other, watch out. They know and they also know that they can do anything they want to you until they feel that you have suffered enough. Diamonds, wine and dinner are a nice way to say sorry. It would just be better if you hadn't cheated in the first place but now I hope you've learned your lesson and won't ever do it again.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Although Justin Timberlake thought it was a great idea to pull off Janet Jackson's top at the Super Bowl halftime show when they were dancing, it wasn't. To all you guys out there: Do not try this the next time you are dancing with a girl at Kaos. It will not be a good outcome.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

The first week of classes was a shock to you. You never realized that college could be this much work. The minimum credit requirement is 12 credits. It is OK to drop a couple classes and stay a little longer. Lots of people go to school for eight years, not just doctors.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Cold weather brings car troubles for many, including you. Somedays it may not start and someday it will run just fine. Talk to your car like it is a person and tell it how great it would be if it would just work for you to get to class and back. You'd be surprised what a little positive encouragement means to a machine. It will be nice to you if you are nice to it. Give your car a pet name and only refer to it as that. It will feel special and so will you.

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TWICE THE TALENT



Photo by Teresa Schmitt

Moria Clinton received her second award for outstanding work in theater. Clinton, a senior theater major, recently won the Mehron Make-Up Award for her make up design in the Spring production of "Bondagers." The regional award qualifies her to attend the National American College Theatre Festival in Washington in April. Clinton competed against students at schools with larger departments. This is the second year in row Clinton took home an award at the festival. Clinton's last project before graduation will be the set and costume design for "The Laramie Project," which will be performed in the spring. If she chooses, she can enter her designs in both categories at next year's competition. Clinton is looking into graduate schools and working on her portfolio.

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BUTTERFLY EFFECT (R)
(12:00, 2:20)
Weekdays 4:40 Evenings 7:10, 9:30

BARBERSHOP 2 (PG-13)
(12:30, 2:45)
Weekdays 5:00 Evenings 7:30, 9:45

CATCH THAT KID (PG)
(12:15, 2:30)
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BIG FISH (PG-13)
(1:00)
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(2:40)
Evenings 7:30

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MOVIE HOTLINE 386-9697



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Coffeehouse singer takes listeners on a journey and back

**Feb. 6
8 p.m.
Brandy's, Student Center
Free with Student ID
\$5 for non-students**

The Coffeehouse series presents Peter Mayer, a singer/songwriter native to Minnesota. Mayer has six CDs under his belt and just released his newest entitled Earth Town Square that features 13 new original songs. Mayer has been part of the Coffeehouse series for several years. His lyrics are unique and most students should be able to relate to his music. A new CD is in the works that is due out in 2004. Mayer frequently sings songs that transform his audience to new places. Mayer has been touring full-time since 1995 and has been across the United States. Visit his website at petermayer.net for more information on this up and coming artist.



Photo from petermayer.net
Peter Mayer has been coming to the Coffeehouse series for several years.

EVENTS

Black History Month
February is Black History Month. Celebrate it by attending "The Meeting: Malcom X and Martin Luther King, Jr." a three man play exploring the meeting between the two civil rights pioneers. It is on Feb. 9 in North Hall Auditorium and is free. There is also a Bake Sale on Feb. 12 in the Falcon Nest.

Submit Literature
UW-RF's student literary and art publication "Prologue" is accepting writing and artwork. Deadline is Feb. 20 in 241-A KFA. Everyone is encouraged to submit.

Swoosh
KinniConnections is taking a trip to Hoffman Park on Feb. 20 for a little bit of sledding fun. Sleds will be provided just meet there anytime after 7p.m. to whirl down the hill.

Aerobics
Work out as often as you want for only \$20/semester. Classes are Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs at 4p.m. and Mon, Tues at 6 p.m. Contact Betsy Barrett for more info. 425-3911 or betsy.s.barrett@uwrf.edu

Mainstreet Makeover

Falls Theatre ups prices to \$3 to support face-lift

Kate Camplin
Staff Writer

There are few things in life that remain untouched by change; the Falls Theatre in River Falls is not one of them.

Two dollar tickets and raggedy seats have been a mainstay in the one-screen, family-owned business for years but business is business and the theater needs to stay afloat.

After closing Jan. 26-29, the theater will welcome patrons into a newly remodeled space, hoping they understand the necessity of a dollar hike in ticket prices. Adults are able to see a movie for \$3 and kids get in for \$2. The price increase is the first in 15 years.

"This change is crucial for future success," said Mickey Maher, Falls Theatre owner and daughter of late theater owner Stan McCulloch.

With the increase in price comes what Maher hopes will be an increase in comfort. There will be new seats in the theater that will provide more leg room.

More leg room, however, means less people. The theater's

new capacity is a third less than before. Maher says the price increase is a direct reflection of the reduction in seating.

"It is nice that they are making the theater nicer and it is ok that they are reducing the seating because I have never been there when it was really full anyways," said Mindy Naef, UW-RF senior.

UW-RF students have long been dedicated patrons of the Falls Theatre and many agree it was a needed improvement.

"I think it is a small price to pay for what needed to be done," said Rebekah Oltmans, recent UW-RF graduate and resident of River Falls. "It is still half the price of what you would pay for a movie anywhere else."

Maier said she has not received any complaints about the increase in price.

"It's like family here and people are very understanding," Maier said.

In addition to the new seats and increased ticket prices, the Falls

Theatre is undergoing other necessary changes. A new surround-sound system is being installed, along with tile to cover the concrete floor. The aisles will be re-carpeted and the lobby is getting a new floor. Maher said the

"This change is crucial for future success."

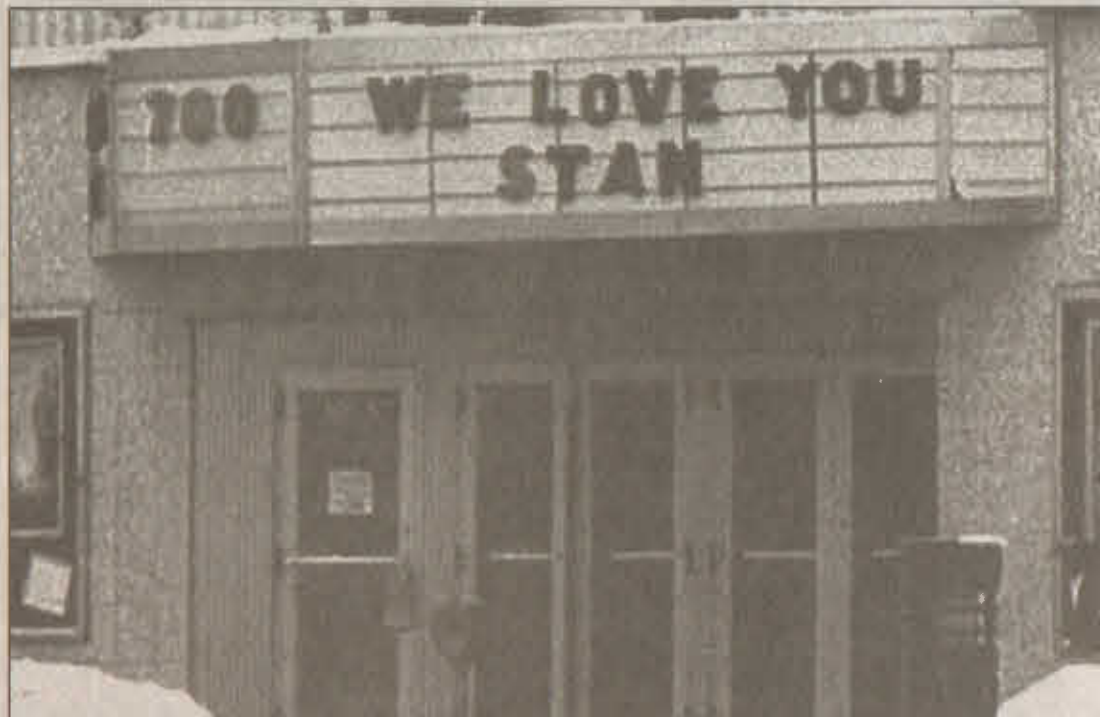
**Mickey Maher
Falls Theatre
Owner**

entire process is all part of "completing the picture". While some things may change, Maher said "Stan's Legacy" will be carried on. McCulloch was a legend not only in River Falls.

"Even in my hometown of Monroe, Wis. there are people that knew of the gentleman who owned it originally," Naef said. "It was so cool that he wanted to make going to the movies affordable."

After McCulloch died, Maher continued the tradition and vowed to maintain affordable entertainment for the families and citizens of River Falls.

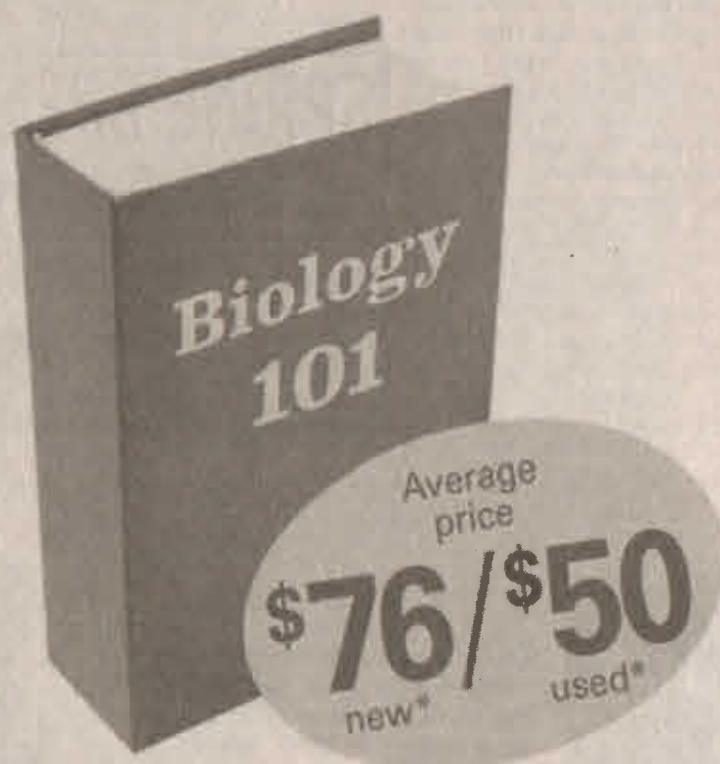
"When I look at the new seating, I know that it is in harmony with the building and its past," Maher said. "It is still the same 1927 humble operation."



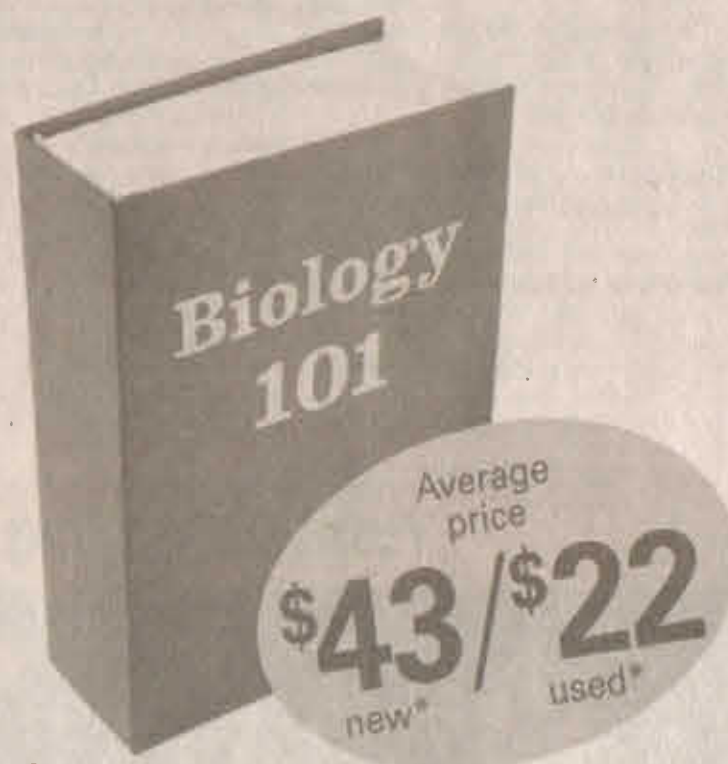
File Photo

Stan's legacy lives on, despite renovations and price increases to help the theater stay in business into the future.

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