

STUDENT VOICE

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Social Security numbers abused in wrong hands

SARA JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

When you hand someone your student I.D. card, you are literally giving them all the tools they need to steal your identity.

Because names and Social Security/I.D. numbers appear on the front of every UW-River Falls identification card, students, staff and faculty could become easy prey to criminals and snoopers.

Just ask Beth Taylor, a reporter with the *Orlando Sentinel* who was the victim of identity fraud a year-and-a-half ago.

With the same basic information that appears on UW-RF I.D.s, a woman armed with Taylor's Social Security number and name was able to establish instant credit at nine department stores and charge nearly \$8,000 worth of goods in Taylor's name.

The woman didn't have to change her appearance to pass herself off as Taylor and didn't have to worry about being prosecuted. All she needed was a Social Security number and the endurance of a professional shopper.

Identity fraud works like this: scam artists get your Social Security number, name and address and go to a store and apply for instant credit.

When asked for their address, they say they've recently moved and either make up a current address or use the

address of a vacated home. This way, mail won't reach anyone until after the con is completed. Instant credit in hand, the con artists then shop 'til they drop.

Stores don't bother to prosecute most identity fraud cases because it just isn't worth it when it comes to bottom line profits.

"The stores don't care," Taylor said. "They just don't want to get involved."

Taylor cares though, because she is still dealing with the effects of the fraud and will be for seven years. She was encouraged to put a seven-year fraud alert on her formerly spotless credit record to prevent a recurrence, but the alert makes it difficult for Taylor to get credit.

"I've been trying to buy a coffee table out of a catalog for three months, but I won't give up," she said.

Meanwhile, Taylor said the woman who stole her credit hasn't been caught and probably never will be.

That Little Magic Number

"Start out with a Social (Security) number and a name and you can get virtually anything," said a private inves-

tigator with Knight Hawk Investigations in Chippewa Falls. He declined to give his name for security reasons.

With a Social Security number and a name you can legally obtain someone's address, date of birth and who the person has credit accounts with, the investigator said.

Illegally, with a little expertise, a person could get your credit reports, payment schedules, credit card statements, insurance information, phone bills and medical records — all with that one magic number.

Social Security numbers that double as student I.D. numbers provide easy pickings, but it isn't the only way a thief could nab your number.

A quick search of the Internet and anyone can find all the tools necessary for

blackmail or identity fraud. In newsgroups and on web sites, a person can find investigators who will give you a Social Security number if you can supply the name, or vice versa — all for \$60 or less.

To top off an identity fraud, web sites and magazine ads advertise fake identification for around \$25 to \$50. The

fake I.D.s are the perfect accessory for identity fraud.

However, many people don't even go to these lengths. Some will sort through trash, a practice commonly called "dumpster diving," to find the credit account or Social Security numbers of their victims.

Others access their information through unscrupulous clerks who are on the lookout for people with good credit. Taylor said she believes the woman who used her identity obtained the information from a clerk.

Information, perhaps the hottest commodity of the '90s, drives business and crime alike. Everybody wants your Social Security number: your school, your professors, the video store, the landlord and even the blood bank where you give blood.

The pervasiveness of Social Security numbers makes every minute detail of your life accessible at the click of a mouse.

"Students should use skepticism when giving Social Security numbers," said Terry Winters, a field representative with the Social Security Administration district office in Eau Claire.

Winters pointed out that many businesses can be persuaded to use a client identification number other than the Social Security number; she encourages students not to blindly give their number to anyone who asks.

Whatever you do, don't make up a Social Security

Numbers•4B

Students react to library progress

JASON EGERSTROM
STAFF WRITER

Thunderous sounds echo as metal and rock clash against one another. Then a cloud of dust quickly fills the area. One has to squint through the dusty fog to observe an object some distance away.

This pounding and drilling comes out of our very own Chalmers Davee Library, and it will continue into January.

However, the construction project has progressed, said Library Director Christina Baum.

Students can now see the progress in the library by using the new entry. It has glass doors at the end of the new sidewalk with the railing next to South Hall.

Some students described their first impressions of the library's new reference and circulation area.

"The green marble makes it look more professional...I like the openness," said Student Senate Vice President Karen Kubes during a library tour senators took Wednesday.

Senator Brad Hougaard said he was also impressed.

"I like having government documents, the reserve desk and reference area all in one," Hougaard said.

On the second floor, the north and south sides now connect, unlike years past when students had to go to the first floor to reach the opposite side.

In addition to the Talon systems located in the new reference area, the library's basement may consist of five to seven computer labs, said Facilities Engineer Jim Murphy.

Some of these computers will be taken from the North Hall labs, which will then be converted into classrooms, Murphy said.

Hougaard said this system would be more convenient.

"I like having all the computers in one spot," he said.

Planners also provided for other conveniences. The library's two floors and the basement are secured two different ways, Murphy said. This allows the computer labs in the basement to remain open when the library is closed and vice versa.

Murphy said there is a possibility the basement could be open 24 hours if there are enough computing staff members willing to work the extra hours.

Student Senate President Grant Staszak said there is a possibility that library hours will be extended on the weekends as well.

Students will now be able to access all of the books on the second floor and obtain information by themselves. The books are on the correct floor but will remain in a temporary position for awhile, Baum said.

Though workers have made progress with the new entry, there is a lot of work remaining, Baum said.

"A main concern of mine with the opening of the entry (is that) it sounds like you're opening up the whole new thing, and that's not the case," Baum said.

The library has improved access into

Library•4B

Ready...aim...fire



Mark Danielson photo

To commemorate Veteran's Day Monday, Nov. 11, the River Falls American Legion Firing Squad fire their rifles outside North Hall in honor of America's Veterans.

'Winterizing' your world

Getting ready for extreme temperatures crucial for cars, homes

BRANDON EYCHESON
STAFF WRITER

There's not much Midwesterners can do about cold weather besides move south.

The cold weather that entombs northern Wisconsin residents is making its presence known — ready or not.

Although there is little one can do to overcome the trials and tribulations that come with the drop in the mercury, there are a few things people can do to at least make the winter months bearable.

Swede, owner of Swede's Union 76 in River Falls, said it is very important to properly prepare cars for the freezing temperatures.

"The best thing you can do for your car is bring it in for a routine tune-up," he said.

A routine tune-up includes an oil change and lube, antifreeze check, air and oil filter replacement and brake check, among other things, Swede said. Costs can be \$50 or more, depending on the services the car requires.

"It is most important to have a 60 to 40 antifreeze-to-water ratio now," he said. "If your engine block freezes and cracks, it could cost anywhere from \$2,000 to \$2,500 in repairs."

"It would make more sense to prevent a cracked engine block for \$50

than to repair it for \$2,000."

Swede also said the car's brake system should be inspected before winter.

"Without (good brakes), you could injure someone or injure yourself," he said.

Before the mercury begins to dip below freezing, Swede said it's a good idea to add a gas stabilizer, such as Heet, to the car's fuel tank every third gas fill. This will eliminate moisture in the gas line and prevent freezing.

Another important part of the car to check before the weather takes its toll is the battery, Swede said. It takes more power to start a cold engine than a warm one, and it costs the average person \$15 for a service station to charge the car battery.

If people would like to prevent the cold weather's stress on their car batteries, they can purchase a soft-plug heater block.

"Winter is hard on the starter," he said. "If you keep your car plugged in so the engine is warm, you will add life to your engine."

Tires should also be checked before streets become treacherous.

"Tires need a fairly decent tread in the winter to prevent slipping and accidents," Swede said.

Service stations' routine tune-ups would point out these problems, Swede said, and would prevent expensive repairs.

He said it is a good idea to start cars daily and run them for a few minutes. This charges the battery and makes it easier for the engine to turn over.

In case of a breakdown, people should always keep a "winter kit" somewhere in the car at all times. An extra jacket, boots, mittens, a reflective blanket and candy bars should be included in the kit, among other things.

Winter doesn't only create problems for motorists; it places a burden on the pocketbook as well. With low temperatures comes the constant need for electric heating for homes and apartments, which can become quite costly.

Jerry Van Someren of St. Croix Electrical Co-op said people should look at three things when "winterizing" their homes or apartments. To prevent cold air from flowing into the home, people should check for air infiltration, the condition of the insulation and the caulking outside the house.

If cold air is coming into the house, the heater has to work harder to keep a constant temperature, Van Someren said. This can send the heating bill through the roof.

"The doors are the best place to start," he said. "The doors should fit snugly and all of the weather stripping should be in good condition."

Windows are other important areas where air gets into the house.

"3M window insulation kits are excellent for making up for a poor win-

Computer shortage causes campus distress

JIM LITTLE
STAFF WRITER

Increased enrollment, easy access to the popular Internet and setbacks in the library remodeling project have combined to create somewhat of a computer crisis on campus.

"There is definitely a need for more computers," said Mary-Alice Muraski, an associate professor in computer systems.

Muraski said that on one particular day, four of her students said they couldn't complete class assignments because of lack of open computers in University labs.

She said she understands that budget constraints do not allow for increased purchases of computers, but she said other things can be done to alleviate the problem.

"I hear it from the student's point of view," she said. "I know there is a problem."

"Adding computers is not necessarily the best solution. If we can educate the students to more widely utilize the resources that we currently have, I think we can improve student access."

Sally Standiford, director of the educational technology center, said she agrees with Muraski.

"We don't have enough resources, but we're also not using the resources we have efficiently," she said.

John Nierengarten, director of Academic Computing, said the biggest complaint from students about not using resources efficiently deals with the use of the Internet and e-mail.

All UW-River Falls students have access to the Internet using computers in the North Hall labs, the library journalism and writing labs or in the residence halls.

The problem is that many students who have coursework that involves computer use find other students surfing the web or using their e-mail accounts recreationally.

Thomas Simota, a user assistant at the help desk in the brown lab of North Hall, said the current Academic Computing policy places academic work as a priority over leisure use of the Internet. However, he said many students are reluctant to remind other students of this policy.

Gene Gores, a junior computer science major, said he often has to wait to use a computer and sees a possible solution.

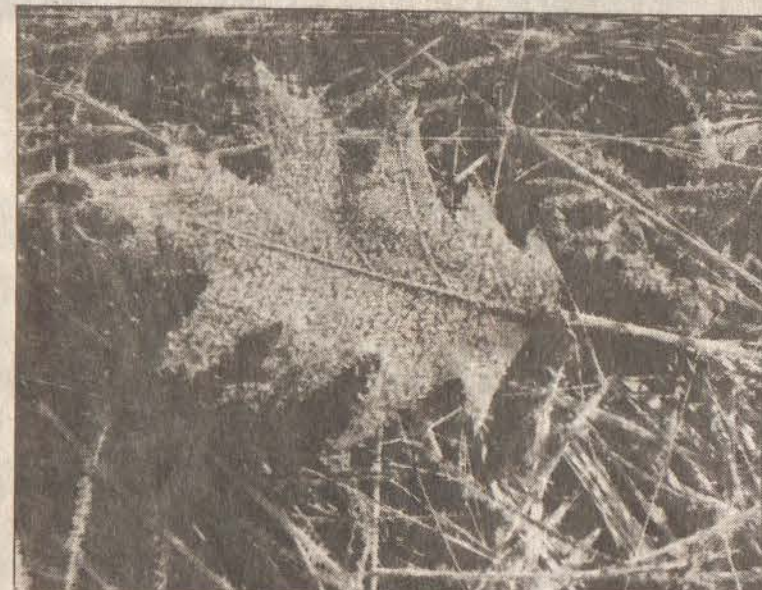
"I wish there was one lab where they had no Netscape or e-mail," he said.

Nierengarten said the idea has been considered but is not likely to happen.

"There is a lot of legitimate Internet use involving assignments," he said.

"We're not eager to (restrict Internet access) on a very broad basis. We'd be

Shortage•5A



Michael McLoone photo

Jack Frost may have left his mark, but there are things students can do to protect their cars and homes from winter's fury.

dow," Van Someren said.

When putting on 3M kits, which include plastic and sticky tape to fit snug to windows to prevent air leakage, you should wrap the whole window including the molding, he said.

"Some windows in older buildings were installed poorly, allowing a lot of air infiltration," he said. "Another good way to fix a leaky window is to run a bead of caulk around the exterior part of the window."

"The electrical heating system in the house or apartment should also be checked to ensure its quality," Van Someren said.

"A person should really change the filters and make sure the duct work isn't obstructed," he said.

Electrical sockets in walls can also leak cold air, he said. A plastic foam piece can be bought to fit the back of

Winter•3A

BRIEFS

CLAY INVITATIONAL The works of Martye Allen, Maren Kloppmann, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Suzy Lindsay and Jane Shellenbarger will be on display in Gallery 101 located in Kleinpell Fine Arts from Nov. 4 - 26.

SENIOR RECITALS Cassie Allen will perform a vocal recital and Sarah Nagel will perform a piano recital at 3 p.m. on Nov. 17 in the Abbot Concert Hall.

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION Infectious mononucleosis (mono) is a viral disease usually spread by more intimate contact such as kissing, but since it is spread by saliva, avoid such things as sharing beverages, cigarettes, dishes or silverware, or other items through which you may be exposed to someone else's saliva will also help prevent the spread of mono. In addition, covering your mouth/nose when coughing/sneezing, using disposable tissues instead of cloth handkerchiefs, frequently washing your hands, and avoiding touching your face will help prevent the spread of colds and the flu. For more information about mono, colds, influenza and the influenza vaccine, please call Student Health Services at 425-3293/3292.

LIBRARY INFORMATION FOR THE UPCOMING WEEKS The new library upper-level main entrance is now open. Follow the sidewalk along the west side of the building to reach the new entrance. Also ready for use are the new Circulation/Reserve Desk and the new Reference Desk. Newly painted shelving in the new Reference area will be installed as soon as it is available. New furniture for this area will arrive in late December. With the opening of the new entrance, the book stacks on the second floor will be accessible to the public. (Patrons will no longer need to wait to have books retrieved.) Please remember that these stacks are also temporary; one more move will be necessary when the newly painted shelving is in place. The Periodical stacks may be accessed via the long hallway straight ahead of the new entrance and past the Circulation/Reserve desks.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT RIVER FALLS In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the River Falls Area Take Back the Night Coalition is planning a community march and rally to take place in April of 1997. Take Back the Night is an international event organized in local communities for the purpose of unifying the community to take a stand to end violence. The first planning meeting is Mon., Nov. 18 at 3 p.m. in the St. Croix Room of the Student Center. If you cannot attend, or would like more information, please call Mandy Fox at 425-4911 ext. 259 or Tanya 326-0474.

FACULTY/STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS Please turn in grant proposals. Bring completed proposals to the Faculty Development Office, 117 North Hall or contact Nan Jordahl at ext. #0699. The deadline is Nov. 29, 1996. For more information see pages 19-20 of the Faculty and Academic Staff development handbook for guidelines and forms.

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS Federal regulations require that all graduating seniors and transfer students who have had student loans at UW-River Falls attend an exit counseling session. This session provides you with information that you will need in order to repay your student loans. The sessions will be held in the Alumni room of South Hall, Mon., Dec. 2 from 9-10:00 a.m.; Tues., Dec. 3 from 2-3:00 p.m.; and Thurs., Dec. 5 from 10-11:00 a.m. You only need to attend one of these sessions. Failure to attend will result in a hold being placed on your records. If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, contact the Office of Financial Assistance at 425-3141.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRAMMING BOARD Will hold an informational meeting on Wed., Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the International Room of the Student Center for students to learn, ask questions and offer suggestions about the proposed process for allocating segregated university fees. For more information contact Kris Koch at 425-4911.

UW-RF JAZZ ENSEMBLE Directed by David Milne, will present a concert on Tues., Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. in the Abbot Concert Hall in KFA. Admission is free and open to the public. The concert will feature a wide range of jazz and jazz-related styles, from classics of the Court Basie Orchestra to contemporary jazz-rock fusion numbers.

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

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

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

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

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

MEETINGS

Monday:
ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS/FAMILY OF ORIGIN GROUP Meets Mondays from 3-4:30 p.m., Career and Counseling Services, 24 E. Hathorn, contact Gretchen Link at 425-3884 prior to attending.

Tuesday:
10% SOCIETY AND FRIENDS Will meet Nov. 19 at 3:30 at Grand Cafe
ST. THOMAS MORE NEWMAN CENTER Will have Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday:
INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Will hold meetings at 8:15 p.m. in the International Room of the Student Center. Everyone is welcome.
ACT MEETING Will be held on Wed., Nov. 20 in Ag Sci at 6 p.m.
HORTICULTURE SOCIETY Meets Nov. 20 at 5 p.m. in 331 Ag Sci. Voting for 1997 officers--must have dues paid to vote. MACHS meeting at 4:30.

Thursday:
ECO CLUB Meets at 5 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Room.
LATINO STUDENT ORGANIZATION Meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in 101 Hathorn. Everyone is welcome.
STUDENT READING SERIES will meet Nov 21 at Brandy's from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday:
NATIVE AMERICAN COUNCIL Meets Fridays at noon in 101 Hathorn. Everyone is welcome.
ST. THOMAS MORE NEWMAN CENTER is going rollerskating on Nov. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Meet at the Newman Center and bring a friend!

Representative prepares for freshman term

Kind begins task of organizing office, setting agenda

TERRY ZWAHLN
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

When newly elected U.S. Rep. Ron Kind begins his new job next January, he will have a greater task than most new employees. He will have to engage in political procedures to shape the future of the country.

Kind won the 3rd Congressional District seat Nov. 5, defeating Republican opponent Jim Harsdorf.

Now, after the congratulations and handshakes, he must focus on the tasks of creating an office and an agenda to follow for the next two years.

He stopped at PR's Place in River Falls Nov. 12 to meet with local party leaders and members at a mixer from 5 to 7 p.m.

Kind attended the mixer to meet the constituents in Western Wisconsin who helped vote him into victory last Tuesday.

His duties in Washington begin with an orientation for freshmen congressmen. The orientation will acquaint the new lawmakers with the procedures and duties of daily life for a congressman.

The trip also entails meeting with Republican Steve Gunderson, who presently holds the seat. Gunderson and Kind will talk about the tasks involved in representing the 3rd District on Capitol Hill. Gunderson did

Wisconsin Elections '96

not run this year, leaving open the seat he has held for the past 16 years.

Kind said he will seek to obtain a seat on the Agriculture Committee and possibly the Labor and Education Committee. While Gunderson had held a seat on the Agriculture Committee, Kind has his eyes set on the Commerce Committee.

However, Kind said it is important to the district that a representative remains on that Agriculture Committee because the district is predominantly a farming area.

Since his district contains four state universities and numerous technical colleges, a seat on the Labor and Education Committee could help Kind keep higher education as a top priority.

"We need to have a strong secondary education program in Western Wisconsin," he said.

He supports school-to-work programs, where students work while in school to pay student loans. Kind himself received student loans while in college and sees the importance loans have in students' lives.

Kind said he perceives education as

the fundamental key to success in the world economy.

People need to learn skills in order for business to prosper, he said.

"We need the best trained workers in the world," Kind said.

A seat on the Agriculture Committee could help Kind with an issue he feels is important to Wisconsin dairy farmers: milk ordering.

Currently, the closer the farmer is to a producing center (such as Eau Claire), the cheaper it is for the farmer.

Kind said he wants to abolish this system so equity in pricing is obtained throughout the district.

Another of his objectives in Congress will be to engage in campaign finance reform, Kind said.

"We need to get the big money out of politics," he said.

He said that corporations and wealthy individuals have too much influence on the campaigns and that the campaigns need to be targeted more at the people in the area.

Kind said a balanced budget agreement can be reached with the Republican majority. Last November, the government shut down because of the inability of the Republicans and Democrats to reach a budget agreement.

Kind said he hopes that the two parties can find common ground on which to run a fiscally sound government.

Kind is a Democrat, however he hopes to work well with the Republi-

can majority. He considers himself a moderate legislator who can mediate resolutions between liberal and conservative colleagues.

Kind said House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., will now move more to the center since the Democrats picked up seats in the House of Representatives.

Kind said Gingrich will have to take a more bipartisan approach in order for legislation to be passed.

Environmental well-being is another major concern for Kind. He said he perceives the Mississippi River as the vital natural feature of this area. The river needs to be protected and restored in order for the natural health of the area to prosper.

Another environmental concern for Kind is the proposed bridge spanning the St. Croix River between Stillwater, Minn. and Houlton, Wis. Groups such as the Sierra Club and the National Park Service, which controls area such as the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, argue that the bridge would have an adverse effect on the river.

Kind said he proposes to collect all available information on the topic; this information, along with opinions of residents along the river, will be vital in arriving at a logical solution to the problem.

UW-System Update

Madison - Chancellor David Ward announced Nov. 7 that he will temporarily prevent the school from charging students for using the Internet. The school's division of Information Technology had proposed charging students \$1.20 per hour if they were on-line for more than 20 hours during "peak user-time." Saying the Internet was an important resource, Ward proposed a subcommittee to be formed to search for solutions other than a user-fee. UW-Madison currently has an average 20,000 students and faculty using the Internet every week.

Parkside - Amid concerns about sexual assault and other crimes, a "permanent" police bicycle patrol has been established on the heavily

wooded 700-acre UW-Parkside campus. Working in two daylight-hour shifts, officers using specially equipped mountain bikes will continue patrolling as long as weather permits.

Stevens Point - A "proliferation of unsolicited e-mail messages and chain mail being circulated on campus" has resulted in the UW-Stevens Point Information Technology department posting a message that appears when a student tries launching his or her e-mail program. The message informs students that school policy prohibits such use of e-mail, and won't allow the e-mail program to run until the user has acknowledged that he or she is aware of the policy.

Parking lots become haven for break-ins, stereo thefts

ERIC BRANDEL
SPORTS EDITOR

It was almost as if someone went on an audio component shopping spree in the campus parking lots.

Sunday morning found five students who woke up to cars that had been broken into. They found that their CD stereos, CD's, amps and speakers had been replaced by broken windows, cracked dashes and scratched paint. The thief(s) apparently have a taste for expensive sunglasses as well.

Two of the break-ins took place in the O-Lot, two in the L-Lot and one in the N-Lot.

In addition to the stereo equipment, a Cleveland Indians baseball jersey was taken from a car in the O-Lot and a set of jumper cables disappeared from a car in the N-Lot.

The break-ins came on the heels of a previous rash of car stereo equipment thefts which occurred on Nov. 6.

Other Thefts

The Parker Hall money bag was \$30 lighter on Nov. 3 than it was on Oct. 31. Ten ones and two rolls of quarters were reported missing on Nov. 8.

A women's bike was reported stolen from the May Hall bike rack. The bike was valued at \$150.

Stratton Hall face-lift approved by Regents

TODD SCHIERENBECK
STAFF WRITER

In order to get up to date with building codes, the Board of Regents last week approved \$2.3 million for the remodeling of Stratton Hall.

According to Student Senate President Grant Staszak, Stratton Hall will be remodeled from the inside out. The basement will be redone and the resident director's apartment will be moved downstairs. Additional lobbies and bigger kitchens will be built on each floor and an elevator will be installed.

"The purpose (of the construction) is to update with the (American's With Disabilities Act) handicap codes," Staszak said.

Construction is expected to begin at the end of the current academic year, Staszak said, and the residence hall will be off-line for all of next year.

The implications of Stratton Hall's closing for students who live on-campus, has not yet been determined. Staszak said he is looking into how the construction will affect students.

The Board of Regents also voted to decrease the state-wide faculty pay raise from 5.1 percent to 4 percent.

The Board of Regents had originally approved the 5.1 percent increase but then changed it to 4 percent in the hope that it will have a decreasing effect on student tuition costs. The pay raise still must be approved by Gov. Tommy Thompson and the legislature.

In other business, the Senate accepted the resignation of Todd Neumann from the position of treasurer and from the Senate.

Neumann stated that he was not representing the student population properly. It is expected that the Senate will also accept the resignation of another senator at its next meeting.

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Telephones, computers could put end to registration stress and headaches

PENNY HUNTINGTON
STAFF WRITER

Well, it's that time of year again. Time for frustration, stress and high-strung emotions.

Yes, it's registration time again. Solutions for the frustration and stress are hard to find, but several schools in the UW-System have moved or are taking steps toward lowering those high levels of emotion.

Schools such as UW-Madison and UW-Eau Claire have made giant leaps with touch-tone registration and computerized registration.

Donald Wermers, registrar at UW-Madison, said that the registration process is a series of course adds and course drops.

"It is easier to be able to call a voice-activated telephone to drop or add a class than to wait for an office to open up and allow a student to go through the process," Wermers said of UW-Madison's touch-tone voice response system.

In 1988, UW-Madison moved to the touch-tone voice response system. Students are assigned a particular time to register for classes.

At the assigned time, students may call the voice-activated line and enter codes for adding and dropping classes.

At any time until the beginning of classes, students may call to drop and add classes.

Wermers said there are pros and cons to the voice-activated telephone system.

"Students can call from anywhere in the world at any time," Wermers said. "We once had a girl call from a payphone on the beach to register."

One disadvantage to voice response registration is that it is not time efficient. Computer registration is faster, Wermers said.

UW-EC has also moved to a different process of registration. Students register through the process of Direct Access Computerized Registration.



Niaomi Runge

Jake Holt, sophomore, tackles registration hassles; future technology could speed up long lines.

This allows students to register themselves on personal computers.

"We have a campus-wide network that students have access to during registration," said Sue Shelton, registrar at UW-EC.

Students who are eligible to register enter certain codes into the computers and lists of classes come up on the screen. The student may then choose which class he or she wants to add or drop.

"Student feedback about this process is very positive," Shelton said. "They like the idea of being able to do this (registration) themselves."

Because the UW-River Falls registration system is not the quickest and easiest way to register, the Registrar's Office is looking into new ways to improve.

"We've come a long way from the IBM punch cards that we used to use

for registration," Assistant Registrar Richard Kathan said.

University officials have seen many new ways to improve the registration process and are still trying to find the most applicable and efficient way to register.

"What we are hoping to do in the future is a World Wide Web application where you can register yourself on a personal computer on a seniority type basis," Kathan said.

Telephone registration has been considered. This process requires little money, unlike the World Wide Web application and other processes.

In the future, the Registrar's staff is looking for students to be able to do at least 80 percent of their own registration, Kathan said.

"The toughest part for me when dealing with registration is the frustration of students when I'm not in a position to help them," Kathan said.

The best thing is for students to be prepared for registration and not to be afraid to ask questions of the staff available.

Knowing a little more about the registration process and some of the plans ahead for the University could make planning for registration easier, Kathan said.

Another way students can prepare for registration is to make sure they check with updated versions of the master class schedule. Master class schedules can be found all over campus, and are updated once a day.

The most up-to-date schedule can be found on the World Wide Web. It is updated four times a day and available in computer labs around campus.

"The best way in the world to prepare for registration is to use the web," Kathan said. "It's good for students to use anyway, and it really is easy."

As for the frustration and stress that comes with registration, it appears those emotions may not be put to rest this year, but there is hope for the future.

Police academy a success

PENNY HUNTINGTON
STAFF WRITER

As our training came to an end many participants were more than willing to spend a little time reflecting on their experiences.

Sgt. John Stapleton pointed out that the academy was a trial and error event, but it accomplished what it had set out to do.

"We did this so that people would get a feel of what police work is, what they have to know, and what they have to be prepared to handle. I think a lot of people see it as driving around and giving parking tickets, that simply isn't the Stapleton.

The participants included people of all ages, among them was high school student, Alta Painter.

"I learned a lot of things that you only hear about," Painter said.

Many of the cadets found the training gave them a new perspective about the police department.

"It dispelled rumors that we've heard about and it gave me a lot of respect for the work they do. I know now what goes on in the field, and I learned about the actual job, what it requires, what to encounter, and what to expect," said, Katie Westpetal, high school student.

According to many cadets, the hands

on training was the best part of the experience.

"I didn't expect it to be this interesting. It was interesting to see the actual weapons, to see how they (police) practice, and their different ways of sharpening their skills," said Student Senator Brad Seiler.

Nearly all of the participants complimented the police department and its officers for a job well done. Most said that they would do it again next year if it is offered.

The goals of the River Falls Police Department Citizen Academy are to provide citizens knowledge of law enforcement. As well as to

strengthen the police department support by developing citizen/police partnerships, obtaining valued feedback from the community, and increasing citizen understanding of how the police department conducts business.

The officers who participated in the program are pleased with its positive response from the cadets.

"I thought it went very well. Anything that law enforcement can do to help citizens realize the job of officers and how they do it is important," Sgt. Jeff Linehan said.

Citizens participating in the training were pleased with the department and its services to the community.

"So often people say that all our officers do is drink coffee and drive

around. If they knew what was really involved, they'd change their minds really quick," said Florence Sather, citizen police academy participant.

Officers point out that many citizens, whether they admit it or not, are vulnerable to crime and its consequences. The program was ultimately successful in achieving its goal of increasing citizen understanding of how the department conducts business.

Chief of Police Roger Leque, had positive things to say about the program and expressed his appreciation to the citizens.

"I am very pleased and enjoyed getting to know a cross section of the community, and I really think all the goals we set out with were met," Leque said.

Winter

From 1A

the plate to reduce the air flow.

"Just by following some of these simple steps, you can reduce your heating bill by 50 percent sometimes," Van Someren said.

Frostbite is another bitter cold temperature harm, said Dr. Goblirsch at the River Falls Medical Clinic.

Frostbite can happen fast, he said, so it's important to wear gloves and a hat when walking between classes during cold days.

"The most important areas to keep covered are the ears, fingers, toes and even the nose," he said. "It all depends on the wind and actual temperature outside. The best thing you can do is to keep covered up to prevent exposure."



case," said



Academy comes to a close

TODD SCHIERENBECK
STAFF WRITER

The last two weeks of the Citizen's Police Academy introduced us to the particulars of pulling over drunk drivers. It also introduced us to the only animal member of the River Falls Police Department, and enabled the participants to test their skills at apprehending various suspects.

Patrolman Mike Reardon first brought us up to speed regarding the effects of alcohol and some pertinent statistics regarding drunk driving. As anyone who's tried to walk straight after seven shots of whiskey can tell you, alcohol affects your vision, fine motor skills, sense of balance, reaction time and judgement. Reardon told us that about half of all car crashes are alcohol-related and that someone dies every 11 minutes due to drunk driving, that's about 130 people a day.

As if that wasn't enough to frighten you, a driving under the influence arrest will triple the amount of money you pay for car insurance.

In Wisconsin, police have a system where they mentally rate driving actions as they see them. For instance, driving in and out of lanes constitutes 50 points out of 100, with each additional behavior they notice adding 10 to the total. If they come up with 75 points or more, they will generally pull over the driver.

Reardon also explained what police look for once they have stopped someone on suspicion of driving under the influence. Drunk people tend to fix their eyes on a set location, have their face close to the windshield, slouch in their seats and may sometimes make obscene or erratic movements. Of course, an open container of alcohol in the car is a big tip-off.

Physically, police look for bloodshot eyes, fumbling fingers, slurred speech and unusual statements or responses that are inappropriate to the question asked.

Reardon said that many people, when asked if they've been drinking, will simply admit to it. Police often ask them two questions at once to see if they forget one of them, and watch to see if the person uses fingertips when using their hands.

If someone admits to drinking when pulled over, or if the officer sees any of the signs, they will ask the person to take a sobriety test. People may choose not take the test, but loss of their license for one to three years may result if the evidence they find is overwhelming.

Two of the sobriety tests that police routinely administer are the walk-and-turn test and the leg-lift test. The walk-and-turn test divides the person's attention between listening to the instructions and walking a straight line. The leg-lift test is where the suspect is asked to keep both legs straight and lift one leg forward for 30 seconds.

Reardon commented that while many

drunken people can sustain the second test for about 25 seconds, very few manage to hold it straight for the full 30 seconds.

During the session, we were introduced to Hogan, the only animal member of the River Falls Police Department. Hogan is a police dog, with a badge dangling from his collar and an extremely playful demeanor.

"When you're looking for a dog to train, the number one trait you want to look for is playfulness," Reardon said. "It makes them easier to train and helps ensure that the dog isn't going to get violent unless it's serious."

Hogan is trained in tracking, drug-sniffing and protection of officers among other things. His nose is 400 times more sensitive than a human's and studies indicate that dogs can search an area for drugs or hidden suspects in about one-eighth of the time that it takes four officers to search the same area, Reardon said.

Reardon showed us a demonstration of Hogan's drug-sniffing abilities by planting a small bag of marijuana in the room. It took him about a minute and a half to find it.

Hogan is completely responsive to Reardon's command signals, stopping exactly when he says or makes a gesture. Reardon demonstrated that Hogan will not make a move without a signal from him unless he is being attacked.

The final session of the Citizen's Police Academy was more recreation than anything else. The officers brought out the Firearms Training System, which resembles a video game. You shoot the screen as people come out in front of you.

You have to assess the situation as if you were a police officer and respond accordingly. If it required the use of force, you had to respond before you were shot or someone else was harmed.

The skill level varied in the group; some effortlessly shot down gunmen before anything could occur, while some riddled innocent bystanders with bullets or got shot themselves.

Reardon explained that the police will use deadly force only if a suspect is capable of causing severe injury or death, and only if all other force options are exhausted by the situation.

Being a police officer is hard work, not always physically, but more often mentally and emotionally. Police officers are always responsible for their actions, and they must often make hard decisions in an instant. In some cases they must live with the consequences for the rest of their lives.

It is an excruciating position, and not one I would care to find myself in. After going through the Citizen's Police Academy, I have a better understanding what they do and why they do it. Since that was the goal of the academy, I would count it as a success.

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Shakespeare: Unplugged



"Even so, I believe that Shakespeare is not, as these critics have implied, rolling over in his grave..."

From Verona to Verona Beach; from classic tragedy to big screen music video; from star cross'd lovers to cross-dressers. If you go to the recently released "William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet" expecting a faithful adaptation of the Bard's classic tale, keep in mind the saying "Oh, how times have changed."

Many critics seem to be condemning the very updated version of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, comparing it to an MTV video and declaring the film a blasphemous work that uses a bare minimum of Shakespeare's poetic words. Even so, I believe that Shakespeare is not, as these critics have implied, rolling over in his grave, but is instead sighing with the relief of knowing his work and name are still packing in the crowds.

Last week, "William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet" was number one at the box office, earning \$11.1 million, which proved that Shakespeare-in whatever form is still a draw. It also proved that the filmmakers, while diverging greatly from the original "script," knew what they were doing when they geared this version towards the same demographic group as did the "Clueless" filmmakers. After all, it is the story of lovelorn teenagers, wild parties, drugs, street fights and suicide. It has all the elements of an alternative video, so it wasn't much of a stretch to transform it into a "Gen X" attraction.

My response to the critics who are begrudging the 1996 Romeo and Juliet for its contemporary twists is "So what?" So what if Friar Laurence is now a New Age herbalist? So what if Mercutio is now a flamboyant gender-bender? So what if the Montagues and Capulets are now corporate rivals? It is still Shakespeare's story. Granted, "I ne'er saw true beauty till this night" may have changed to "what a babe," still the classic story remains. It's just easier for modern audiences to digest Shakespeare's words when they are set to the music of The Butthole Surfers and Garbage. My opinion is more power to these filmmakers. If it takes turning a costume ball into a disco to introduce Shakespeare to a new and possibly indifferent generation, then hang up the mirror ball and break out the Bee-Gees 8-tracks. At least it's not collecting dust on a shelf somewhere. I dare say that Bill would agree 'eth.

"Ransom": Worth every penny

SARA JOHNSON
MOVIE REVIEWER

Mel Gibson was paid \$20 million for his new movie, "Ransom," and if you ask this reporter, the handsome actor with the drop-dead gorgeous eyes is worth every penny.

Oh, yeah... the movie is good too. Gibson plays self-made airline tycoon Tom Mullen, who has it all: money, power, a gorgeous wife (Rene Russo) and a 9-year-old son (Brawley Nolte). His idyllic world starts to crack when his son is abducted, and the kidnappers demand a \$2 million dollar ransom.

The mastermind of the kidnapping is a New York City cop-gone-bad, played by Gary Sinise, who leads his little troop of thugs (Lili Taylor, Liev Schreiber, Evan Handler and former New Kid on the Block, Donnie Wahlberg) around by the nose while tormenting the Mullens.

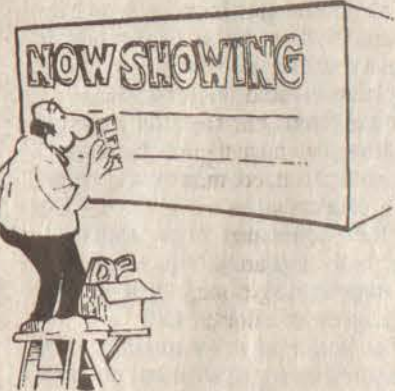
The Mullens turn to the FBI for help, and jump through the kidnappers' hoops, but after several botched ransom drop attempts, Gibson's character takes the matter into his own hands. Taking a calculated risk, Gibson turns the tables on the kidnappers and puts the ransom on their heads as a bounty, dead or alive.

The script for "Ransom" almost didn't live long enough to see the big screen. After more than six rewrites, production delays and Gibson's emergency appendectomy halfway through filming, the picture was bumped back from its original August release date.

Disney company executives told "Entertainment Weekly" that the movie could have been released on

time, but director Ron Howard would have been burned out by the time it was finished.

"Ransom" is a darker movie than what we expect from Howard ("Apollo 13," "Far and Away," "Splash"), but he demonstrates with this movie that he can go beyond fly boys and mermaids.



Although Howard shies away from gritty urban reality and opts for a more palatable high-gloss treatment of the script in "Ransom," he is nonetheless able to evoke visceral emotion from the audience.

At its heart, "Ransom" is all about emotion. It has to be, because there is no way to make a two-hour-long movie from a simple kidnapping plot without good acting and intense emotion. If you've seen the trailers, you've got the gist of the plot. "Ransom" is kind of like a roller coaster—you know what you're getting, but that doesn't seem to detract from the enjoyment. There are very few elements of "Ransom's" plot that will keep you guessing, but you remain enthralled by the anxiety and intensity that drive

the movie.

The movie's ability to emotionally take the audience hostage with anxiety and tension makes "Ransom" worth seeing. If you like to see actors cry, throw tantrums and go berserk while dragging you through an emotional wringer, this is the movie.

Every major actor in the movie gets the opportunity to run the gamut of acting technique. For example, Gibson, is one minute ranting and raving (while the women in the audience are thinking how sexy he is when he's mad) and the next instant is collapsing on his penthouse terrace in tears.

Sinise is so convincing as the rock hard S.O.B. perpetrator of Gibson's tears that you may never look at his performance as Captain Dan in "Forrest Gump" the same way again.

An exemplary performance is turned in by Delroy Lindo, who portrays the FBI agent assigned to the case. Russo is believable, if not convincing, but "Ransom" is really a two-man movie between Sinise and Gibson.

"Ransom" won't win either man an Oscar, but if you like Mel and are willing to hate Sinise, it's worth a trip to the movies. There should at least be enough to hold your attention. For guys, there is ample blood, for the girls there's Gibson, and everyone can squirm in their seats and feel guilty for all the times they've ditched their parents and they swore you were kidnapped.

Editor's Note: "Ransom" is currently playing at the Falls Theater daily at 7 and 9:10 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

Gibson enjoys stardom

JOHN ROGERS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) — When Mel Gibson looks back on the road taken to superstardom, the first thing that comes to mind is coffee.

"Yeah, coffee. It kind of reminds me of coffee," he goes on, those famous eyes twinkling.

Then he explains: "When I made 'The Year of Living Dangerously,' I'd made a few films before that — and they'd made money. So I was viable. But if my name came up, people still would go, 'Who?'"

That was in 1983 and Freddie Fields, then the head of MGM studios, decided to change all that.

"He had been an agent and he had a flair for using the machine," Gibson recalls before adding — in his best cigar-chomping-movie mogul voice — "We're going to make this kid a star."

"That's what they used to do in the old days," Gibson continues. "But it still happens sometimes. They keep giving you to the public until you become a star. That's why it reminds me of coffee. Because Freddie served me up to people every... morning."

"I saw it happen to someone else more recently, Matthew McConaughey. Man, the guy was every place. He was breakfast cereal. And the same thing happened to Brad (Pitt). It still happens. It's one of those sleight of hand things. They're making coffee, that's all."

Before they hooked him up to the machine, Gibson says, he was happy working in films and on stage in Australia, "collecting my 250 bucks a week and walking away."

He likened the change to putting a cat in a round room.

"You know how a cat follows its nose around the room? I just kept following my nose around," he says, rising up off a couch to demonstrate, cat-like.

Not that he's complaining. For Gibson says he enjoys being a star, even likes saying hello to people on the street.

"People are generally nice," he adds matter of factly.

He likes making movies, too, trying to create something that, at the least, is entertaining and sometimes can affect people's lives. He even likes promoting his pictures, he says, for they give him a chance to meet with a tough audience — film critics — who provide instant feedback on how he did.

He's deeply immersed in that part of the process now, holed up in a Central Park South hotel suite, doing a week-end of non-stop interviews to promote the film "Ransom."

He was up late the night before, up early the day of the interview and is exhausted, for which he is apologetic.

"I must be an idiot," he volunteers good-naturedly. "A sane person would think so."

Aside from the opportunity to work with director Ron Howard, Gibson says he took the role for the chance to play a character whose perfect life falls apart on every level, and who discovers that everyone around him — from the kidnappers to the cops to his wife — is neither all good nor all

bad.

He had his own share of real-life problems, from an appendectomy to arthroscopic knee surgery, during filming.

"It's like, all of a sudden, karmic surgery," he says laughing. "It all comes to rain on me at one time and goes away again."

"But it's good. It kind of makes you aware that, you know, you'd kind of better start cycling or something," says the trim and fit-looking Gibson, who recently turned 40.

As for exactly what he does do in his spare time, Gibson isn't particularly forthcoming, though it's well-known he has six children and 10 brothers and sisters. It was a sister who put him on the road to Hollywood, sending his application to Australia's National Institute of Dramatic Arts without his knowledge.

"She kind of thought I might be good at it, so she made all the applications, gave me the five-buck entry fee and all that," he recalls.

He went on to make a string of hits, including "Tim" and "Gallipoli," which won him Australian best actor awards, and the "Road Warrior" pictures, which provided a cult following in America.

Then came "The Year of Living Dangerously" and international stardom for the American who moved to Australia when he was 12.

"My dad's family was from there and went back during the second World War on leave," Gibson recalls in the soft Australian accent he still retains. "He just thought it would be a good place to kick off again."

As for himself, "I live everywhere and nowhere now," he says somewhat ruefully. "I've still got a place in Australia and some places over here."

Having spent roughly half his life in each country now, he is fascinated by both.

"They're weirdly similar, in that they both started in the same fashion, as a dumping ground for undesirables from old Mother England," he says. "The big thing that does make it different is that over here you had a revolution. In Australia, distance was king. It was so far away that no one wanted to go there."

Having starred in and won an Academy Award for directing 1995's "Braveheart," he decided to pass on directing this year, in part because he didn't want that much responsibility again so soon.

"It's nice to see someone else twisting in the wind for awhile," he says seriously.

Someone who once considered becoming a journalist — "being off in some foreign place, sending back stories, kind of a romantic notion to it, I suppose" — he's made his peace with the media after some early run-ins.

"I used to resent a lot of stuff," he recalls. "Like one day I'd be talking to somebody and a week later I'd read back what they'd written and (looking horrified) I'd say, 'But it's all a bunch of... lies.'"

"But I let that stuff slide off now because, you know, it wasn't the first time, it won't be the last. Besides, I've had everything said about me now that can be said."

Walk like an Egyptian!



Erin Graham photo

The cast of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" performed to a sold out audience in Blanche Davis Theater. The cast of "Joseph" is made up of UW-River Falls student and local community members.

"Ransom" strikes it rich at the box office

LYNN ELBER
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Mel Gibson kidnap thriller "Ransom" debuted in first place at the weekend box office, earning \$34.2 million in one of the best three-day openings in movie history.

The Ron Howard-directed film, starring Gibson as a business tycoon who takes on his son's kidnappers, became No. 9 on the list of movies with the biggest three-day debuts.

"Ransom" is just behind "Interview with the Vampire" (1994) and its \$36.4 million, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc., which tracks ticket sales. "Ransom" also marks Gibson's best opening.

"Batman Forever" (1995) holds the three-day debut record with \$52.8 million.

"William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet" fell to second place in its second week. The high-voltage, contemporary version of the classic love story earned \$9 million.

In third place was "Set it Off," a crime drama about four women driven by hardship into robbery. The film, starring rapper Queen Latifah, took in \$8.8 million its first weekend.

The top 10 movies at North American theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by studio, gross, number of

theater locations, receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Exhibitor Relations were:

1. "Ransom," Buena Vista, \$34.2 million, 2,676 locations, \$12,786 average, \$34.2 million, one week.
2. "William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet," Fox, \$9 million, 1,950 locations, \$4,629 average, \$23.5 million, two weeks.
3. "Set it Off," New Line, \$8.8 million, 1,014 locations, \$8,690 average, \$11.8 million, one week.
4. "Sleepers," Warner Bros., \$3.7 million, 2,080 locations, \$1,787 average, \$43.6 million, four weeks.
5. "High School High," Sony, \$ 3.1 million, 2,146 locations, \$1,436 average, \$16.8 million, three weeks.
6. "The First Wives Club," Paramount, \$2.2 million, 1,700 locations, \$1,319 average, \$97.1 million, eight weeks.
7. "Larger Than Life," MGM, \$2 million, 2,433 locations, \$829 average, \$6.6 million, two weeks.
8. "The Ghost and the Darkness," Paramount, \$1.7 million, 1,711 locations, \$1,009 average, \$34.6 million, five weeks.
9. "Dear God," Paramount, \$1.5 million, 1,774 locations, \$ 850 average, \$5.6 million, two weeks.
10. "Michael Collins," Warner Bros., \$1.41 million, 878 locations, \$1,604 average, \$8.2 million, five weeks.

CD supports the Pack

CAMPBELLSPORT, Wis. (AP) — An area musician says he had a hunch in June about the Green Bay Packers.

"I said, 'The Packers are going to win the Super Bowl this year; we need a song,'" says Jim "Spid" Pieper.

So Pieper set about writing songs about the green and gold, tunes with titles like "Cheezheads Rule," and "The Pack is Back." He and partner Marc Maga recorded the Packer tribute at Maga's business, North Star Productions, and offered it on tape and then on compact disc as well.

"We sold a lot of tapes, but people want CDs, so it warranted our producing large quantities of compact discs," said Maga, who calls the response "overwhelming."

The CDs are decorated with flying cheddar cheese footballs. The CD notes describe "Cheezheads Rule" as a humorous grunge rock song about

some of the advantages of living in Wisconsin.

Lyrics include:

"You're always making fun of us,

"I think that's a shame.

"You don't even know about,

"Our claims to fame.

"You think you're so smart,

"You think you're so cool,

"If you were so smart you'd know that 'Cheezheads rule.'"

A double CD set includes the Packers songs and Pieper's tribute to outdoor life in Wisconsin, "Totally In Tents," which he wrote and recorded last year.

It's described as a humorous look at hunting, fishing, the lottery and other facets of rural life. Song titles include "Up North, Deer Huntin'," "WWCB (Wisconsin Winter Bitter Cold Blizzard Blues)," and "I'd Rather Be Fishin'."

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Program offers tattoo removal for teens

CLINT WOLF
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BELOIT, Wis. (AP)—Denise Shaw thought it was pretty neat when her friend showed her how she could get a tattoo without going to a tattoo parlor.

So, with a sewing needle and some India ink, she and her friend decided to go for it.

But now, the Beloit Memorial High School junior is having second thoughts about the tattoo. The cross doesn't look that neat anymore, mostly because she's a different person now with different plans for her life.

"I thought I'd like to work with children in a day care or preschool some day. I don't think it would look good," the petite young blonde said. "People might think it was gang-related, but it's not."

"The biggest problem with tattoos is people change their minds," said Dave Luebke, assistant principal at Beloit Memorial High School.

Several students at the high school

told him they had regrets about getting tattoos, so Luebke approached officials at Beloit Memorial Hospital with the proposal of offering young people a chance to start over with a clean slate and clean, unmarked skin.

All the students had to do was show up and put down a \$25 retainer fee, a dramatically lower cost for the treatment than is usually charged.

Dr. Roger Mixter, the plastic surgeon performing the tattoo-zapping treatment, said the laser explodes the individual particles of pigment in the tattoos, breaking them down into sub-particles that the body can absorb.

"Before this technology was developed, we would have to excise it or sand it away and do grafting," Mixter said.

Using the green-light Alexandrite laser is much easier and much less painful than the old ways, said Mixter. The laser feels like a snap from a rubber band, and unlike some of the old procedures, there is no scar left by the laser.

However, the pigment in the skin is eliminated so the area where the tattoo

was may be lighter than adjacent areas on the body, Mixter said. Most tattoos require two or three treatments for full removal.

Most of the tattoos young people get are "homemade" using black or dark inks. Mixter said these are the easiest ones to remove with the laser, but professional tattoos using colored inks are a little tougher to remove.

Mixter has seen all sorts of people, young and old, who have regrets about getting these tattoos.

"There's the one group, like one young man I knew who went away for the weekend and came back with tattoos all over because of peer pressure," he said. "Then there is the other group that have tattoos that are gang related."

Such was the case for a 17-year-old junior from Beloit Memorial High School who showed up for the treatment. When he was 12, he had a six-pointed star tattooed on his arm—the symbol for the Gangster Disciples.

He's been out of the gang for about three years now, but the tattoo remained like a ghost haunting him from

the past.

Another student, a 15-year-old sophomore girl, admits she maybe got a little carried away with the tattoo craze. Her cousin tattooed her initials on her right ankle when she was only 11 years old.

"We were just bored and thought we'd try it out," she said.

But, then she got another tattoo, and another, and another. Now, four years after her first tattoo, she has one on each ankle, on each hand, on her wrist and on her stomach.

"I got sick of them. Now I think they're like tacky," she said. "You get sick of them after a while."

She said lots of her friends were interested in the program, but they had certain reservations.

"They would have had their's removed too, but their parents don't know they have them," she said.

Denise agreed, many of her friends who have tattoos wish they could get rid of their's also.

"But there are others who tell me they want to get one," she said. "I tell them, no you don't."

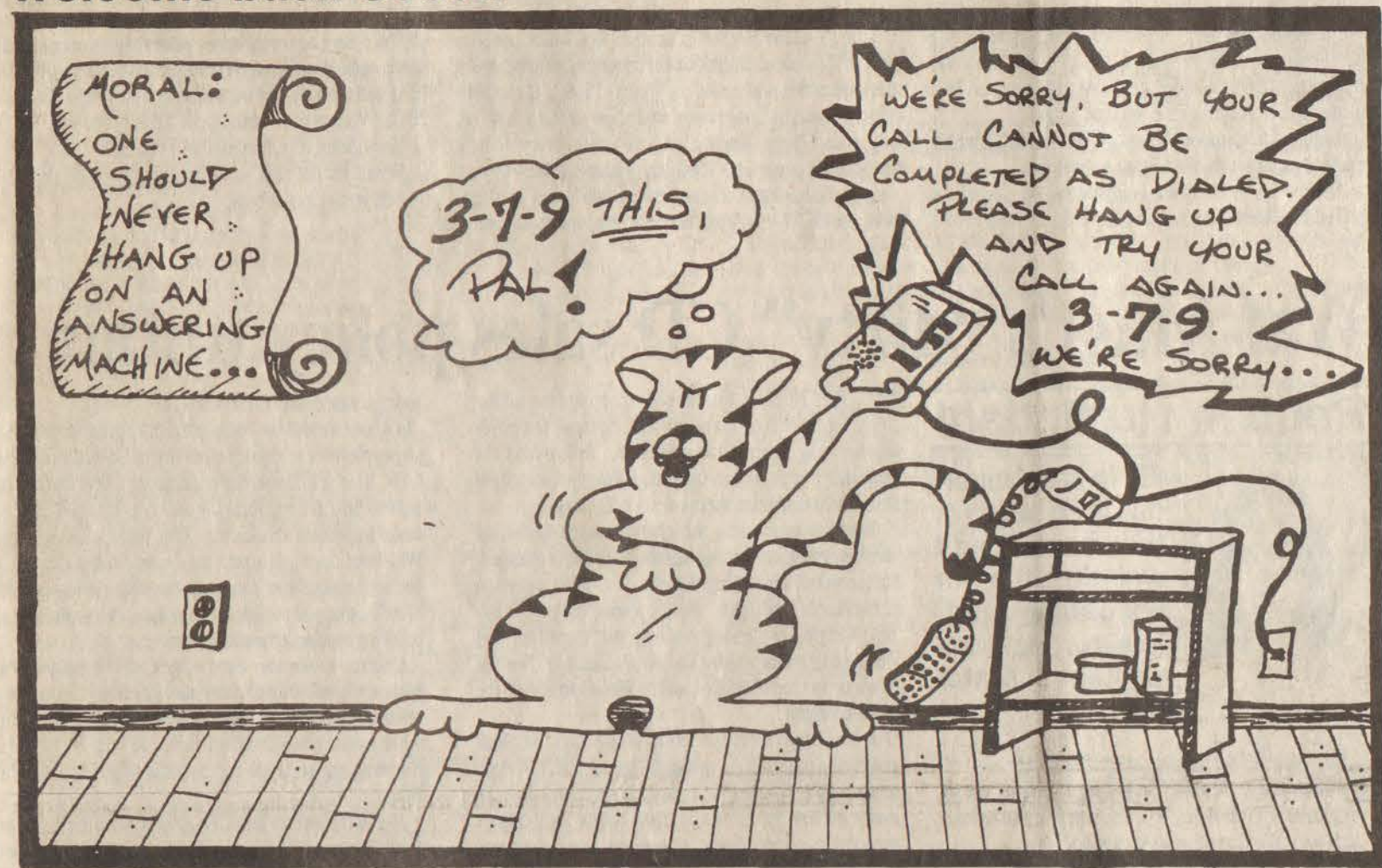
Get your hand out of my butt!



Niaomi Runge photo

Comedienne Lynn Tetzger drew laughs last Thursday evening, Nov. 7 as she and a stuffed friend performed in Brandy's.

Welcome back Cooter



Trace '96

Shortage

From 1A

cutting off legitimate access at the same time."

Besides tying up computers, Nierengarten said student access to the Internet has caused other problems from illegal software privacy to conflicts between roommates because of busy phone lines.

Simota said heaviest use of computers in University labs is between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. At times there can be five or six people waiting to get to a computer in the brown lab.

A visit to the brown lab on Thursday, Nov. 7 at 12:30 p.m. revealed all 13 computers in use with three people waiting. Four of the computer users were using e-mail, and one was using the Internet.

The orange and blue PC labs in North Hall were closed for testing; however, the red and green Macintosh labs had seven spots available.

The scrambling and long waits for open computers is beginning to frustrate some students.

"They could add two more rooms of computers and it still wouldn't be enough," said Sara Beckman, a senior horticulture major.

The computer situation should be

more promising when students return for spring semester, Nierengarten said.

"The biggest reason for computer access being tight right now is the library remodeling," he said.

The University recently opened the new English and journalism labs in the basement of the library; however, access to the computers will remain a problem because of the construction environment, Nierengarten said. When the library remodeling is completed, there should be about 50 additional computers available.

All University labs will have increases in the number of computers, and the red and blue labs in North Hall will be used as classroom labs.

Although the amount of open access to computers will only increase to 157 from the 149 the University has right now, the two classroom labs will keep other labs virtually uninterrupted during computer use hours.

As Muraski sees it, the need for additional computers will continue to rise.

"Computers are not just for computer scientists anymore," she said. "All disciplines use the computers."

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An Extragalactic Look

By: The Associated Press

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

Your mood might be cranky, resulting from tensions either at home or at work. Speak softly and avoid any disagreements with others. You are in a practical frame of mind and sharp in matters of money. It's a happy time for romance and love.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

Spend extra time with family—fun and adventure will be highlighted. It may be the perfect opportunity for a heart-to-heart talk with your children. Roadblocks are likely in realizing a financial goal, you're closer than you think. Your passion deepens.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

You and your mate get along throughout the entire week. All those chores that really need to get done will be accomplished like clockwork. Your career is highlighted, so don't be surprised if you receive a raise or promotion. Keep your patience around children.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

Start the week in a practical frame of mind. Take time alone and treat yourself to something that will make you feel extra special. Some co-workers are being critical and sarcastic, but otherwise work runs smoothly. Your career is about to take a big step forward. Managers are impressed with your effort.

LEO: (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Listen to a friend's advice on money

matters—an objective point of view is what you need. Your sweetheart may be feeling neglected, and accuse you of unrealistic expectations, so make the time for romance and more intimacy.

VIRGO: (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

It's time for a few practical steps to improve your image. Amuse yourself in creative pursuits. Keep an open mind and you may be pleasantly surprised at the results. Both business and household projects enjoy favorable influences; and you may get a bonus for recently positive efforts.

LIBRA: (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

The more you depend on your reserves, the stronger you are. You inspire family members likewise. There are some self-doubts lingering which only you can work through. Self-improvement efforts will succeed. Remember if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all.

SCORPIO: (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Spend time with close friends and you'll find that your friendships and loves are very fulfilling. There is someone trying to undermine your position with flattery and bribery. Keep your cool. There will be great news about money, and possibly a new, lucrative job offer.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

It will be an effortless and pleasurable week for you. Keep in mind you do have the power to make all sorts of

changes for the better. Everyone seems overly emotional as of late, so be on guard for lies and accusations. Harmony will be restored at home by week's end.

CAPRICORN: (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

Wherever you are, you will be surrounded by friendship and luck. Unexpected money is coming your way. Both family and work responsibilities are heavy, take one situation at a time. Be aware that guidance comes through your dreams. Positive vibes continue at home.

AQUARIUS: (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You need to travel in order to check out an opportunity to increase your income. Don't neglect a mate who's starving for attention. Both your professional image and reputation are boosted to new levels. Your charm and magnetism take you through any sticky situations right now.

PISCES: (Feb. 20 - March 20)

It's a week of heavy mental stimulation and challenges. Both innovative and unconventional approaches work. Your assertiveness takes you far at work and your family's happy and enjoys being together. Plan your entertainment and include others from the sideline.

TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:

Your closest relationships are stable for now, but your inner voice may be prompting you to take time alone for self-renewal. Professional advancement is at hand, so keep yourself on the straight and narrow. Your creative urges may turn into profit.

Have you ever gone on a nightmare blind date?

The Student Voice wants to hear your story.

Send it to us at 213 South Hall or call us at x3118.

Editorial
Social security?

"One day you're a poor, jobless college student with no credit rating, and the next... you have a new identity and a shiny, plastic Mastercard with a \$500 limit."

Going through high school, most students probably never knew their Social Security numbers. Maybe they didn't even know what a Social Security number was until the ACT test rolled around, at which time they scribbled it on their hands in order to remember.

Now students can't help but know them.

Students write them on registration forms and applications for meal plans and parking permits. They scribble them into circles with No. 2 pencils when they take exams. They scratch them out at the Student Center when

filling out credit card forms to get their hands on free T-Shirts and candy bars. They see them every time they pull out their IDs to eat lunch at Rodli Commons or buy a cappuccino at Java Coast. And so does everyone else.

That's the whole problem.

When Social Security numbers are so readily accessible, it doesn't take a computer hacker to worm into someone else's life. A plain old student can do it just as easily.

It's simple. One day you're a poor, jobless college student with no credit rating, and the next, thanks to quick eyes and the guy ahead of you in the lunch line, you have a new identity and a shiny, plastic Mastercard with a \$500 limit.

Sweet.

Unless you're the guy who's lost a small part of his identity, a bigger part of his credit rating and an even bigger part of his sense of security. Makes it seem kind of odd that the proper name for that nine-digit nightmare contains the word "security."

But what can be done?

Granted, it would cost a lot of money to switch from Social Security numbers to a new ID system, but it's not necessarily a bad option.

But until that happens, the best thing students can do is be careful. That decision doesn't come from research or past experience; it comes from common sense.

Don't put your Social Security number anywhere it doesn't have to be. Don't scribble it at the top of every assignment; don't carry your ID card around where everyone can see it and anyone could steal it. Some instructors give students the option of making up their own ID code for exams. If you get that option, take it. It may save you a lot of hassle.

Aid, grants a political concern for students

Mark Danielson



"Hypothetically, if those in Congress were insane enough to do so, they could deny funding to just about every financial aid program."

The elections are over, and as expected, we're pretty much right back where we started. President Clinton is going to remain in the White House for four more years, and the Republicans are going to keep control of Congress for at least two. And for the moment, those of us in the public who vote and watch politics get a chance to take a break. Right?

Well, not really, especially if you are a college student. The past two years were rough ones for anyone receiving federal assistance for schooling. At one point, the House of Representatives decided that it would be a good idea to completely get rid of the Perkins Loan...

And the State Student Incentive Grant (SSIG), which matches some funds distributed by states...

And the Javits Graduate Fellowship...

And the Harris Graduate Fellowship...

The House also thought it would be a good idea to severely cut funding to the direct lending program (which, admittedly, doesn't affect us, but you *could* change schools) and the Pell Grant.

In the end, mainly because of an election year in which education became a major issue, much of the cutting did not happen. Not only were SSIG and the Perkins Loan spared the ax, but their funding was increased. Perkins is now at \$158 million, and SSIG was increased from \$31.3 million to \$50 million.

Also, the direct lending program and the Pell Grant did not suffer the cuts at one point it looked like they would receive. Still, the Javits and Harris Fellowships did not make it. In other words, students receiving financial aid lucked out.

Of course, much of this good news could get thrown out the window and down the steps of Capitol Hill in the upcoming years. Federal programs, by law, have to be reauthorized every five years. This process determines the maximum amount that can be spent for a program, as well as the criteria that decides how the allocated money is used.

Title IV of the Higher Education Act, which contains most of the federal financial aid programs, will be up for reauthorization during the early part of 1997. Hypothetically, if those in Congress were insane enough to do so, they could deny funding to just about every federal financial aid program. Their actions have to be watched.

It has also been a treacherous two years for legal immigrants. If it had not been for the bipartisan fear of

what could happen if the government was to shut down right on top of a presidential election, a bill may have passed that would have restricted legal immigrants from receiving federal financial aid for more than one year.

With the way the bill was written, if a tax-paying, legal-immigrant student received assistance for more than one year, he or she would have been subject to deportation. Another bill would have required sponsors of legal immigrants to co-sign any student loans that the immigrant may have received. Thankfully, both of those provisions were edited out of their respective bills, but there's nothing stopping them from being brought up again in the coming years.

Despite all of this, I can still understand that many students may not care about what's going on in Washington. "It's just that it's so boring, so tedious," I can hear some disinterested students begging, and "Hey, I may get out of school before anything they do can affect me, anyway." The problem is, we have to be looking much further ahead than just our education.

As members of this generation (I refuse to use the designation we've been given), we have to keep our guard up. We have to worry about what may be coming. If it keeps operating the way it is now, the Social Security trust fund will start paying out more money than it takes in by 2012. When it goes bankrupt in 2029, I'll be 54 years old.

The question is, how old will you be?

Whatever the case, it's something to think about.

See you in two weeks.

Wal-Mart's "dirty" CD sales policy unfair

Reuben Herfindahl



"This is a dangerous domination of the market, and will do little for encouraging artists to... make important statements."

Welcome to Wal-Mart.

Please leave your bad language, bad thoughts and intelligence at the door. If you do not, you will be asked to leave. We do not want your kind here.

Does this seem a little far fetched? Just wait. We're marching that way already. Wal-Mart has a policy of censoring Compact Disc (CD) lyrics and artwork they deem offensive. In doing so, they have stripped the option of choice from us. Wal-Mart sees the issue as simple: all they need to do is get rid of the offensive material and the CD will be acceptable and still have artistic meaning. This is certainly not the case.

There will always be those who do not appreciate harsh language or controversial art on music CDs. In

1968, Jimi Hendrix was forced to change his album cover for "Are You Experienced" because the cover artwork was deemed too offensive. In England the original cover artwork remained. By today's standards that cover would not seem overly offensive.

It seems to me that the greatest crime is that of altering or editing lyrics so that the meaning is changed, but the words are no longer harsh. Wal-Mart's version of Nirvana's "In Utero" carries a song called "Waif-me." Originally the song was entitled "Rape Me" and was a song about apathy and youth inaction. But the title was deemed offensive, and so Wal-Mart forced the lyrics changed.

Nirvana is not the only victim. White-Zombie, Beck and many others have suffered the same fate. As a musician and songwriter myself I have to wonder how many of my songs would fare before Wal-Mart's censorship. Indeed our singer, on more than one occasion, has been questioned about the anti-religious connotations of one of our songs. This is missing the point totally, but if one just briefly reads the lyrics and looks for "bad" words, someone might find the songs offensive.

One might wonder why Wal-Mart has this much power. Why can they force the industry to make "clean" versions of songs, perverting their original meanings? According to the *Pioneer Press*, there is one large reason: They sell more pop music CD's than

anyone else in the United States.

In many areas, Wal-Mart is the only place to get CDs, so people have no choice other than mail-order to obtain CDs. This is a dangerous dominance of the market and will do little for encouraging artists to take chances and make important statements. One must remember that Wal-Mart does not carry the latest Sheryl Crow CD because one of her songs on the disk criticizes Wal-Mart's policy of selling guns to kids. No swearing, no bad language or artwork; just criticism.

One has to wonder how long it will be before Wal-Mart starts refusing to carry such music or forces alteration of CDs that go against the corporation's view of what music should sound like. It might even start inserting songs about the benefits of buying at Wal-Mart.

If you frequently buy CDs, please have the sense not to buy them at Wal-Mart. You will probably end up with a CD that bears only a remote resemblance to what the artist originally intended if you buy at Wal-Mart.

Truth is, you would be far better off driving a bit further on down the road if you have an urge for the latest Snoop Doggy Dogg CD; or, you will have to be satisfied with Wal-Mart's "sanitized" version.

This is what Nirvana meant when they wrote about youth-inaction and apathy in the song "Rape Me," but of course if you purchased that CD in Wal-Mart you would never have had a chance to hear that song.

Do you have something to say? Write a letter to the editor.



Letters are due at noon on Mondays. Drop them off at 213 South Hall.

STUDENT VOICE

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS SINCE 1916
WINNER OF ACP AND NAA NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD & THE FIRST WISCONSIN COLLEGIATE NEWSPAPER TO GO ON-LINE

A NON-PROFIT PUBLICATION

The *Student Voice* is a student written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls. The *Voice* is published weekly on Thursday afternoons during the regular school year (except during semester/holiday breaks and finals weeks).

All editorial content is determined by the *Voice's* Editorial Board. Complaints concerning coverage or content should be directed to the Editorial Board, 213 South Hall, UW-River Falls, 54022.

Opinions expressed in editorials and columns on the Viewpoints, Sports and Arts & Entertainment pages are not necessarily those of the student population, faculty, staff or administration.

All letters to the editor must be 400 words or less, typewritten, double-spaced and contain a handwritten signature and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit for length, content, good taste and libel or to withhold letters. Unsigned material will not be published. 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 must be submitted by Monday at noon for inclusion in that Thursday's edition.

News releases/briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Monday at noon for inclusion in that Thursday's edition.

Check out the On-Line *Student Voice* at <http://www.uwrf.edu/student-voice/welcome.html>

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Meeting to discuss process for distributing (SUF) monies

The Leadership Development and Programming Board (LDPB) is developing a process to allocate segregated university fees (SUF). This process has not yet been officially determined, and segregated fee monies have, therefore, not yet been allocated as some groups seem to believe.

To broaden student participation in the shared governance process and to hear student comments regarding the proposed process, the LDPB will hold an informational meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Student Center International Room.

This will be an excellent time for students to learn, ask questions and offer suggestions about the proposed process. Both the LDPB and members of the Student Senate will be in

attendance.

The LDPB is excited about its role as the segregated university fees allocations committee (SUFAC) and is committed to representing a diverse student life program at UW-River Falls.

The Leadership Development and Programming Board.
Kris Koch, Chair
Kris Langfield
Brianna Helgeson
Bonita Wetteland
Vicky Anderson
Chris Emerson
Karen Werner

Professor thanks students for help in the last election

The elections are completed and the time has come to thank and praise those people on our campus who helped our students to become much more involved in the political process.

I personally would like to thank the student senators. They did an outstanding job in registering students to vote, assisting with the Third Congressional Forum, encouraging students to vote, holding "Time with the Candidates" and generally conducting themselves as responsible citizens. Three people deserving special recognition are Theresa Zirbel, Grant Staszak and Karen Kubus. Thank you for all your work these last several weeks.

Ruth A. Kalms, MSSW
Associate Professor

Crabtree RAs give thanks to Parker Hall for their work

Crabtree Hall Resident Assistant staff wishes to thank Parker Hall Resident Assistants for all their hard work and exceptional dedication to the RA job and to the First Year Experience program.

It was a great honor and pleasure to work with a staff of eight women who are so talented, bright, fun, hard working and professional. It has been a fabulous experience to work with the most motivated and committed staff on campus.

It is our hope that Parker Hall accepts this letter as an apology for past injustices that we have done to them and to show our willingness to work towards staff unity.

The Crabtree Hall RA Staff

The Student Voice is now accepting applications for all positions for spring semester.

If you want to be part of the madness, pick up an application at 213 South Hall.



PLEASE RECYCLE!

Eric Brandel

Purple-headed warrior swallows pride



"It's not a sudden fondness for the Pack, just a tremendous dislike for Dallas."

The upcoming weekend is a big one in the NFL. Teams are jostling for playoff position or draft position (see the Jets or Falcons). This weekend is particularly interesting in these parts, as the two local franchises both make appearances on national television.

On Sunday night, the Vikes travel to Oakland for the "We Got Beat By The Bucs" Bowl. ESPN viewers will be treated to a display of pigskin prowess by two teams who are rapidly sliding out of playoff contention.

If that game doesn't leave a bad taste for football in your mouth, you might want to tune in to what ABC is offering on Monday Night Football. To quote the network's pitchman, Hank Williams Jr., "It's a rematch of last year's NFC title game. Green Bay's mad at Dallas. This one won't be tame." I'm sure your daddy's looking down with pride, Hank.

This is perhaps the most anticipated game of the season. Green Bay is considered the favorite to represent the conference in the Super Bowl, but the Cowpokes have bettered the cheddar six times in the last three years.

These two teams also appear to be headed in different directions. Dallas is coming off a big-time victory over the 49ers, while the Pack was handled pretty easily by the Chiefs.

As a Viking fan looking at this game, with purple blood running through my veins, this looks like a tough game to watch.

I hate the Pack. I'm responsible for the purple Viking man in the second floor window of South Hall cursing Green Bay.

But believe it or not, I'm going to be rooting for "the Dairy odor from across the border." It's not a sudden fondness for the Pack, just a tremendous dislike for Dallas. As a Viking fan, I have a pretty good list of reasons for hating the Boys.

In 1975, Minnesota had their best team ever, only to be eliminated in the NFC title game by Dallas and that coniving little cheat Drew Pearson. With the Vikes on their way to victory, Pearson shoved the safety in the back and caught the Hail Mary pass. Pearson scored on the play and Dallas went on to lose to Pittsburgh in the Super Bowl.

In the mid-eighties, the Vikes squared off against "America's Team" on a Monday Night. I sat in the Dome as Tony Dorsett made history with a 99-yard touchdown run. Boy I'm sick of seeing that replay!

As if I needed another reason to dislike them, I have two words that ring in my ears: Herschel Walker. Walker, which also describes his running style, became a universal phrase to describe a terribly one-sided trade.

Compare that to the fact that Green Bay sucks just because of their proximity to Minnesota.

A head-to-head comparison of the teams also shows that Green Bay is a more fan-friendly team:

Stadium-Irving Stadium has a hole in the roof "so God can watch America's Team play." Lambeau Field is known as "the Frozen Tundra."

Owner-Dallas is owned by a pompous, arrogant, obnoxiously wealthy jerk. Green Bay is owned by a city full of people who think that beer is a food group. Nod to Green Bay.

Wide Receiver-Michael Irvin is pompous and celebrates every routine catch by dancing like a fool. Green Bay-Don Beebe looks like the guy who sat next to me in Health and Fitness for Life.

Quarterback-Troy Aikman is GQ. Brett Favre is AA.

Defensive Line-Leon Lett isn't the smartest or the hardest working (see Don Beebe and Super Bowl XVII). Reggie White is a minister and one of the toughest linemen in the league.

How I spent my summer vacation-Reggie White rebuilt churches. Michael Irvin rebuilt his image.

Fans-Dallas fans listen to country music and wear cowboy hats. Green Bay fans listen to country music and wear hunting gear. We'll call that one a toss-up.

So as tough as this is for me to admit, I think I'm going to be pulling for the Pack. I'd rather see them win than Dallas.

Besides, they're going to have to get as many wins as they can before Dec. 22.

Playoff train on track

NCAA Regional next stop for volleyball team

CHAD URDAHL
SPORTS EDITOR

For the first time in UW-RF history, the Falcon volleyball team has been crowned WWIAC champion.

The team took advantage of Karges Center's friendly confines to win the conference tourney and tie Whitewater to share the overall title.

Fortunately for the Falcons, they are riding an eight-game winning streak and appear to be peaking at the right time.

"I think we are playing at the peak of our game," Falcon coach Patti Ford said. "Which is what you want to have happen with your team at this point in time of the season."

In River Falls' first match against La Crosse, the Falcons came out and made short work of the visitors, posting a three-game sweep 15-9, 15-9, 15-4.

Senior Jen Frodl led the team with 20 kills and had a team-high seven block assists. Cara Gustafson and Anna Schmidt had eight kills each. Schmidt also posted 18 digs for the Falcons, and Gustafson had two aces.

Shantell Erbes had 11 digs, and Maggie Kukar had 10. Amy Holm notched 35 assists.

According to Ford, the La Crosse match gave indication that her team was ready to play some serious volleyball.

"Your first indication is who you play in the opening round. As we played La Crosse in our opening round I could see a significant amount of confidence," Ford said. "I can tell, just their persona, if it's there or not. And when we came out against La Crosse, which is a tough team, and handled them, I felt assured that was a

team that was on a pretty good mission."

That mission's next obstacle came in the form of Oshkosh, a team that had lost only one match all year.

In the semi-finals, the Falcons were equal to the task and came out on top 9-15, 15-10, 15-9, 15-9.

"If you look at the stat's, it's as balanced as it comes. Every person is contributing, and like I've said all year, that's how we've been successful. It hasn't been one or two (players)."

-Falcon coach Patti Ford

Frodl again led the Falcons with 20 kills. She also had two solo blocks and four block assists. Gustafson turned in a solid performance with 12 kills, two solo blocks and five block assists. Schmidt finished with 14 kills and 20 digs. Holm chipped in 53 assists.

Ford contributes her team's success to its balance. She says teams have tried to focus on Frodl and Gustafson, only to leave the door open for other Falcons like Schmidt and Erbes. She also attributes Holm with making proper decisions setting the ball.

"If you look at the stat's, it's as balanced as it comes," Ford said. "Every person is contributing, and like I've said all year, that's how we've been successful. It hasn't been one or two (players)."

Ford says that leaves opposing teams with a dilemma: Shut down the Falcons' kill specialists or shut down the supporting cast.

"I think what they're probably going to do is force their serve a lot tougher," Ford said. "If they don't serve tough, then our offense isn't as predictable with the balance. I wouldn't put it past Amy Holm to try to un-predict it though. That's what she is doing very, very well right now."

Holm helped make her team unpredictable in the championship against top-seeded Whitewater in a 15-12, 14-16, 15-3, 15-13 win. She racked-up 60 assists and a team-high 23 digs.

Frodl once again came up big with kills, nailing 24, to go along with four digs, three solo blocks, and four block assists.

"If she doesn't shut herself down, which I highly doubt she will, other teams can't stop her," Ford said. "I was just noticing against La Crosse, everything she had touched went down, and with significant force."

Gustafson also had 18 kills, seven digs and one solo block. She had four block assists as well. Schmidt had 13 kills, two aces, 22 digs and three block assists.

Erbes also played well in the championship game with 10 kills, an ace, six digs and one block.

As the Falcons look to this weekend's NCAA Regional Tournament, Ford says history could be on her team's side.

"If you look at the history of what's happened out of our region, good things have always happened," Ford said. "The history is there in our region that who makes it out, if they do their homework, they're going to have an opportunity to that Final Four."

Ford says her team feels good about the accomplishments it has made "but not satisfied."

This weekend would be a step toward satisfaction.

Falcon hockey plays EC; runs win-streak to six

CHAD URDAHL
SPORTS EDITOR

It wasn't pretty, but once again the Falcon hockey team came out of a weekend series with two wins.

This time they won on the road against an overmatched UW-Eau Claire team.

After a 9-4 whitewashing at the hands of the Falcons on Friday night, Eau Claire appeared determined not to let it happen twice in a row.

"Looking back, I'm extremely pleased we picked up four points," Falcon coach Steve Freeman said. "I knew it was going to be a tough game after the easy win Friday night. You beat a team that badly and they're embarrassed, and their backs are against the wall playing in their own arena in front of their own fans."

As Freeman predicted, Saturday's game was closer than Friday's. The Falcons led by a slim 3-2 margin in the third period until Brian Wilson scored a pair of goals to put the icing on the cake and give the Falcons a 5-2 win. The win also gave the Falcons a third-consecutive sweep and an unblemished 6-0 record.

Falcon Brian Benedict opened the scoring in the first period with his first collegiate goal. Benedict picked up the puck in the slot and put his own rebound between Blugold goalie Bob Thorp's legs.

After Gerry Burrows took a charging penalty for the Blugolds, Eddie MacDonald capitalized with a power play goal at 12:05 of the first. MacDonald's goal drew controversy when Eau Claire unsuccessfully argued he illegally batted the puck in with his hand.

Eau Claire showed signs of life when Luke Strand scored to make it a 2-1 game at the end of one.

In the second period, Falcon sophomore Jesse Sampair scored his second

short-handed goal of the weekend to increase the lead to 3-1.

Sampair's shot from top of the circle slipped between Thorp's legs and into the net.

According to Freeman, the Falcons were lucky to be leading 3-1 after two periods of play.

"At times, especially in the second period, we didn't hold our composure the way that we need to if we're going to be a championship-level team," Freeman said. "We reacted poorly as far as retaliation. We went in and talked it over between periods, and we came out in the third period and didn't take any penalties and scored two goals. I think that was the difference in the game."

Freeman credits sophomore goalie Brady Alstead with holding the Blugolds at bay during the second period which found the Falcons taking 12 minutes in penalties.

"Brady Alstead played a supreme game," Freeman said. "He had some big stops, especially in the second period when they were on the power play so much. He kept us in there in the second."

After Ryan Thomas scored in the third period to close the gap to 3-2, it was Wilson who erased any doubt.

With just over two minutes left in the game, Wilson had a two-on-one with teammate Jeremy Jeannette and scored a backhand goal.

He then put home an empty-net goal to finish the scoring.

Alstead made 24 saves on the night, and Eau Claire's goalie Thorp made 19.

Friday's turnover-filled game didn't provide quite the drama. In an explosive start, the Falcons found themselves leading 5-2 when the Zamboni came out for the first time.

Although the Falcons took a three-goal lead to the dressing room, Free-

Hockey • B2

Simon(es) says: "Falcons take giant step forward"

BRETT LONGDIN
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Mother Nature tried to be a factor. She threw everything in her repertoire at River Falls.

But the Falcons, led by quarterback Pat Simones, would not allow snow, sleet, sub-freezing temperatures or the Eau Claire Blugolds to spoil their party as River Falls continued its run at the playoffs with a 35-14 win Saturday at Simpson Field.

The win improves the Falcons' overall mark to 8-1 (6-1, WSUC), but with LaCrosse's 28-16 win over Whitewater, River Falls is left alone in second place behind the Eagles.

Although visions of the first conference championship since 1987 were diminished, the Falcons do seem to be on their way to a second consecutive appearance in the NCAA Playoffs.

"I'm disappointed about (not winning the conference) because I thought Whitewater could beat La Crosse," head Coach John O'Grady said after Saturday's game. "Apparently La Crosse is the best in the league."

"I think we're in a good position (for the playoffs). The irony of all this is we knew if we won, and Whitewater won, we'd be conference champs. But our chances of getting in (the playoffs) were reduced."

The Falcons will have to wait till next Sunday to see if they get the call

from the selection committee, but River Falls does have a strong claim for a spot in the field of 16.

Coming into Saturday's game at Eau Claire, River Falls knew they had to shut down the WSUC's second leading rusher Chad Hoiska who entered the game seventh in the nation in scoring.

That wasn't the problem. Hoiska was limited to just 58 yards on the ground and one score.

The problem was the inability of the Falcon offense to move the ball against a stingy Blugold defense. Without Michael Grant's 65-yard touchdown run late in the first period, River Falls' first 21 plays amounted to only 65 yards.

"We just couldn't get started," said O'Grady of his offense who entered the game sixth in the nation in rushing yards. "The field was a little bit slick, and we just weren't able to get first downs the way we hoped."

"They weren't doing anything special, but we weren't playing very well offensively."

While the offense was sputtering, the defense did everything it could to keep the Falcons in it.

And what better way of doing that by forcing seven Eau Claire turnovers-four in the fourth quarter alone.

"They just keep forcing the turnover," said O'Grady of his defense which for the fifth time held an oppo-

nent to under 100 yards rushing. "You hope going into a game like this that you're going to get a few because you have to break their momentum."

River Falls converted three of those fourth quarter turnovers into touchdowns which busted the game wide open.

With the game still in question and Eau Claire trailing 14-7 at the 7:20 mark, Damon Clare recovered a Dan McCarty fumble at the Blugold 34 to put the Falcons in business.

Seven plays later, Pat Simones took the ball in from a yard out to give River Falls a 21-7 lead.

The defense then went to work again, and Eau Claire quarterback Eric Ostmo coughed-up the ball which Clare pounced on again to give River Falls the ball on the 12.

This time it took the Falcons just three plays to find the end zone and take a commanding 28-7 lead.

As the winds and snow increased, so did the Blugolds' fourth quarter woes. Mark Madigan got into the act as he intercepted a John Welsh pass and ran it back 40 yards for the final Falcon score of the day.

Although River Falls was getting the ball in excellent field position, that seemed to be the boost the offense needed to get in the groove in the final stanza.

Simones, who sat out portions of the

	1	2	3	4	F
Falcons	7	0	7	21	35
Eau Claire	0	7	0	7	14

KEY PLAY: With the Falcon offense sputtering, Michael Grant broke a 65-yard touchdown run with 2:39 left in the first quarter. That play equalled River Falls' yardage total up to that point.

KEY STAT: Eau Claire continually shot themselves in the foot. The Blugolds fumbled the ball six times, with the Falcons recovering five of them.

first half after injuring his knee, ankle and taking a shot to his diaphragm, put together a 129-yard afternoon to lead the Falcons. And O'Grady was quick to point out what his senior signal-caller means to his team.

"Pat has led this team against more opponents to bigger scores than what (Adam) Kowles did a year ago," O'Grady said. "He is extremely tough, an unbelievable competitor and is as valuable to us as Adam was last year."

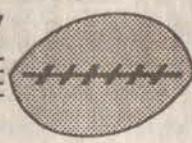
River Falls concludes its regular season at 2 p.m. Sunday against Div. II for Moorhead State at the Metrodome.

And although O'Grady will know the fate of his team's playoff hopes before kickoff, he will treat this like just another game.

"That's going to be a great game," O'Grady said. "We're going to play it like any other. We cannot go in there thinking we're going to play our second team guys. We're going to go in with our starters and try to win."

"We don't want to go into the playoffs, if that happens, with a loss of momentum. They are a very good team and we want to try to win that game."

FALCON FOOTBALL PREVIEW



Opponent: Moorhead State

When, Where: Sunday, Nov. 17, 2:00 p.m., Minneapolis, Minn., H.H.H. Metrodome

Radio: WRFW (88.7-FM)

Falcons Update: River Falls (8-1) heads into the game riding the crest of a four-game winning streak. The team finished second in the WSUC and is expected to receive a bid to the NCAA Division III playoffs before the game.

Moorhead St. Update: The Division II Dragons (7-2) finished the season in second place in the NSIC. Moorhead St. is a team that depends on the running game to move the ball (2148 yards rushing, 331 passing).

Coach's Comment: "It's going to be a great game. We're going to play it like any other. We cannot go in there thinking we're going to play our second team guys. We're going to go in with our starters and try to win. We don't want to go into the playoffs, if that happens, with a loss of momentum. They are a good team and we want to try to win that game." -Falcon head coach John O'Grady

OUCH!!!

The Uof M women's hockey team lost to New Hampshire 16-0 and was out-shot 88-0.

1996 WSUC FOOTBALL STANDINGS					G O F A L C O N S
TEAM	Conference		All Games		
La Crosse	7	0	9	0	
River Falls	6	1	8	1	
Whitewater	5	2	8	2	
Stevens Point	4	3	6	3	
Eau Claire	3	4	5	5	
Oshkosh	2	5	4	6	
Stout	1	6	3	6	
Platteville	0	7	1	9	

FALCON WSUC/WWIAC ALL-CONFERENCE MEMBERS

Football-First Team

John Melvin, Sr. DL, Somerset, Wis.
Woody Fangmeier, Sr. DL, St. Croix Falls, Wis.
Kevin Mitties, Sr. DB, Austin, Minn.
Mike Mutterer, Jr. OL, Buffalo, Minn.

Football-Second Team

Adam Christensen, Sr. TE, Merrill, Wis.
Pat Simones, Sr. QB, Prescott, Wis.
Craig Boen, Sr. WR, Olivia, Minn.
Travis Krauklis, Sr. PK, Elkhorn, Wis.
Wade Oberpriller, Sr. DL, Prescott, Wis.
Jeremy Gazdik, Jr. LB, Somerset, Wis.
Mark Madigan, Sr. LB, Laconia, Wis.

Football-Honorable Mention

Chris Esteb, Sr. DB, Forest Lake, Minn.
Jake Jensen, Sr. OL, Luck, Wis.

Soccer-First Team

Julie Asselin, Jr. Mid, St. Cloud, Minn.
Alayne DuCharme, Jr. Mid, Blaine, Minn.
Leah Woulf, Jr. For, Cottage Grove, Minn.

Soccer-Second Team

Kristin Tormoen, Jr. Mid, Bloomington, Minn.

Volleyball

Cara Gustafson, Sr. MH, North Branch, Minn.
Amy Holm, Sr. S, Fargo, ND.
Jen Frodl, Sr. MH, Waterville, Minn.

Volleyball-Honorable Mention

Anna Schmidt, Sr. OH, Marshall, Minn.



FALCON SPORTS CALENDAR

	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.
			Moorhead St. at the Dome 2:00 p.m.				
							at Stout 7:30 p.m.
	NCAA Midwest Regionals	NCAA Midwest Regionals					
	CONFERENCE RELAYS NOV. 23						

Falcon Face-off Club shoots for success

CHAD URDAHL
SPORTS EDITOR

The UW-River Falls hockey team has developed a rich tradition, one that should be shared with the community.

The newly-formed Falcon Face-off Club is trying to do just that. The club is trying to bring together hockey fans of all ages to give support to the Falcon hockey program.

Some of the things the club try to do include creating community awareness of the team, maintain the tradition of Falcon hockey, arrange chances for the public to meet the team, and put forth fundraising activities to help support the team financially.

Board President Jeff Hubbard, a former Falcon, says he wants to put

something back into the program he got so much out of.

"The purpose is to get the community more involved and for the players to get a chance to meet the community," Hubbard said. "So the people have a face to put with the numbers."

According to Hubbard, the Falcon Face-off Club is the brainchild of a number of hockey people in the area. Lowell and Judy Johnson, whose son Russ played three seasons for the Falcons, are two of them.

"It's good to put something back," Lowell Johnson said. "There are a lot of people in town who want to put something back. We talked it over, and everybody thought it was a good idea."

The club recently assigned officers including Hubbard; Amy Halvorson, treasurer; Barb Kasuboski, secretary;

and Judy Johnson, vice president.

The club's membership has been rapidly increasing and is open to all hockey fans. An application form can be found in programs at all home games.

A minimum \$25 contribution will gain Falcon fans membership to the club. There are three tiers of contributions, and increased benefits come with each level.

Falcon Face-off Club members will receive a membership card and will also be mailed the Falcon Hockey Newsletter, complete with statistics, standings, player information and comments from coaches Steve Freeman and Bob Ritzer.

Also, members are eligible to participate in activities such as the Overtime Period at a local establishment. It is there that members will be able to

meet Falcon players and coaches following Friday home games. Food and beverages will also be provided for players, and arrangements for fans at the Overtime Period will be determined.

Raffles will also be conducted by the club to raise funds to benefit the team.

Jerseys previously worn by Falcons are among the items that may be raffled off.

Another thing the club would like to see happen is area residents becoming hosts in an adoption program. Host parents could invite a player or players to their house for meals or just to get together periodically.

The Falcon Face-off Club is tentatively scheduled to meet every second Tuesday, with the next one coming Nov. 12 at Bud's Lanes in River Falls. It starts at 7 p.m..



FALCON PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



FOOTBALL: Offense-Quarterback Pat Simones lead the Falcons to their fourth straight victory. He carried the ball 20 times for 129 yards and one touchdown. Defense-Linebacker Mark Madigan was everywhere Saturday as he registered 12 tackles and a 40-yard interception return for a touchdown. Special Teams-Punter Jesse Egner executed a pair of pooch punts and nailed a 48-yarder.

HOCKEY: Jesse Sampair had three goals and an assist in the Falcons sweep at Eau Claire. His short-handed goal on Saturday proved to be the game-winner. The speedy Sampair's nine points lead the NCHA in scoring.

SWIMMING: Women-Kathleen Baker had season best times in every event she competed in. She was timed at 11:50.66 in the 1,000 free and 5:52.04 in the 500 free. She also competed in the 400 free relay. Men-Lance Loverink smashed his previous best times in all three of his races. He had a 11:12.73 in the 1,000 free, 5:21.43 in the 500 free and competed in the 500 free relay.

Falcon volleyball gears up for NCAA's Midwest Regional

JIM LITTLE
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

On Friday, 32 of the finest Div. III volleyball programs in the country will begin the NCAA Tournament journey and chase a common goal of winning the National Championship.

Along the way the explosion of talents is sure to produce some memorable moments. There will be some great digs, awesome attacks, and sensational serves.

But when all is said and done, only one team will win its final game.

"It's a whole new season now," Falcon head coach Patti Ford said.

That it is. The Falcons accepted their second-straight invitation to the NCAA Tournament after a brilliant 34-win season that climaxed with the team bringing home the first-ever WWIAC Volleyball Championship to River Falls. As nice as all that is, the Falcons want to take the program to an even higher level.

Last year the Falcons lost their NCAA Regional contest to Oshkosh in five games. Oshkosh will be their opponent in this year's Regional once again. In fact, with Eau Claire and Whitewater also earning berths in the tournament, the four teams in the Midwest Regional are the same four teams in the semifinals of last weekend's WWIAC Tournament. Ford doesn't expect much to change.

"It will be the same intensity and the

#2 WHITEWATER

FRI 5 P.M.

#3 EAU CLAIRE

#4 OSHKOSH

FRI 7:30 P.M.

#1 RIVER FALLS

ALL GAMES PLAYED AT KARGES CENTER

1996 NCAA DIVISION III VOLLEYBALL MIDWEST REGION

NCAA
CHAMPIONSHIPS

ADVANCES TO
QUARTERFINALS ON
NOV 23

WWIAC title. The rash of visitors and endless phone calls bearing congratulations seemed to be never ending. Hopefully for Ford and her team, the scene will repeat itself this Monday. To Ford, winning is all about adjusting.

"Our approach is going to be the same. Our focus is going to be on the first game 'cause that's all that matters," Ford said. "Who will respond mentally to the atmosphere and the environment will determine who will come out on top. Now it's just time to go out and play. Every point and every play has a significant value as to whether you go on or not."

According to Ford, winning the conference championship has been big for some of her players, but she hopes it's only the beginning.

"After the weekend, sharing a title of the conference just has to whet your appetite for another rung on the ladder to go get a regional championship, Ford said. "A lot of kids on our team have not had the opportunity to win a conference championship or a state championship or something within their careers."

Eau Claire and Whitewater will play Friday at 5 p.m. and River Falls will battle Oshkosh at 7:30 p.m.. The two winners will meet Saturday at 3 p.m..

According to Ford, it looks like the winner will advance to a sight in Ohio which has yet to be determined.

Hockey

From B1

man was not overly pleased with his team's play. Both teams were guilty of sloppy play, but it was River Falls that was able to cash in.

"Those are actually the games that drive coaches nuts because you get off your gameplan," Freeman said. "Guys start trying to do too much. Once goals are going in, everyone wants to get in the act and put the puck away. We try to stress defense all along, and that's what we have to concentrate on."

After freshman Matt Flaig scored the first goal of his Falcon career on a tipped Joe Marston shot, the Blugolds played Santa Claus.

Wilson, MacDonald and Sampair each were given early Christmas pre-

same electrifying type games," she said. "The stakes are just a little higher now."

The biggest change over last year's tournament appearance is the fact that River Falls was chosen as the host site, a decision which pleases Ford.

"Volleyball is such a momentum game. When you host a tournament you have the home-court advantage, the home-town crowd, and no travel bag," she said.

The Falcons have beaten all of the other three teams in the region within

the last two weeks. Ford is confident, but she said advancing to the second round is anything but a given.

"Any one of the four teams are capable of winning the Regional Championship," she said. "I would be surprised if one of these four teams doesn't

make it to the Final Four."

With tournaments the last two weekends and this weekend's games, Karges Center has been a busy place in terms of volleyball action. Almost as busy was coach Ford's office the Monday morning after winning the

Swimmers itching for victory

ERIC BRANDEL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Falcon swim team suffered another setback last weekend when they traveled to Mankato for a dual meet. The men's team was beaten by the Mavericks 115-86, while the women's team suffered a 116-82 defeat.

In the men's meet, the Falcons held a slim lead midway through the meet, but saw that lead slip away. J.T. Moon recorded the team's only first place individual finish when he won the 200 back. The relay team of Moon, Brian Dressler, Terry Grenac and Darin Harden won the 400 medley relay. Lance Loverink had his best meet, posting personal bests in all three of his

races.

The loss dropped the team's record to 1-2.

The women's team was up against a tough Division II opponent led by several scholarship swimmers. Tina Anderson finished first in the 100 free, Melissa Hill won the 200 back and Chrissy Quinlan took the 200 breast. The 400 free relay team of Jill Nichols, Rebekah Wagner, Abby Roth and Skye Johnson also recorded a first place finish. Kathleen Baker achieved personal bests in all three of her races.

The Falcon's are still in search of their first win against three losses.

On Nov. 3 the team will travel to La Crosse for the WSUC and WWIAC Relays. Both teams finished fourth in the relays last season.



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New Richmond Wildlife Service benefits from Horticulture Society

HEATHER PIEHL
STAFF WRITER

The spirit of volunteerism was alive and well on Sun., Oct. 13 when members of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls' Horticulture Society landscaped the area around the new office of the New Richmond Fish and Wildlife Service.

The New Richmond Fish and Wildlife Service had purchased some land with a house and planned on converting the house into their new office. Among the first things they decided to do with it was the landscaping, though they needed someone to do the work.

Horticulture Professor Lanny Neel was contacted by the service and sent the word out to the Horticulture Society. He felt it would be an excellent

opportunity for it.

"It would give them an appreciation for volunteerism in our society, and it is something they can put on their experience record," Neel said.

He contacted the society and it began to make its plans. In early October, a Fish and Wildlife Service Employee attended a meeting to inform members about what was needed to be done after a professional had drawn up the plans. Many members of the society were eager to help.

Among these was junior Eric Smoczyk. He feels it is important to look good and be appreciated by the community, and a project such as this one was just the way to do it.

"The best thing you can do is volunteer work," Smoczyk said. "It is good for everybody because you get to give back to the community, and it gives

you practical experience."

Junior Vicki Pondell also participated and felt the experience would help her in the future.

"It was good for the community and it gave us experience that may help us in our career," Pondell said.

Freshman Doddie Luther also found it educational but more than that found it fun.

"It was a fun experience, it was work, but it was still a fun experience," Luther said.

Members of the society planted native species of trees and shrubs. The Fish and Wildlife Service wanted to use native plants instead of some of the more common foreign plants traditionally used in landscaping.

The use of native plants is an increasing trend in horticulture, so the opportunity to work with these species was also valuable for the society.

Neel said that the native plant species provide food, habitat and nesting sites for game birds. Just as impor-

tant, it demonstrates to people that you can get a nice-looking landscape with using only native plants.

The society planted some 70 native species that afternoon, but the work may not be done. It may return to New Richmond in the spring to plant some grasses and prairie flowers. These species are sensitive to frost and would not have a good chance of surviving the cold weather.

Volunteer work has been beneficial to the society for a long time. "It does not hurt to do good things," Neel said. "You never know when it may come back and help you."

One example of how volunteer work has been beneficial is the work the society has been doing since 1990 for the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association. Since then they have volunteered to help set-up a dis-

play for the Association's Annual Convention in Minneapolis every January.

This year the association decided to award a \$1,000 scholarship to a UW-River Falls student interested in landscaping as a career. Neel said the several years of volunteer work had a great deal to do with offering the scholarship to a UW-River Falls student.

Doing volunteer work is very important, not only for students but also the community. Luther enjoyed the fact that, "We're not just doing college functions."

As the landscapes that the society has planted grow, they become more valuable. And as the Horticulture Society has learned, volunteer work is much the same, becoming better with time.

State aids wolf numbers

JIM CHILSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MERRILL, Wis. (AP) — Standing in the darkness of a woodland road, 15-year-old Erica Peterson cups her hands around her mouth and howls into the chilly, star-covered November night.

After her fourth try, she got the answer she was looking for. The woods, maybe within a mile southwest of her, suddenly came alive with the haunting chorus of a Wisconsin wolf pack. The distant moans of adults and high-pitched cries of their young permeated the night.

"When you first hear them, you get goose bumps down your neck," Gary Peterson, Erica's father, said. Both of them volunteer with the Department of Natural Resources to monitor this Lincoln County pack.

The wolves — Gary estimates three to five — heard on this night are part of an estimated 100 timber wolves in Wisconsin, mostly in the north woods, but even as far south as Jackson County.

Once hated so much that they were killed for bounty, wolves were thought to be wiped out in the state by 1960. Now that their numbers are back — and growing — the DNR is gathering opinions on how to manage the animals and how to deal with their inevitable collisions with humanity.

"Howling" is one method used to count the number of wolves in a pack and determine their ages. When the animals heard his daughter, they took her for an intruding wolf, so they decided to give her a message, Gary said.

"That was a warning signal: 'Stay away. We already own this spot,'" he said as he drove his pickup down a forest road, avoiding numerous deer — what he called "wolf food."

Peterson, a junior high school science teacher who estimates he has been monitoring the Lincoln County pack for seven years, said some difficult questions remain for the future.

"They are becoming more accustomed to people, and I think because of that, they're going to start to migrate closer to people, and when they do that, more conflicts could possibly occur," he said. "If that landowner or the farmer doesn't have a tolerance for those animals, what's going to happen?"

In the mid-1970s, evidence of a breeding pack of wolves was found in Douglas County. As more wolves trickled into the state, a wolf recovery plan — with an emphasis on educating people about wolves — began in 1989. Its goal was 80 wolves in Wisconsin by 2000. By 1995, 83 to 86 wolves were detected.

Wolves are presently listed as endangered by both the state and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. But if population trends continue, DNR officials say the creatures could be eligible for reclassification from endangered to threatened by 1997. And in a few years wolves could be taken off the threatened list by federal officials.

In an effort to gather public opinion on wolf management, the DNR held 10 forums in October. Adrian Wydeven, a mammalian biologist with the DNR, said people are concerned that the burgeoning wolf population will be hurt once again if it is taken off a protected list.

"I think there was some perception that delisting meant that wolves were totally unprotected, which would not be the case," Wydeven said. "Even if wolves are delisted they still would be under some protected status."

It's a far cry from the past. Wolf killers got bounties for their work from 1865 to 1957. The DNR's Dave Weitz, who also is involved in development of a wolf management plan, said attitudes about wolves have changed greatly.

"I think to a large extent, especially 10 or 15 years ago, a lot of people, when you said wolf, they thought Little Red Riding Hood," he said.

"The wolf was a big bad guy," Peterson worried about the effect of the wolves' newfound popularity.

"Where do you draw the line between public information and the right for these animals to have their space," he said. "Not

and he was a good one — doesn't make me hate the wolves. I admire the wolves as much today as when I did prior to the incident," he said.

Wydeven said handling wolves that attack livestock is one question to be considered as the DNR develops a strategy for the future, but he maintained the damage to livestock has been minimal.

"We have in the past live-trapped a wolf and removed him from the site, but most of the time it's an individual act and the wolf doesn't come back, and we reimburse the farmer," he said.

Terry Valen, a DNR wildlife supervisor in Eau Claire, said wolves will only reach a few hundred in Wisconsin — not enough to have a negative or positive effect on deer populations or any part of the surrounding environment.

The DNR says about 5,700 square miles were identified as probable wolf habitat, which theoretically could support 300-400 wolves in northern Wisconsin. Another 300-400 square miles in central Wisconsin could support 20-30 wolves.

"A couple hundred wolves in northern Wisconsin, for example, is not going to have a significant impact one way or the other," he said. Valen said that there are other good reasons to keep wolves in the state.

"I think we're poorer as a society for losing components of our natural system," he said. "I think it's just good for the human psyche that we do everything possible to keep all the parts."

Graceful landing



Niaomi Runge photo

A flock of geese prepares to land in this nearby body of water. Canadian geese are a common sight in the midwest during all seasons of the year.

St. Paul man cares for dead pets

CHIP JOHNSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ST. PAUL (AP) — The half-dozen dog tags kept in a shoe box at Jerry Finn's office are remnants of a sad tale of a dog's life — and painful death.

The tags give the St. Paul street maintenance worker all the information he will need: where the pooch ate and slept, who loved him, how to reach them in case of emergency. By the time Finn reaches them, the emergency has passed.

The dog or cat is dead, abandoned and alone on a city street.

Finn, 49, has one of the toughest jobs in town. He is the city's canine mortician of sorts. For eight hours every day, part of his work demands that he crisscrosses the city responding to road kill calls.

Unlucky skunks, raccoons, deer, dogs, cats and muskrats sooner or later meet up with Finn or one of his co-workers.

So far this year, he and three co-workers have picked up more than 480 animals of every shape and size — though the most common shape is flattened.

Steve Zippel is the night dispatcher who takes the calls from frantic owners who have been referred to his office.

"In a sense, we are the last call they make, their last hope, and we hope our answer is 'No, we haven't seen your pet,'" says Zippel, sitting in front of a computer screen that displays the city's dead animal list.

"There are times when you are like the nurse who has to tell them that they've lost a loved one," Zippel says.

Unclaimed corpses are hauled off to a rendering plant every Friday, more often if the small cooler fills up fast.

As a testament to their unheralded deaths, Zippel pulls out the shoe box containing nearly half a dozen collars from animals that were never claimed.

Some pet owners take their pets' deaths seriously.

A golden retriever is wrapped in plastic in the freezer. "The owner is going to pick him up, take him up north and give him a proper send-off," said Tom Scaramuzzo, a field supervisor.

Finn reflects on the relationship between man and beast while scouring the streets. At its best, he said, "It can be a delicate situation when someone loses their pet because in some cases, they've been together for 10 or 15 years."

At its worst, "I've found fighting dogs that have been tied up and pulled behind trucks," he said with a shiver. "I don't understand why anyone would do that."

With the arrival of winter, Finn will turn from road kill duties to driving a

sand truck until spring.

Until then, he'll continue to answer the radio to provide dead animals with his unceremonious but humane service.

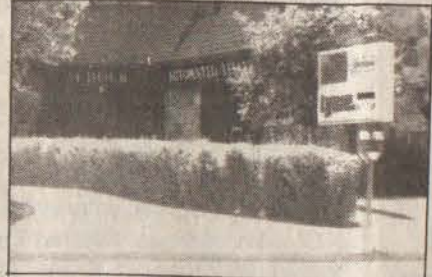
"1194 Hubbard. Residents report a dead squirrel in the middle of the road," Zippel's voice cracks over the radio.

Finn arrives a couple of minutes later and starts searching.

"There you are," he says to a squirrel with a fixed, unblinking stare.

With three children staring from a nearby house, Finn grabs his shovel, lifts the squirrel and drops its body into a bucket.

"There is no option to say, 'That ain't my job,'" Finn says. "We pick 'em all up."



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Numbers/Don't give them to just anyone

From 1A

number off the top of your head when you don't want to give your own number. If you do you have no idea if it is being used or not. If it is in use you've committed a federal crime.

What is the best advice to avoid becoming an unwitting victim? If you are reluctant to give your Social Security number - don't.

"Any time you fill out a form remember there is no rule anywhere that says you need to fill in all the blanks," said the private investigator from Chippewa Falls.

Should Student I.D. Numbers Be Changed?

United Council, a UW-System student lobbying council based in Madison, is heading a campaign to have student I.D. numbers changed to unique, non-Social Security numbers.

United Council President Timothy Casper said that Social Security I.D. numbers pose too big a threat to student privacy to be ignored.

"Maybe you have HIV and have been keeping it secret, or you had an abortion, or STD testing," he said. "Social Security numbers can provide someone complete information about your life, including your medical records."

Casper said campuses are dragging their feet and saying they don't have the technology in place to change the current system.

"The technology exists; that's just a lame excuse," he said.

Technology is not being used as an excuse at UW-River Falls, but many

would prefer to see the system remain as it is.

"My preference would be to stay with Social Security numbers (for student I.D.'s) but we could handle whatever change occurred," said Dave Woodward, director of financial aid.

An amended student I.D. system would mean that the campus would use two numbers: a unique student I.D. number and the Social Security number. The Social Security number would still appear on master records, but would not appear on student I.D. cards. The new number would be used for student I.D. cards, meal plans, and class registration.

The topic of student I.D. numbers was brought up last fall when the campus got new student, staff and faculty I.D. cards, but nothing came of the debate, said Gerda Benedict, director of UW-RF Food Services.

Benedict estimates that re-carding the campus would cost around \$15,000 for the cards, not including labor. Most of the equipment is in place for the change, so minimal retooling would be required, Benedict said.

The registrar, administrative computing and financial aid offices all say they could cope with a change, but are looking to the UW-System for guidance.

Guidance won't be coming, said David Bantz, assistant vice-president for learning and information tech-

nology for the UW-System.

The UW-System won't set a system-wide mandate; they will let the campuses decide the issue on their own, he said. The pressure is on, however, because of the planned campaign of the United Council and a letter UW-System received from the American Civil Liberties Union urging the campuses to take action against Social Security student I.D. numbers.

"It is inevitable," Bantz said. "We'll move away from Social Security numbers."

What you can do now about your student I.D. number

Students don't have to wait for the campus to change the student I.D. system if they want to get a different I.D. number.

Students can fill out a change of I.D. card in the registrar's office to have their numbers changed, but they should remember that the Social Security number will remain on all master files (financial aid, transcripts, etc.).

Registrar Program Assistant Pam Stevens said that the only I.D. changes the office normally does are for incorrect Social Security numbers, but that new numbers can also be applied for.

For more information students can go to the registrar's office at 105 North Hall.

Library/Students can see light at end of tunnel

From 1A

the building, but it is still limited; however, all of the resources are available. An additional hallway was added to access the periodicals on the north side of the building as well, Baum said.

She advises students to expect the library to remain messy for a while, adding that the completion date of the project may also be pushed back again.

"The contractor is still saying January, but we don't think that," Baum said. "The contractor doesn't have a schedule...things don't happen the way they were intended to happen for various reasons."

For instance, a sidewalk on the building's southwest corner seems to gather water rather easily at the bottom of a small hill. This particular sidewalk has already been redone once and will be done a third time in the spring, Baum said.

"It's getting to us," Baum said. "It's been a long time."

For about the last few weeks only library staff members had access to books upstairs so students were forced to wait for their materials to be obtained. Though most of the books were not accessible, students continually

took advantage of the resources available to them in the library, Baum said.

However, she admitted students have studied less in the library because of the noise levels and less space for study tables.

Lisa Thielbar, a senior broad area business administration major, said she agrees with Baum.

"People can't (go to the library and) get away from their roommates or loud apartments to study anymore," Thielbar said.

Thielbar also said that she visits the library less since the construction began over a year ago.

"If I can go to a different library back home I will," she said.

Sophomore agricultural education major Mike Swanson has experienced the same frustration.

"I've been trying to avoid it because it has been such a zoo down there," he said.

Instead he tried using the River Falls Public Library and his hometown library for sources.

Craig Sprowls, a sophomore business administration major, didn't like that he couldn't look for his research material himself. Sprowls was search-

ing for a book to summarize in a paper, but he needed to see the number of pages in the book.

"The paper is due Friday and the book was over 400 pages long," Sprowls said. "I can't read that much in a week."

The previous reference area and the old technical services area will be demolished and rebuilt. The library staff is waiting to place the new furniture over the semester break to prevent ruining it, Baum said.

"It's disheartening to see all of the old furniture still being used," she said.

The heat was recently turned on as well, Baum said. However, the temperatures have varied and she expects all of the heaters to be functioning next week sometime.

She also said the hallways in the library's basement have to be finished yet.

But Baum commended the library staff and the students for being understanding about the construction and the mess that surrounds it, and she added a bit of hope: "It will be worth the wait."

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY FOR THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

1.0 POLICY/PURPOSE: In the event of weather emergencies, the Chancellor or designee may cancel classes and close the campus to the public and/or direct all non-emergency employees to leave work early or not to report to work.

2.0 OVERVIEW/BACKGROUND:

1. WSEU (Wisconsin State Employees Union) contractual provisions
2. UW-System Administration Guideline "Inclement Weather Practice"

In spite of inclement weather, it is unrealistic to close a campus. There are numerous vital services that must be maintained such as security services, food services for residential students, power plant operations, snow removal, etc.

3.0 UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES

Chancellor, Provost/Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellor Administration and Finance

4.0 DEPARTMENT/UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

All Departments

5.0 PROCEDURES:

1. All employees (faculty, academic staff, classified and students) are expected to make an earnest effort to report to work in the event that classes are canceled and the campus has been closed to the public. Safety and welfare should be the principles that guide an employee's decision to leave work early or not to report to work. Employees are expected to inform their supervisors of their decision.
2. In the event that classes have been canceled and the campus has been closed to the public, every attempt will be made to notify local and Twin Cities' news media.
3. In the event that the campus has been closed to the public and employees are either unable or have been directed not to report to work, they will be compensated according to appropriate State Statute, University rule, policy or applicable union contract provision.

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Fall 1996 Program Guide

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	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6:00 7:00	AGRI-SCAN						
8:00	"Help Me"	Eat, Drink, Man, Woman	Mary Gallas	The MO Show	Wart Remover	Happy Pills	The Beatles People
9:00	(Variety)	(Variety)	(Country)	(Alternative, Christian)	(Variety)	(Alternative)	(Alternative)
10:00	Above the Gun Shop	Dead Spot	Country Meltdown	Dan & Dave's Football Armchair Scoreboard	The Dyna Girl Show	Yo Mama	Kill the Chicken, Kiss the Duck
11:00	(Variety)	(70's, Alternative, Instrumental)	(Country)		(Variety)	(Blues, Jazz, Rap, Industrial)	(Spiritual)
12:00	Hangover Remedy	The Adam Tyler Show	Whatever Happens, Happens	Barb, Aaron, Jaime, Sarah	Rudy's Radio Riot	The Sane Asylum	Simply The Best Country and Western
1:00	(Heavy Metal)	(Top 40)	(Variety)	(Alternative)	(Punk, Ska)	(Variety)	(Country)
2:00	The Frey O'Brien Show	Sparky's Partyhour	Superfly, Mackdaddy, Gear Oil Show	Electra Excursions (Ambient, Industrial)	Mahna Mahna	Retro	Dead Air
3:00	(Variety)	(Rock Jock, Dance, R&B)	(Alternative, Variety)	What's Happenin' (News/Talk)	(Variety)	('80s Variety)	
4:00	The Glass Onion	Sexier Friction	Color Commentary	Sports Roundtable	Coupe de Ville	Fresh Newz	(Alternative)
5:00	(Variety)	(Variety)	(Variety)	(Sports Talk)	(Industrial, Rap, Alternative, Funk)	(Alternative, Christian)	
6:00	SKAplosion	Jason Egerstrom (Variety)	My Friend Rich's Show	Radio Heads	Johnny B	Black Friday	Stain Free Carpet
7:00		Kiss My Asteroid		(Variety)			
8:00		(Punk, Local, Ska)	(Punk, Indie)	Jazz It Up!! (Rap, Modern Rock, R&B, Thrash)	(Top 40)	(Hard Rock, Heavy Metal)	(Alternative)
9:00	Optional Logic	Wackforce Mr. Brett Hours	"Screw" The Show	'69 Chrysler	Erick Flair's Primetime Partyzone	Jello Box	Planet of Sound
10:00							
11:00	(Variety/Talk)	(Punk, Rap, Hard Rock)	(Variety)	(Blues Variety)	(Top 40)	(Alternative, Ska, Jazz, Classical)	(Punk, Ska, Underground)
12:00	Furious Random Breathmints	The Jungle	Eric Long	Bubba & the People With Manners	The Refuge	Dr. Dan Inc.	Music For Cheetahs
1:00	(Alternative, Indie, Techno)	(Alternative, Metal, Rock)	(Whatever)	(Rock, Metal, Polk, Classic)	(Mood Music)	(Variety)	(Punk, Jazz)

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