

STUDENT VOICE

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Potential gang activity troubles local officials

SARAH COLBURN
NEWS EDITOR

When the words "mono" and "etch" showed up scrawled on the side of River Falls High School, Sgt. Jeff Linehan of the River Falls Police Department was not too concerned.

However, when he saw the words for the third and fourth time, he and other police department members started to worry.

The real concern for the department came when the simple lettering started to take more elaborate forms and the last leg of the letter "N" in the word "mono" formed an arrow—a common gang symbol.

Most recently the words "mono" and "etch" have appeared scrawled on various buildings, signs and power boxes around the city and on the UW-River Falls campus. This graffiti contains one small indicator in its design that is typical of gang graffiti, Linehan said.

This sign may indicate a link between "wanna-be" gang

activity and the organized gang activity found in Minneapolis. It has been said at past community awareness meetings that "if we say we don't have a drug and gang problem in this city we have our heads buried six feet deep in the sand," Linehan said.

Adolescents around the city that portray themselves as stereotypical gang-bangers are part of a gang, but not the typical gang, Linehan said.

"These kids aren't involved in drive-by shootings, but we have cited a few incidents involving weapons," he said.

The city has taken many steps to counteract the negative activity taking place among youth and head it off before it reaches the magnitude of Minneapolis gangs.

River Falls is the first community in the area to charge juveniles with gang solicitation, or trying to get people

initiated into a gang.

The case in River Falls involved five area youth. The police department declined to give a specific date for the incident. Two local teen-agers around ages 16 and 17 instructed two middle school-aged children to do physical harm to a third person.

The children assaulted the third person as the two teens looked on. When officers confronted the middle schoolers they replied they had to beat up the third person because they were told to.

Linehan said this is the only case that has resulted in charges of gang solicitation.

River Falls Police Chief Roger Leque said this behavior is typical of gangs, and the police department was both surprised and concerned that this type of activity was taking place in River Falls.

Since the onset of these problems, educators and law enforcement officials have brainstormed ways to keep River Falls youth from falling victim to gang activity. The enforcement of the solicitation law is just one way the community is attempting to combat future problems.

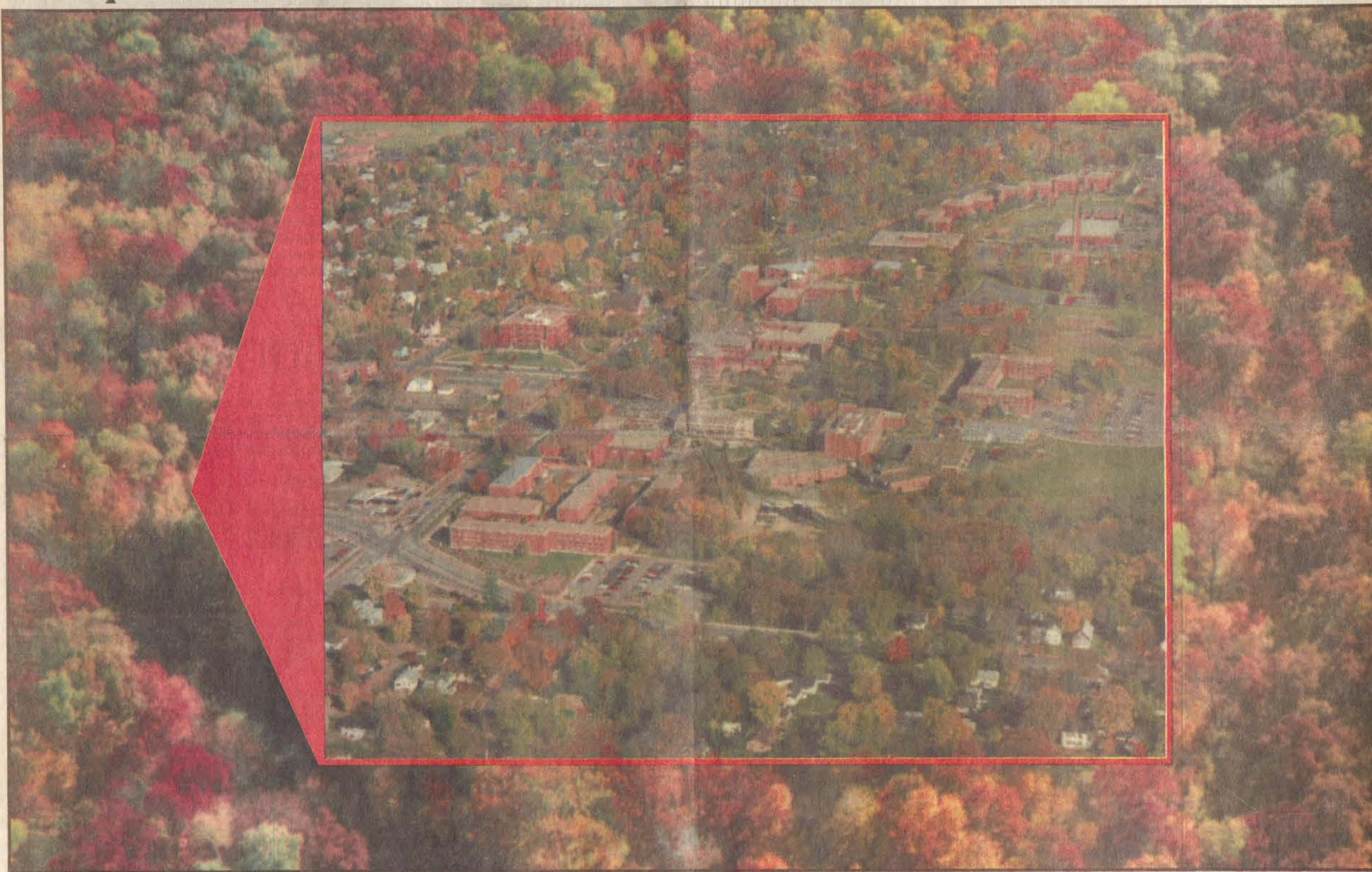
According to Cindy Crimmins, a professor in the criminal justice department at UW-RF, both Hudson and River Falls high schools implemented dress codes to deal with the gang community issues.

"The solidarity concerns evolve around dress and symbolism," Crimmins said. "The purpose of symbolism is to create unity and solidarity. By implementing dress codes and getting rid of obvious symbols, schools are able to reduce the draw of gangs. Something as simple as a change in the dress code has a profound impact on solidarity."

River Falls High School has always had a dress code, said Assistant Principal Tom Carroll. The code has just been adjusted in the past three years to keep up with the times. Most recently the school banned saggy and/or baggy pants as well as oversized shirts.

Gangs•4A

Campus shows its true colors



Fall is in full swing and trees in the River Falls area are showing off for all to see. This bird's eye view of the UW-RF campus was taken from a single engine plane on Oct. 13. Fall colors have been at their peak for the past few weeks; however, Wednesday night's storm stripped many trees bare. Turn to page 2A for more on the storm and its effect on campus buildings.

Michael McLoone photo

A clean sweep:
Custodian lends students an ear and a smileTODD SCHIERENBECK
STAFF WRITER

His job description includes emptying trash, sweeping floors and cleaning bathrooms, but Mike Fisher's main concern is for the students.

"I work for the students first, then the staff and then the faculty," said Fisher, who is a custodian in South Hall. "I feel like if it wasn't for them being here, I wouldn't have a job."

With his unruly brown hair, twinkling eyes and often-used smile, Fisher makes it clear that he enjoys talking to students and hearing about their problems.

"If someone's day isn't going well, I won't try and change that," he said. "I'll offer my help, you know, 'Hey, is there anything I can do to help?' If I can't do something to help, at least I can listen."

Fisher sees many students at both their high and low points. He began taking classes at UW-River Falls three years ago so he could better understand what kind of pressures students are under.

"I have 45 semester hours of engineering technology," Fisher said. "I'm

probably never going to use it; I started doing it to help understand what the students are up against. Also, it's useful if a student needs help with some homework."

Though much of his enthusiasm is directed toward the students, Fisher manages to bring it to his job as well.

He has worked in nearly every building on campus at one time or another, often helping co-workers if they need it, and he boasts that he has been in every room on campus.

He is currently working in South Hall, and has worked as a regular custodian for Johnson Hall, Hagestad Student Center and Rodli Commons. A typical day for Fisher begins when

he wakes around 4:45 a.m. His work day does not begin until 6 a.m., but he likes having time to dawdle before he goes to work.

A perfectionist who disdains laziness, he doesn't have that luxury once he begins work.

"I want to make every job I do perfect the first time, but there's not enough time to do everything every day," Fisher said. "It's like farming; there's always something to do."

He generally works until 8 a.m. making sure the classrooms are presentable. After that, he alternates different duties on different days, working on cleaning floors, emptying trash and sweeping

stairwells. Fisher maintains that janitors must be flexible in how they spend their time and that their jobs consist more of reaction than action.

"If you can't handle cleaning something up and 15 minutes later it's dirty again, you don't want to work here," Fisher said.

His first position at UW-RF was custodian for the Hagestad Student Center, a position that he loved.

"The biggest factor that changed my whole thought process was working in the Student Center," Fisher said. "It was my first full-time job. Working with that staff over there—they're involved in everything."

"I started helping out and they allowed me to do that. I'm a custodian, not administrative faculty or staff, but they never denied me the chance to get involved. I gained so much knowledge; it was wonderful."

Though he loved working at the Student Center, Fisher said it was sometimes hard to be the person that everyone wants to talk to.

"I was spending 14 hours a day there, and I was only working for eight of those," Fisher said. "I loved it, but I

Fisher•3A



Mike Fisher

Custodians appreciate students

HEATHER SCHOOLEY
& PENNY HUNTINGTON
STAFF WRITERS

Your shoe scuffs a black mark on the floor in Ames. Your candy wrapper misses the trash can in North Hall. You spill your soda in the Student Center. Mom is 200 miles away. Who cleans up your mess?

As students pour out of the Agricultural Science building, Jon Segerstron picks cigarette butts and rubbish out of the ashtray. Segerstron has been a UW-River Falls custodian for 17 years.

"I like to make this place really presentable," Segerstron said. "But we've got a problem of running half-staffed."

Segerstron said that 15 years ago UW-RF was first in cleanliness out of all UW campuses. He said that because of low budget funds UW-RF custodians are now responsible for 36,000 square feet each, rather than the average 22,000 square feet per custodian.

During the school year the custodians are assigned to work in a certain building. The Housing Department assigns some to the residence halls, and the Physical Plant assigns some to the other buildings on campus.

In the summer, however, everyone works together in the same building. The custodians complete the work in one building and move on to the next.

Deborah Bjork, a former UW-RF custodian, said the custodians work together to keep the campus looking good and that students are missed in the summer.

"When you work so closely with the students and they go home for the summer, they return and it's like your kids are returning," Bjork said.

Another custodian who wishes to remain anonymous said that she likes having her own area to clean.

"I like to be in one area so I can get to know the students and they know me," she said. "I like to be around the students and interact with them."

She said she used to work in Residence Life where she used to do different jobs in different areas every day. She now works in a classroom building.

"The students are pretty easy to get along with," she said. "But they are messy at times. I'm amazed at the way some of the students keep their common areas. I would hate to see their apartments."

She said one of the things students do that causes her the most trouble is walk

Custodians•2A

BRIEFS

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED May Hall is sponsoring a sleep out for those in need. The sleep out will take place on Oct. 24 on the lawn in front of the student center. Donations will go to Turningpoint, a shelter for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Anyone interested in sleeping out is welcome to join. Meet at 3:00 p.m. in front of the student center. Donations will be accepted in front of the student center.

SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE AND UNIVERSITY/COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA will present a concert on Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. in the Klempell Fine Arts building in the Abbott Concert Hall. The concert is free. For more information or to have your name added to the concert schedule mailing list please call 425-3183.

UW-RF OFFERS GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP For K-12 educators Oct. 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$59. Registration deadline is Oct. 16. For more information call 425-3256.

DISCONTINUED TEXTBOOK SALE Is now taking place at textbook services. The sale will continue until finals week. Textbooks in all subject areas are available at prices ranging from \$0.25 to several dollars per copy.

FALL CURRENT TEXTBOOK SALE If you want to purchase any of the textbooks that you have checked out, bring them to Textbook Services during the fall textbook sale. This will take place Oct. 10 thru Nov. 15, a 20-40% discount will be given.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES Influenza vaccines are available at the River Falls Medical Clinic beginning Oct. 2, 1996 for \$8.00 per dose. Payment is required at the time of service unless covered by health insurance. Please call ahead for an appointment to 425-6701. Influenza vaccines are also available beginning mid-October through Pierce County (273-6755, \$6.00 per dose) and Saint Croix County (246-8263, \$8.00 per dose) Public Health Departments. Please call for times and locations of immunization clinics. For your information, both Pierce and Saint Croix County Health Departments cover the Hepatitis B vaccine series for persons who start the series before turning age 19. The Hepatitis B vaccine series is also available at the River Falls Medical Clinic. Hepatitis B and influenza vaccines are not covered by Student Health Services. For questions, call Student Health services at 425-3293/3292.

CAREER AND COUNSELING SERVICES WORKSHOPS Programs being offered include "Preparing for job interviews" which will be held on Oct. 21 from 3-4:00 p.m. in the St. Croix room of the Student Center.

COLORING WITH TRI-SIGMA Will take place on Wed. Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. in room 138 of Rodli commons. Call Sharon Johnson at 426-1296 for more information.

ANNUAL HOMECOMING CHORAL CONCERT A program featuring the UW-RF concert choir, chamber singers and concert choir alumni singers will be held Sun., Oct. 20 at 3 p.m.. The concert will be held in the William Abbott Concert Hall in the Klempell Fine Arts building. The public is welcome and the concert is free. Choir alumni are asked to attend the 10 a.m. rehearsal in the choral rehearsal room. All of the Choirs will join together for the final selections of the concert following a 1:30 p.m. rehearsal in Abbott Concert Hall.

UP WITH PARENTS Is an exciting and fun-packed night of poking fun at parenthood and learning some extraordinary helpful things about discipline and self-esteem. This is open to parents who have children of all ages, it will be held at Ezekiel Lutheran Church, 202 S. Second St., River Falls, WI 54022. The cost is \$7 per person, Call Ezekiel Lutheran Church at 425-8294 to register.

WOMEN IN POVERTY SPEAKERS BUREAU Will be conducting training sessions for those interested in speaking to the community about the topic of women in poverty. Anyone interested in this issue may attend without future obligation. If you need assistance with the costs of childcare and transportation in order to attend or for more information contact Ruth Kalms at 425-3261 or 425-0498 or e-mail at Ruth.A.Kalms@uwrf.edu or contact Davida Alperin at 425-3318, e-mail at Davida.J.Alperin@uwrf.edu

UW-RF CAREER/LIFE PLANNING WORKSHOP The continuing education extension is offering a workshop that will provide assistance in defining career goals, assessing interests, preferred work characteristics and transferable skills. The workshop will be held Tuesdays Oct. 29-Nov. 19 from 6:30-9:15 p.m. in room 141 of the Klempell Fine Arts building. The cost of the workshop is \$74 which includes assessments and a packet of materials. For more information call the continuing education extension office at 425-3256.

SCHOLARSHIPS

1997 PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES Students who have completed less than one year of graduate study toward a MS or Ph.D in the biological sciences are eligible to apply. For more information contact the National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington DC 20418 or phone (202) 334-2872. Applications are also available on the Internet at <http://fellowships.nas.edu>. Deadline for application is Nov. 15, 1996.

FORD FOUNDATION PREDOCTORAL AND DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS FOR MINORITIES Open to students in research based doctoral programs in the behavioral and social sciences, humanities, engineering, mathematics, physical sciences and life sciences. For more information contact the National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington D.C. 20418 or phone (202) 334-2872. Applications are also available on the Internet at <http://fellowships.nas.edu>. Deadline for application is Nov. 4, 1996.

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 Mc Au Liffe-Director 5 Magnolia PKWY, Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047.

FOREST HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP One annually, sole criteria is a paper written by the student on any aspect of forest or conservation history of WI. Manuscript should be no longer than 1000 words. Double spaced on 8 1/2 X 11 white bond paper. Number all pages and use generous margins. Title page should list author's name, school, class and major. Submit papers to Mr. John Saemann H C L Box 309 Florence, WI 54121-9723.

MEETINGS

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

SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS Will meet in room 304 North Hall at 7 p.m. This meeting has been added so we can discuss upcoming fundraisers. All interested students welcome.

Tuesday:
TEN PERCENT SOCIETY Will hold a meeting on Tues., Oct. 22 at 3:30 p.m. in the St. Croix Room of the Student Center.

Wednesday:
INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Will hold meetings at 8:15 p.m. in the International Room of the student center. Everyone is welcome.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY Will be holding a meeting on Wed., Oct. 23 at 3:30 p.m. in the Regents Room of the Student Center. Important to attend, everyone is welcome.

Thursday:
ECO CLUB Meets every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Room.

Rain, rain – go away!

Heavy rains flood library; leaves some damage to basement

ERIC WIDHOLM
Editor

The remodeled basement of the Chalmers Davee Library flooded with six to eight inches of water Wednesday night as unexpected thunderstorms dumped nearly four inches of rain and hail in the River Falls area.

The water rushed through the new rear doors of the library, which faces Hathorn Hall, sometime between 7 and 8 p.m. after the first rash of heavy downpours hit the St. Croix Valley, said Nate Beeman, supervisor of housekeeping services at UW-RF.

Apparently a storm drain plugged with material flowing towards the drain forced the water mixed with mud through the closed glass doors at the rear entrance of the building, he said.

"We've told (the workers) all along that it would do this on the first heavy rain," Beeman said.

Beeman and several other UW-River Falls janitors were called in to assist with the cleanup around 8:30 p.m. The janitors rushed to stop running water from continually entering the doors, vacuumed excess water from carpets and mopped the muddied tile in the entrance and classrooms.

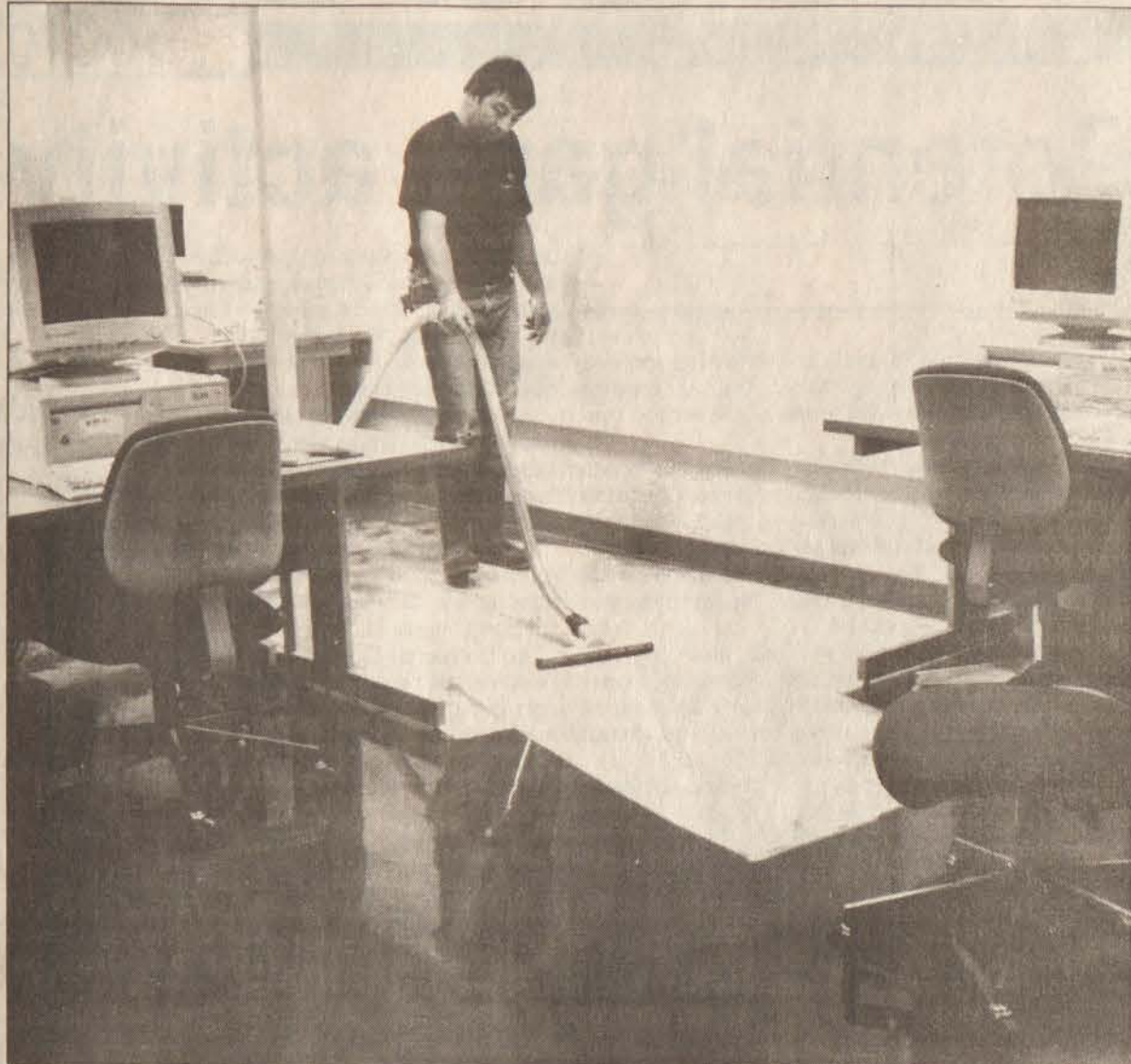
The shaft for the new library elevator was filled with six feet of water and both new writing labs were flooded, he said. Workers finished the initial cleaning just past midnight Thursday morning.

"Everything is at least functional," he said.

The most extensive damage was wrinkling to carpets in classrooms, Beeman said. It's possible the carpets may need to be torn out.

"We've got some carpet that is probably ruined," Beeman said. "I can't even guess how many pails of water we've got out of there."

All classrooms and Textbook Services were usable Thursday morning, although the area was still damp, he said.



Michael McLoone photo

Larry Larson, UW-RF North Hall janitor, vacuums water and mud from the tile floor in one of the two new writing labs in the basement of Chalmers Davee Library Wednesday night.

Beeman was originally called to campus to check on a roof leak in North Hall, he said. "I was watching the ball game."

Beside the nuisance of excessive cleanup, the standing water in the library didn't cause serious damage, he said. The janitors will be paid overtime for their spontaneous action.

Steve Dzuby, the national weather service reporter for the River Falls area, said 3.84 inches of rain fell between 7:40 p.m. Wednesday and 6 a.m. Thursday from three separate storm cells. The storms also dumped pea to marble size hail on much of the area.

According to the National Weather

Service, more rain is in the forecast for much of Thursday into Friday. The weather will turn cooler on Friday with a chance of rain and snow mix, wind gusts nearing 50 mph and a high of 40.

Professor leaves big shoes to fill

TODD SCHIERENBECK
STAFF WRITER

By all accounts, whoever steps into Michael Davis' shoes when he leaves UW-River Falls may need to layer their socks to make the shoes fit.

Davis, who is the director of the Department of Health and Human Performance, will be begin a two-year leave of absence Dec. 1, when he will move to Washington D.C. with his wife.

He has worked at UW-RF for 30 years, starting as a teacher when he first arrived and becoming the director of the department nine years ago. He left open an option to return to UW-RF, but said if he returns he would only want to teach, his first and greatest love.

"The lifeblood of any professor must be the love of both teaching and learning," Davis said. "It's not enough to teach; you must continually learn if you're going to be an effective teacher. I've been very fortunate that I'm as excited, if not more excited, about teaching now than I was when I was

24."

Davis said he hopes to continue his teaching while in Washington D.C.

"Teaching has always recharged my batteries," he said.

However, the busy man may not have the time with his new responsibilities.

He is leaving to fill the position of executive vice-president of American Alliance, an organization of six national associations that "are involved with the entire spectrum of healthy lifestyles and physical activity," Davis said.

The organization, which has a membership of about 30,000 nationwide, works to advance ideas and oversee the administration of the physical education programs in the nation, including health education programs, athletics, recreation and dance.

The group also implements programs targeted to benefit the health of specific groups, such as senior citizens and people with disabilities.

Davis, resembling a pragmatic perfectionist, has already served as in-

terim executive vice-president of the American Alliance last year. He went through four rounds of interviews before being awarded the full-time position.

Davis said many aspects of his new occupation intrigue him.

"The exciting thing about going forth as the executive vice-president is the opportunity to work with national leaders; to set the direction for our profession," he said.

In his new position, Davis will be working with groups such as the American Heart Association, the American College of Sports Medicine, the President's Council on Health and Physical Fitness and the Center for Disease Control.

"I am not running from a position, I am moving towards a different career path," he said.

Davis said he will miss UW-RF.

"(I will miss) without a doubt, the ability to work with many colleagues that I have great respect for, and to help students reach heights that you never thought possible, in both academic achievement and professional aspiration," Davis said. "Many of my students have gone on to medical careers and graduate schools, and to see that, and have been a part of their development, is a great privilege."

Davis also reminisced about the changes he has seen at UW-RF over the last 30 years.

"I think that River Falls, in 30 years, has shown significant growth in the quality of its programs and the quality of its students and faculty," Davis said. "I strongly believe that our cur-

rent administration is taking the leadership steps to make UW-RF one of the strongest state institutions in the country."

Faculty and staff in the Health and Human Performance department are quick to point out that the department has prospered under Davis' leadership, citing accreditation received from the National Association of Sports and Physical Education, an honor given only to about one-fourth of all college programs.

Davis also obtained cutting-edge technology for the classrooms, including a virtual-reality dissection simulator and even the use of cadavers in some classes.

Associate Professor Faye Perkins said Davis will do just as well in his new job as he has at UW-RF.

"Mike is a professional," she said. "He's driven to pursue quality, and at the same time, to help us attain that quality, he's willing to support you in any way he can."

"He's been a real mentor to me personally and we're going to miss him. He has really helped head this department into the 21st Century. Without his leadership, we may not be where we are today."

Program Assistant Marlene Nadeau said she is sad to see Davis leave UW-RF, and thinks the world of him.

"There's no way to put it into words," she said. "He's just the best person you could possibly work for."

"He's compassionate and understanding beyond most people. (The American Alliance) is gaining a gem, and we're losing one."

Athletic equipment taken

BRANDON EYTCHESON
STAFF WRITER

A rash of thefts plagued student athletes at Hunt Arena and Ramer Field last week.

According to police reports, hockey players reported hockey skates missing from their lockers at Hunt Arena.

Several football players reported to campus security that money had been removed from their lockers during football practice sometime last week.

Don Barnes, the UW-River Falls Athletic Equipment Manager reported to police that a communications cable used by high school and college football coaches at Ramer Field was found cut on Oct. 11. The cable is valued at \$275.

Thefts

A stereo and cassette player was stolen from a car parked in the Ramer Field earlier this month. Damages and loss is reported at \$640.

A boom box was reported stolen

from Centennial Science Hall last week. The boom box is university property and is valued at \$100.

A men's 26-inch bike was stolen from in front of May Hall on Oct. 7. Loss, \$100.

Citations

According to police reports, Jeremy R. Gazdik, 22, 642 S. Main St. was cited for theft and fined \$209.50, plus asked to pay \$130 in restitution for not returning two movie videos to Tapedek after renting them out.

Gustav C. Krejcha, 19, 280 Hathorn Hall was fined \$148 for possession of false identification on Oct. 12 at a downtown bar. Police reports state that Robert T. Stevenson, 22, 208 S. Fifth St. was also fined \$148 for providing false identification to Krejcha.

Andrew N. Marks, 21, 906 S. State St. #104, was fined \$74.20 for inattentive driving on Oct. 11 during a traffic accident at North Main and Pomeroy streets with Thomas J. Langer of Hudson.

Good Luck Falcons!

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Award-winning journalist brings tales of Washington D.C. to River Falls

SARA JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

The world of \$10,000 a plate political fund raisers, spin doctors and Washington pollsters is an unfathomable thing for most people, but for Jeffrey Birnbaum it's all in a day's work.

Birnbaum, a senior national political correspondent for Time magazine, spoke to an audience of 100 people October 15 in North Hall Auditorium.

As Washington correspondent for The Wall Street Journal, Birnbaum was the reporter who broke the Clinton draft avoidance story, a key ethical issue in the 1992 presidential election.

Besides being an award-winning journalist, Birnbaum has appeared on "The Today Show," "Nightline," "The MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour," "Washington Week in Review," and "Crossfire." He is also commentator for National Public Radio and a best-selling author.

Birnbaum's latest book, "Mad House," takes an inside look at the players in the early Clinton White House. Birnbaum told the audience that the administration struggled with childishness and crisis at first, but has learned to present what he called the "illusion of control."

"The White House is really not the place we imagine it to be....It is a place constantly beset by crisis upon crisis," said Birnbaum.

According to Birnbaum public perceptions, although wrong about some details of national politics are right on when it comes to the power of money and lobbyists.

"Politicians really are what they seem when it comes to the influence of money on politics. We think politics

is run by special interest, and by and large it is," said Birnbaum.

A proponent of campaign financing reform, Birnbaum says that he is surprised that Ross Perot was not included in the presidential debates, considering he is using \$29 million in taxpayer funds for his campaign.

"Ross Perot squandered the third party opportunity," according to Birnbaum, Perot let voter enthusiasm for a third party alternative pass him by.

According to Birnbaum, Vice Presidential candidate Jack Kemp never lets an opportunity to expound his economic ideas pass him by. Birnbaum covered Kemp on the 1988 campaign trail and recounted an incident during the Iowa Caucuses when Kemp was an hour and a half late for a speech.

Birnbaum said that despite the fact that only five people waited for the tardy Kemp, "the bright and shining star of the Republican party" proceeded to give his full hour long speech on the topic of the gold standard.

The log thumping speech making of the presidential race has undoubtedly been a huge shift for Bob Dole, because suddenly he needs to explain who he is, rather than mobilize his legislative expertise, according to Birnbaum.

He described Bob Dole as a skillful legislative composer who could mobilize Senate support for a bill with merely a nod or a handshake.

"Trying to get the Senate to do anything is like trying to herd cats," but somehow, Dole was able to orchestrate their activity expertly, said Birnbaum.

"Neither Clinton or Dole are running on deeply held ideology," said Birnbaum. He says both candidates

are relying on focus groups, polls and the advice of their political handlers rather than any deep felt political passion.

The issue apathy, poll preoccupation of political leaders makes voter involvement supremely important, according to Birnbaum.

"In a democracy the government is only as good as the vigilance of the citizens who put that government there," Birnbaum told his audience. He encouraged the audience to vote on November 5, and expressed his hope that voters get involved to raise voter participation above the dismal 50% mark.

Most of the audience seemed to enjoy Birnbaum's anecdotes, if their laughter was any indication. As one student said, it allowed him the opportunity to hear the inside gossip that isn't on the nightly news.

At least one audience member however, Mary Louise Olson, a retired English teacher, says she thought Birnbaum was unobjective.

"I think that he exemplified what I think is wrong with the press," said Olson. Olson became argumentative enough in her questions to Birnbaum that he finally refused to answer anymore questions from her, but went on to explain the roll of a political correspondent.

"Most people see politics through the very narrow prism of their own opinion," said Birnbaum. He explained that it was the correspondent's job to take every view into account when considering how to report a story.

Besides his ongoing reporting, Birnbaum is in the process of tossing around ideas for his next book, which he says may be a biography of Vice President Al Gore.



Mark Danielson photo

Jeffery Birnbaum, author, radio commentator and senior political correspondent for Time magazine, gives an insider's view of political life in Washington D.C. to an audience in North Hall auditorium on Tues., Oct. 15.

Ag transfer night Welcome night orientates students

JUSTIN HANCOCK
FOCUS EDITOR

For many students, the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences is more than a little daunting when first approached.

Composed of some 30 faculty, 1,324 students, and 20 student organizations, approaching it can be a difficult task, especially for freshmen or transfer students.

That is why every year, the college has a Welcome Night to provide these students with some orientation.

Over the past 13 years, the college has hosted such an evening. So it may come as little surprise that this year's, held on Sept. 25, was successful. The evening is unique among orientation programs at UW-River Falls, as it not only introduces students to the college, but also to each other as well as their advisors and professors.

The result is orienting the students with a much stronger focus and more specific intent. Programs such as the R. O. AD. Crew work to orient the students to the university as a whole, and to each other. The Welcome Night works to orient the students to the college and to their majors by introducing them to the college, to the

faculty of the college, and the student organizations within the college, which comes as a much smaller task.

Many students met their academic advisors for the first time that evening. These academic advisors will help the students through their university career: choosing the classes, activities, and work experiences necessary to make them competitive candidates in their professional lives. For many students, their advisor becomes an essential contact to get them through the university.

While helping the students to meet their advisors, the evening also works in the advisor's favor. Kelly Cain, professor in the plant and earth science department said, it's a major way to get acquainted. The students meet the faculty they'll be interacting with. The faculty of the college can get at least some sampling of the new students they will be dealing with. This allows the faculty to better aid the students. This also helps to give the college an informal feeling to many students, and is one of the college's tools to aid in student retention, according to Terry Ferriss, assistant Dean of the college.

The night began with students listening to speeches from the Dean of the College, the President of the Stu-

dent Agriculture Advisory Council, and the Vice Chancellor of the university. They then broke into groups by major. Many students found this especially useful. John Gleimza, a freshman agricultural education major said he enjoyed getting together with all the other people in his major, talking about what classes to take. Not only did this allow the students to see differing ways of approaching the same major, but it also allows them to make friends with students who are in a similar position.

Perhaps the most active part of the evening occurred when the students had the opportunity to meet with the student organizations in the college. "I'm joining clubs, getting to know people, and what I'm going to do," said Lisa Rettinger, a freshman marketing communications major.

The students met with the organizations face to face to see exactly what they are all about, without having to seek them out. Joining organizations is very important for many reasons. "It helps people get more involved in their college as a whole," said Jodi Robinson, president of the Horticulture Society. This is exactly what the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences was working for.

Reach for the Future committee gives money for equipment update

TERRY ZWAHLIN
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

Student Senate President Grant Staszak announced Tuesday night that \$148,000 has been set aside by the Reach for the Future Committee to upgrade campus technological equipment.

The \$148,000 will be distributed from a \$400,000 fund allotted to the River Falls campus to improve computer labs and other technology-based facilities, Staszak said.

He added that up to 52 percent of the money the campus will receive from the program will go toward technological improvements. The remainder of the fund will be used to change curriculum and other campus improvements that were not specified.

Reach for the Future is a university system program implemented to adapt the system to the next century, Staszak said.

Another technology-related subject

brought by Staszak was that the university system is planning to allow prospective students to electronically apply to the campus. Starting next

Staszak also said that he is in the process of talking to the River Falls City Council and the city engineer to repaint or improve crosswalks on campus.

He added that the deteriorated state of the crosswalks may be a hazard for pedestrians as motorists can not see the lines designating the crosswalk area.

Staszak stated that he will be in the Commons Area of the Student Center from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Thurs., Oct. 24 to hear any comments or complaints from students. He stated his last open meeting with students was successful, and he was impressed with the ideas presented to him.

The president also said that Hathorn Cottage will soon be on the buyer's market. The University is selling the property in order to make room for the new Ames Education building.

Staszak said that the buyer of the house will have to pay the moving costs for relocating the structure.



year, applicants will have an electronic form to fill out and send into the Admissions Office via the Internet.

Fisher/Helps students in need

From 1A

guess it kind of hurt my personal life." He also worked as custodian for Johnson Hall, dispensing quality cleaning and good conversation.

While working there, a rash of dirty bathrooms led him to implement one of the first community standards programs, which have since spread to all of the residence halls.

Fisher's friendly manner allowed him to develop a rapport with the students living there.

"I made it a goal to know the first names of all the students that were living there," he said. "I learned about, I'd say, 80 to 90 percent of them."

In keeping with his belief that he is employed for students, Fisher often went out of his way to help them.

Many former residents of Johnson Hall fondly remember how Fisher would offer to vacuum their room for them if he happened to be vacuuming near them.

Fisher also provided assistance last year to a female student who passed out in the shower, telling the girls who found her what to do. He sent one to call 911, helped others move her, and stayed with the girl until the Emer-

gency Medical Technicians, police, and campus security arrived.

"When I knew there was enough people around, I went back to work, and while I went back to work I was thinking, 'Whoa, what happened?'"

The student left him a thank-you card and a large decorated chocolate chip cookie.

He also attended Fisher's wedding on Dec. 9 last year, along with about

10 other residents of Johnson Hall.

Fisher had posted an open invitation to the residents earlier. His wife works in North Hall.

Fisher enjoys his job, and he likes to talk to everyone who is willing to take the time to pause on their way to class. A word of warning, though — don't ask

Fisher's opinion unless you want to know what he really thinks.

"I will voice my opinion if asked — hopefully do it with tact, but I have to let it out," Fisher said. "I can't mask my problems, so I voice them and look for solutions."

He laughed. "I'm just trying to learn to voice them without offending someone."

Custodians

From 1A

on her freshly mopped floors.

"They know they can go in another direction," she said. "They just walk through it instead of going around."

Segerstron said messy floors cause trouble for him as well.

"I spend hours scrubbing the floor and the rollerbladers come through and make heel marks," Segerstron said. "But I expect messes in Ag Sci because most kids are coming from the farm or the fields."

Larry Larson, a North Hall custodian, has been working for the University for 20 years as a custodian. He said a few of the students need better manners.

"They should have more respect for property and behave themselves," Larson said. "But don't get me wrong. They're not all bad."

His biggest problem is with students who chew tobacco.

"I find it all over the walls and the drinking fountains," Larson said. "If they're man enough to chew, they're man enough to swallow it."

Larson does think the students are good for the community because they come from all different backgrounds.

"If they're in my way there's a reason they're in my way," Larson said. "If it wasn't for the students I wouldn't have a job."

Custodians also develop good relationships with resident assistants and resident directors.

"When I worked in Grimm Hall I was invited to the resident director's wedding," Bjork said.

Segerstron said that students have changed over the years that he has

been here.

"It is still quite traumatic for a student going from high school to college," Segerstron said. "There is no middle ground. They either act like high-schoolers or adults."

Larson said students have changed over the years he has been here because of new technologies. He said for the most part the students have been pretty good and have good personalities.

Larson said he doesn't have any particularly humorous anecdotes from his experiences with the students, but one thing does make him laugh.

"When these kids come across the St. Croix (River) wearing their purple and yellow Vikings shirts, that makes me laugh," Larson said. "I always have to give the students a bad time about that."

The anonymous custodian said she finds it amusing when students are so trusting and come to her for solutions. "In Residence Life they would come to me and tell me that they had something stolen," she said. "They're so trusting because they would go to the showers and not lock their doors."

Segerstron said that over the years he has grown to absorb everything the students do.

"There isn't anything that surprises me," he said.

Larson said he hasn't found any surprises in North Hall either, from students or otherwise.

"There's nothing spooky in North Hall," Larson said. "That's in South Hall."

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Citizen's police academy happy to have the police *just do it*

TODD SCHIERENBECK
STAFF WRITER



Images of Dirty Harry whispered through my head as I pulled the trigger on the pistol, but at least he might've stood a chance of hitting the target.

It was the session of the Citizen's Police Academy that we had all been anticipating; some with trepidation, most with barely containable curiosity. The topic of our third session was police self-defense and the kind of equipment they use to defend themselves.

The first item that Sgt. John Stapleton and Patrolman John Wilson brought out was a baton, a thin black rod that started out wide and narrowed at the end. It didn't look much like the traditional nightstick that we all know and love, but it almost had more implied menace than the guns that we later saw. The officers passed it around for us to see, it was about two feet long and quite heavy.

Before we arrived at the River Falls Sportsmens Club, where this session was held, the officers had taken the liberty of spraying the inside of a shed with pepper spray. This is another tool in their arsenal of self-defense; similar to mace, it will incapacitate any feisty individual through sheer discomfort. After showing us some basic self-defense techniques and passing around the baton, they led us to the shed and asked us to sniff (but not too deeply) the inside of it. They opened the door a crack and let us peer inside.

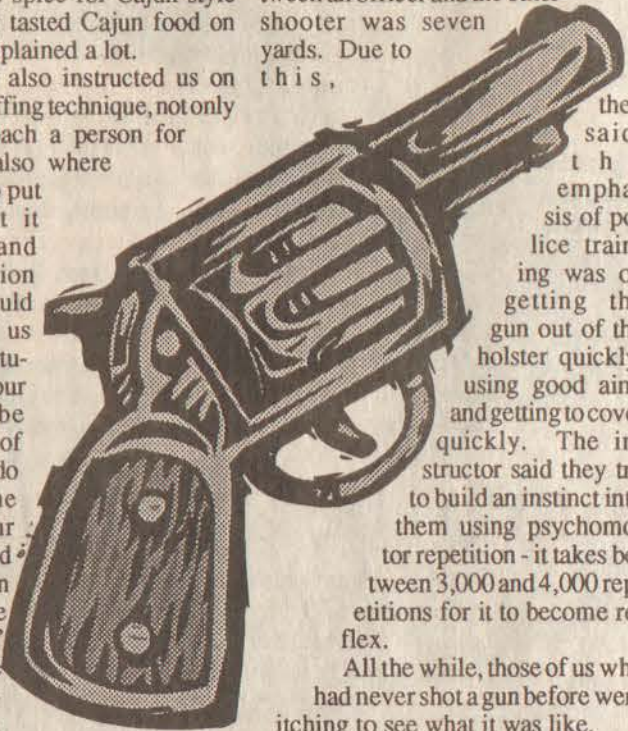
The first several people took a few shallow sniffs and backed away from

the shed, wheezing and coughing. I stepped up to the door, put my head inside and inhaled. I smelled nothing at first, and I joked to the officers that all those cigarettes had finally killed my sense of smell. As I stepped away, however, I became aware of a burning, itching sensation on the inside of my nose that steadily intensified until I was rubbing frantically at the base of it. Apparently, cayenne pepper (one of the main ingredients of the spray) is also a favorite spice for Cajun-style food. Having tasted Cajun food on occasion, it explained a lot.

The officers also instructed us on proper handcuffing technique, not only how to approach a person for cuffing, but also where on the wrist to put it, how tight it should be, and which direction the chain should face. All of us had the opportunity to cuff our cohorts or be cuffed. Most of us wanted to do both. In the space of four minutes, I heard at least seven "Whoops, we lost the keys" jokes. While they were hilarious if you had just twisted someone's arms around their backs, they just weren't as funny when the cold steel was biting into your wrists. Sgt. Stapleton warned of putting them on the wrong part of the wrist or of making them too loose: he told a story of a woman they were transporting to the jail who was swinging the handcuffs on one finger by the time they got there.

The guns, however, were the main attraction that night. The amount of

experience in the group ranged from avid hunters to people whose experience was limited to squirt guns. Knowing this, the officers took special care to go through all the necessary steps. They explained to us the standard procedure of having at least two people check whether a gun was loaded or not if they were unsure. They told us that the average gunfight lasted only two-and-a-half seconds and that the average distance between an officer and the other shooter was seven yards. Due to this,



they said, the emphasis of police training was on getting the gun out of the holster quickly, using good aim, and getting to cover quickly. The instructor said they try to build an instinct into them using psychomotor repetition - it takes between 3,000 and 4,000 repetitions for it to become reflex.

All the while, those of us who had never shot a gun before were itching to see what it was like.

The police, they explained, used to use revolvers, which could only hold six bullets before needing to be reloaded. Their new pistols - 40 caliber Glock semiautomatics - carry 15 rounds in a clip, and officers carry two additional clips with them. They also brought out a Benelli 12-gauge shotgun, explaining that they usually use buckshot rather than slugs, although slugs are kept in the glove compartment of the patrol cars.

After explaining, exhaustively, some of the finer points of gun safety, we walked out to the firing range to try our hand. They gave us orange foam-rubber earplugs to dampen the sound; the shotgun, they said, was especially loud.

We were allowed to shoot the pistols first. For every "fire!" that Patrolman Wilson yelled, two shots rang out simultaneously, usually missing. The pistols sounded like a flat crack, and a flash was occasionally visible as you pulled the trigger. Being deceptively lightweight, most aims were pulled up by the recoil. Two people actually managed to hit the targets with the pistols.

After everyone had an opportunity to shoot the pistols, the instructor loaded three bullets into the chamber of the shotgun and told us to try that. He warned us against holding it gingerly; it must be held tightly against your shoulder with legs wide enough apart to provide adequate stability. One woman, standing with her legs fairly close together, stumbled back after firing her first shot.

When it was my turn I stepped up to the line and took aim as best I could at the target. As I pulled the trigger, the gun roared - even through the earplugs - and I felt the force of the gun shove back against my shoulder like a belligerent drunk. Firing the pistol had been a little like holding a squirmy child, while firing the shotgun was like wrestling a Doberman.

People seemed to have an easier time aiming the shotgun, since the buckshot offered a much wider range than a bullet. The hillside behind the targets, however, spewed up little clots of dirt with each trigger pull as people missed their target. From shooting a gun to defending themselves - most of the participants seemed glad that the police do it and that they didn't have to.

New director hopes to help Kinnickinnic River thrive

JAIME LARSON
EDITOR

While working toward his geography degree, Rick McMonagle entertained thoughts of becoming a professor in a small college town.

Things didn't work out exactly as planned, but McMonagle's current occupation puts him amazingly close to that goal. He currently works in the Rural Development Institute building on the UW-River Falls campus. But instead of teaching, he's putting his conservation knowledge to work as the new executive director of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust.

In this position, McMonagle hopes to carry out the ideals of the Land Trust by helping the Kinnickinnic thrive in spite of increased development and urban sprawl.

The Land Trust is a non-profit, volunteer corporation that works with the community to protect the quality and beauty of the Kinnickinnic River.

In McMonagle's eyes, that's a very important mission.

McMonagle gained an appreciation for nature early on. Raised in the Pittsburgh area, he wasn't born into a family of hunters and fishers. But that didn't squelch his love for the outdoors. His family owned a cabin near the Allegheny River, and spending time there gave McMonagle plenty of opportunity to wander through the woods.

"That's really where it all kind of gelled," he said.

McMonagle took that interest and turned it into a geography degree and then a career in conservation.

One of the things that McMonagle keeps a watchful eye on is land use. As the metropolitan area continues to spread, it's beginning to work its way into Pierce and St. Croix counties. If left unchecked, that development could have disastrous consequences for the Kinnickinnic, McMonagle said.

The Land Trust isn't out to halt development, McMonagle said. Members just want to maintain the water quality and natural value of the area, and this involves protecting the Kinnickinnic. McMonagle would like

to maintain the area's character by protecting the present mix of residential, agricultural and natural areas.

I think it's a mix most people want here because it's what we have now," he said.

That's where the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust comes into play.

One of the ways the Land Trust works to protect the river is through conservation easements donated or sold to the Land Trust. When property owners set aside part of their land as a conservation easement, they ensure that development won't occur on that land - no matter who owns it.

One of the benefits of a conservation easement is its constancy.

"This is really permanent," McMonagle said. "It's not a casual agreement that you can set up for five or ten years. It's supposed to be perpetual."

So far, the Land Trust has secured two of these conservation easements. As director of the Land Trust, McMonagle hopes to secure more of them, and he's confident that he and the organization can achieve that goal.

I think we're in a good position right now," he said. "I think there are going to be a number of conservation easements in this coming year."

In addition to conservation easements, the Land Trust also operates a land registry program. Land owners participating in this program agree to retain the natural habitat of their land and inform the Land Trust of any threats to the land. They also agree to let the Land Trust know if the land ever comes up for sale. If that should happen, the Land Trust would possibly look into purchasing it for a conservation easement.

Through these and other means, McMonagle hopes to have a positive impact on the quality of the Kinnickinnic and thus the quality of life in the area.

I think the work the Land Trust does is very important for the whole community, not just for the people who use the Kinnickinnic directly," he said. "What happens to the Kinnickinnic in terms of the water quality of the river is kind of a symbol of what's happening to the whole area."

CORRECTION

The Student Voice reported incorrectly in the Oct. 10, 1996 issue that the Student Senate gave the go-ahead for remodeling plans on the Gray Room of Rodli Commons. Josh Kulk was only giving the senate information. No proposal for the project has been made.

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Gangs/Community awareness and education becomes key

From 1A

This new code was put into effect to account for inappropriateness in dress in the classroom. It was also looked at from a safety standpoint, Carroll said.

"There is always some possibility that a student may be hiding something whether it be a weapon or something else," Carroll said. "Weapons, gangs and fights are not a problem on this campus. We are doing a lot of preventative things. The number one thing we try to get across to students is that there is no use for a weapon here."

Although there has been a lot of controversy, area students view the new dress code as both a good thing and an annoyance.

"The school is doing things to prevent problems but they're not preventing anything," said Amy Rivard, a RFHS senior. "We can't even carry book bags anymore because they think we're toting a weapon around. It's not a problem in our school. We live in a town of 10,000 people. Nothing is going on."

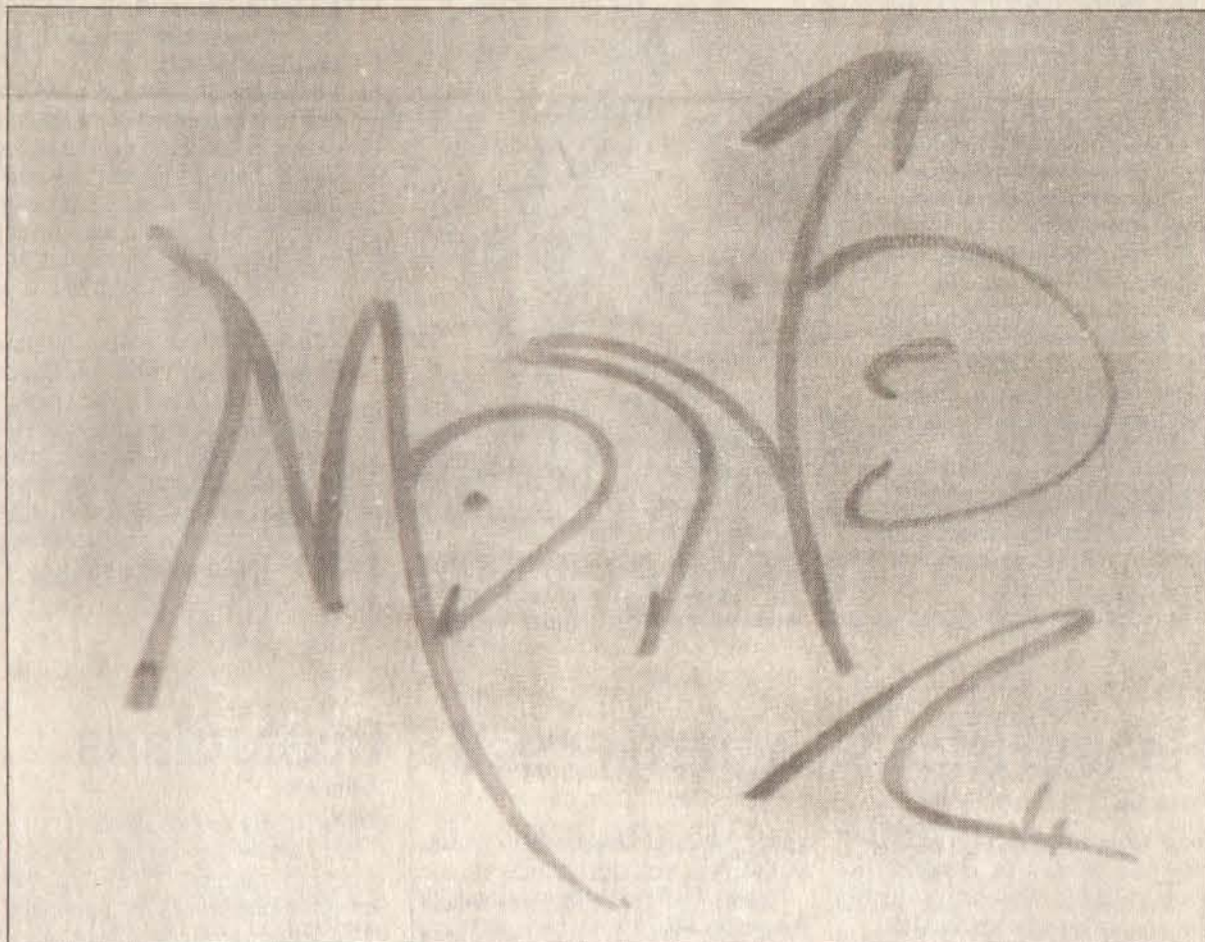
Some students hold a mixed point of view on the implementation of the new code.

"The dress code has taken away some of our individuality," said Adam Larson, a RFHS junior and former baggy pant wearer. "People label us. The bigger your clothes are the more you're labeled."

Larson does feel that the new dress code has given the high school a better look.

"The school would look a lot sloppier if they let everyone wear baggy pants and shirts," he said.

The dress code may have been revised to comply with safety standards and the issue of appropriateness in the classroom, but the issue of the new code has also given the community a voice to become involved. If a student



Eric Dahlberg photo

The River Falls Police Department is concerned that this line of graffiti may mimic or have links to organized gangs. The arrow pointing upward on the letter "N" is a typical gang symbol.

violates the dress code a note is sent home informing the parents of the policy. This ensures that the parent knows what is happening in the way of prevention at the high school level, Carroll said.

Because community involvement is essential in the prevention of future problems, the police department with the help of the school district and the

university will be sponsoring a community-wide program.

The "Focus on Community Crime Prevention" program was started last year and is designed to increase community awareness and knowledge, according to Leque. The focus of this year's presentation will be "Violent Crime: How Not to Become a Victim."

According to Leque, community involvement is the key in the fight against gangs and criminal activity.

"At present, the gang behavior has been localized, but on occasion we see some ties to the inner city gangs in the Minneapolis area," Leque said. "The hope is that education will prevent future problems."

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VIEWPOINTS

OCTOBER 17, 1996

STUDENT VOICE

SECTION A, PAGE 5

Editorial

Lines of communication

"It has been pointed out time and time again that the library construction is wreaking havoc on campus. In defense of the poor library staff members, it isn't their fault."

OK. Most of us at UW-River Falls can agree on one thing: the library construction is a big inconvenience for everyone involved. But that is about all the University community can agree on concerning the library. From every different corner of campus, students, faculty and library workers are receiving mixed messages about the progress of library construction.

Sitting in class students share their horror stories about trips into UW-RF's "Construction World." From waiting two hours for a book to be retrieved to stepping over rubble and trying to study next to a jackhammer, students have heard it all.

It has been pointed out time and time again that the library construction is wreaking havoc on campus. In defense of the poor library staff members, it isn't their fault.

It's not their fault that the entrance to the library changes on a regular basis, or that men in hard hats are a more common sight than students behind books. It certainly isn't the library staff's problem that the completion date for the construction has been extended — again.

There's another problem. Students are still confused about when the library is supposed to be completed, and some are troubled as to why construction was even started in the first place.

The biggest problem in all of this is the lack of communication about what is happening with the library.

In classes this week it was announced that the journalism lab would be open so students could access the computers for homework. But when asked, the library staff had no idea that the labs were even open for use. Then it came to light that, yes indeed, the labs are open, but only so classes could be held. Students could not use the computers outside of classes. Hmm, everyone has a different answer — big surprise.

So what exactly is the deal, here? Does anyone know what is really going on?

The computer lab issue is just a minor inconvenience in the saga of the library construction, but the real problem is with the communication, or perhaps the lack of it. That is the key.

Yes, the library construction is a big pain. No, it isn't going away anytime soon. And yes, contrary to popular belief, it will be done at some point. But until then the lines of communication need to remain open so the correct information can be distributed and the library staff doesn't become the victim of misinformed angry students and faculty.

And by the way, the journalism lab will be open for student use beginning Monday, Oct. 21, for limited hours.

Campaigns should run on ideas, not insults

Reuben Herfindahl



"The problem is there are still far too many people that do pay attention to non-issues and negative campaigns."

Negative campaigning is backfiring or so the media tells us. According to several reports in the papers, and on TV, this is a tactic that is not working anymore. Recent polls indicate that people do not like negative ads and that they think the ads might backfire on the candidate. Are we finally reaching a point where we as citizens can ignore and dismiss negative ads? Unfortunately I do not think we are quite there yet.

A campaign cited for too many campaign ads with

negative tones is the Wellstone/Boschwitz race. The Boschwitz ads are generally seen as the harsher of the two camps according to a Minnesota Public Radio poll. The interesting thing about the Boschwitz ads are that the ones that are generally seen as the most negative of the ads are not paid for or done by the Boschwitz campaign. They are paid for by the National Republican Party. These are the ads that are said to be backfiring on Boschwitz. Maybe they are, but unfortunately I have run into far too many people whose only knowledge of the campaign is based on these or other ads.

When one's knowledge of a campaign is based solely upon an ad, and for that matter an ad not run by the candidate, it does not speak well of the individual. It also brings up an important issue: If many people base their opinions solely on ads, what if a totally false ad came out with no basis in reality? Would people believe it? If that idea seems a little far fetched, it's not. It just happened this past week in the Twin Cities. Granted it was not in a real reputable paper like the *Pioneer Press* or *Star Tribune*, but a flyer inserted into a free anti-crime newsletter alleged that several prominent Twin Cities residents were child molesters. Now it would be

unreasonable to expect many people to believe this hoax, but the problem is that some people might. One of the people the flyer claims is a child molester is running for a legislature seat.

Granted, things have gotten better. Negative campaigns are not taken as seriously as they were in prior years. People are starting to be able to look at them for what they are. Non-issues in campaigns are also being pushed out of the light. This campaign season has not seen anyone ranting and raving about who is more patriotic or running to flag factories and posing with a Fender Stratocaster to try and win over voters without looking at the issues, as Bush and Dukakis did in 1988.

The problem is there are still far too many people that pay attention to non-issues and negative campaigns. I still remember being harassed at a bar by a guy who claimed you could never trust anyone who had never been in combat (the jibe aimed at Clinton). I asked him if he had been in combat and he had to admit he had not.

Hopefully we are getting away from that. It would be nice to look forward to a future where the issues and voting records are what sticks in a person's mind, not who has the slickest campaign ad.

Voter drives may be a misguided approach

Mark Danielson



"To an extent couldn't it even be dangerous to get those who don't care to start pulling the levers?"

I've always found the months leading up to elections in this country to be depressing. After all, it is a time that is supposed to represent all that is good about freedom and democracy, but it rarely shows more than some of the most vile examples of how this country and many of its citizens operate. Mud is continuously thrown everywhere. Personal attacks skyrocket. Politicians usually avoid the issues, and the media generally doesn't bother to ask about them.

When a relevant question somehow manages to be posed, sound bites and unfounded generalizations are tossed back in response. (If you think that the preceding sentence was an unfounded generalization, come and talk to me). Everything considered important about elections—who is ahead or who belongs to what party, not what it is being fought for—is molded into polls and charts and pie graphs that most of us suck up all too easily. And when everything is said and done and the damage is permanent, no one really seems to care.

All of this makes those rare occurrences when the crap

is finally cut all the more satisfying. When a candidate stands up and actually says something, it is often refreshing even if what he or she is saying is somewhat objectionable. (Please note the "somewhat" placed before "objectionable." Personally, I did not find Pat Buchanan nor David Duke to be a breath of fresh air). It is even better to see voters lobbying for what they believe in. Finally, it has always appeared good to see people joining together to fight the apathy that blights just about every election.

As long as I can remember there has always been that small group of people who have constantly tried to get others to make the trip to the polling stations. Granted, many of them have operated on a purely partisan basis with their only goal being to get people to vote their way, but just as many seemed to be dedicated to simply getting people out to vote.

At the outset, it's a seemingly noble cause. If only a few vote, only a few control how the government operates. Although some of our forefathers apparently intended elections to be that way (Tuesday was picked as the voting day because it was inconvenient to most working people back then), it is obviously *not* how good democracy should work. Because of that, until recently, I've been one of those who has continuously tried to get others to take an interest in the entire process. I've pleaded with friends, I've pleaded with classmates and I've pleaded with a few people that I don't even know.

A little while ago, though, I had to stop doing that. There is a problem with making the pleas and it's one that I haven't been able to answer. It runs like this: If people who are aware of their voting rights have to be prodded and pushed to use them, do we really want them

to? I can't think of a single reason why we should. It would appear to me that we should want people who care about what's happening in the government to be the ones making the decisions in November.

To an extent, couldn't it even be dangerous to get those who don't care to start pulling the levers? What would those who had to be convinced to vote make their decisions on? The political ads they see during *Hard Copy*? Whoever's name sounds the best?

I know this is probably a very naive statement, but people who care about politics generally try to educate themselves about it; people who don't care about it don't. Who do we want voting? I'd have to say only those who care... And who are educated on what they're voting on.

I have to admit that I am not happy to be writing these words. After all, getting people to care about voting is a much more difficult task than simply getting them to vote. But that is exactly what has to be done. Principles, beliefs and even emotions have to come before duty or that duty will be meaningless. People have to be made to care; people have to be made to recognize what they believe and people have to be made to understand the power and influence that they hold. (I'm probably lucky in this respect. The first election I voted in, one of the candidates I voted for won by only a single vote. Granted, that may be a very rare occurrence, but close races do occur on a regular basis. Just look at the fuss that was made over a misplaced photo in the *Star Tribune*.) When that is all understood, people won't have to be encouraged to vote. Instead, they'll be waiting for the moment they can.

Only then will democracy truly work. See you in two weeks.



STUDENT VOICE

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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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Professor's opinions prevent students from thinking for selves

It was not too long ago when I thought I had a good idea of what role educators played in society. I thought they were presenters of facts and ideas. I thought their purpose was to enhance the minds and characters of students. I thought they were role models. Maybe I was wrong. Or maybe things are changing. Last week I observed two incidents that lead me to believe that for some educators, their purpose is not only to help us think, but also to tell us what to think on such issues as homosexuality.

Last Friday at UW-RF, students began studying the art of photography in an Introduction to Art class. During the hour, the instructor displayed a photograph by Diane Arbus for the class of 30 to see. The photograph, entitled "Young Man in Curlers," was a black and white of a young, white male with curlers in his hair. As with the previous photographs, the instructor named the pho-

tographer and the name of the piece. He then proceeded to stare at the picture and made the following observation: "As I walked in this morning, I saw lot of graffiti on the sidewalk, so I guess this photo is pretty appropriate." I looked at the faces around me, only to realize that no other student in the class had truly realized what had just been said.

You'll recall that Friday marked the commemoration of National Coming Out Day, a day where homosexuals, lesbians and bisexuals made their voices heard. At UW-RF, this day is sometimes marked in the form of writing graffiti in chalk on campus sidewalks. The instructor of this class had just taken the liberty to make one of the following observations: Either A) homosexuals wear curlers, or B) there is something wrong with males who wear curlers, i.e. they must be homosexuals. Funny, I don't recall the UW-RF course catalog listing issues

such as homosexuality as topics to be covered in Introduction to Art. Moreover, where does this instructor find it in his role to cross the line of educator and value judgements concerning homosexuality?

Two weeks ago, Dr. Sears, a well-respected educator and speaker on issues involving homosexuality, lesbianism and bi-sexuality addressed a crowd at UW-RF. Upon reading the *Student Voice's* account of the lectures, I wonder if this "educator" was here not to inform his listeners, but rather to tell them how to think and act. For example, a girl studying in the health field brought up the fact she came from a strong religious upbringing and wondered how she should react when a homosexual, lesbian or bisexual came to her for medical assistance.

Rather than urge the young girl to look within for her answer, he encouraged her to keep in mind her duty as a

member in the health care industry. Based on the response, it sounded as though Sears' failure to acknowledge the girl's religious beliefs was encouragement for all attendees to forget any and all religious beliefs when it comes to dealing with issues like homosexuality and job requirements. I wonder if he also advises doctors and nurses performing abortions to ignore their Christianity?

Maybe it is time for society and those in this university to take a closer look at what the role of educator is. One instructor at this university labels us as the generation who grew up on MTV and Nintendo. The generation whose thoughts flounder as it attempts to make educated arguments on an essay exam. The generation that cannot think. Why should we think? You are doing it for us.

Scott David Egge
Accounting Major

We're still looking for an editorial cartoonist! Give us a call at 425-3118 (It's a paid position).



PLEASE RECYCLE!

Focus on Regional Wildlife

Locally deformed frogs cause concern

HENDERSON, Minn. (AP)—Bruce Nelson was catching frogs for catfish bait last year when he realized something was horribly wrong: Some of the frogs had stumps for legs, and others had as many as four tangled hind legs.

"You see deformed things all the time in nature, but nothing like this," Nelson said.

All across Minnesota, into neighboring Wisconsin, South Dakota, and even as far away as Quebec and Vermont, scientists and locals are seeing the same kind of grotesquely misshapen limbs, along with frogs with tails, missing or shrunken eyes, and smaller sex organs. In fact, scientists have had a hard time finding wetlands in Minnesota with no deformed frogs.

"It scares me," said Judy Helgen, a research scientist with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. "I'm at different levels of getting a chill down my spine."

Scientists aren't sure what's causing the deformities. The theories run the gamut from pesticides to parasites to radiation from ozone depletion, or some combination of factors. What worries many around the state is whether humans are in danger, too.

"There's a reasonable assumption that if there's an external substance influencing amphibian development, it could influence human development," said David Hoppe, who is on a state-financed team of scientists researching the problem.

So far, little has been discovered. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency plans to do its own study. Students from the Minnesota New Country School in Le Sueur, in

the heart of the state's farm country, first reported the deformed leopard frogs during a field trip to a wetland last year. They reported their findings to the pollution control agency, then to state lawmakers, and finally went worldwide by putting their information and pictures of the frogs on the Internet.

"When somebody caught a frog without one leg," 13-year-old Jack Bovee told a state House committee this year, "I thought, 'Houston, we have a problem.'" Cindy Reinitz, the teacher who has become known as "The Frog Lady" since her middle school students made the discovery, said there is at least one person with cancer in every household around the wetland. But scientists have made no direct link between the frog abnormalities and cancer.

A newly created frog hot line has received hundreds of sightings of deformed frogs, from 54 of the state's 87 counties. The fact that the abnormalities are widespread suggests that the problem has more than one source, said Hoppe, a herpetologist from the University of Minnesota at Morris. His best guess is some sort of water pollution, possibly from something airborne. That could come from heavy metals, pesticides or a whole array of things that settle onto the landscape.

In researching some 10,000 frogs this summer, Hoppe said, he found that the most aquatic frogs had the worst abnormalities.

"I was very surprised, startled even," he said, "because I've seen a lot of frogs over the years and I've never seen anything like that."

Some 75 percent of all animal species are insects!

Question of bears debated in Michigan

LANSING, Mich. (AP)—A foe of a ban on using dogs and bait to hunt bears warned Thursday that its passage would lead to conservation officers having to use those very techniques to destroy nuisance bears.

Rick Jameson, executive director of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, said voter approval of Proposal D on the November ballot would make hunting bear so hard it would virtually ban the sport.

"Our bear population is healthy, and it's expanding in this state," he said. If hunters can't use bait and dogs to hunt bears, "what will end up happening is the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) will be told to go out and shoot the nuisance bears, like they're doing in Colorado now where this bear hunting ban took effect," he said.

But the executive campaign director for Citizens United for Bears said that is unnecessary. "We categorically reject that nuisance complaints have anything to do with this issue," said Tony Holmes.

Complaints about nuisance bears increased in Minnesota despite increasing the number of bears harvested each year, he said. The answer is to educate citizens on how to manage garbage and bird feeders to discourage the animals, he said.

"Nuisance complaints are a function of people moving into bear habitat," he said. "The only way you're ever going to solve it is hunt the black bear to extinction."

Jameson made his comments during an appearance on WKAR television's public affairs show, "Off the Record."

He is backing an alternative, Proposal G, placed on the ballot by the Legislature. The rival proposal would give the Natural Resources Commission exclusive authority to regulate hunting in Michigan. The commission so far has declined to stop bear

hunters from using dogs or bait.

Department Director K.L. Cool agreed that having department employees shoot bear was at least possible if Proposal D passed.

"We might have to use our own personnel," he said. "That would be the waste of a resource and very expensive. The public hates it." He called that unacceptable.

Cool said the department fears the bear population, now between 12,000 and 15,000, might grow faster than the target rate of 4 percent a year.

"You sit in a Michigan swamp, you can't see five feet in front of you. You'll never see a bear (without dogs and bait)," Jameson said.

As it is, only about 25 percent of the hunters kill a bear, Jameson said. "So the bears win almost all the time. ... The bears are doing fine in Michigan," he said.

Jameson said 96 percent of the 1,500 or so bears killed each year by the 5,000 licensed hunters are hunted using dogs and bait.

But Holmes said after Colorado did away with dogs and bait it still had its fifth-highest bear harvest ever. He added that Michigan could do the same by issuing licenses to the 20,000 to 25,000 hunters who now apply for licenses but don't get them.

"All we need in Michigan is about a 5 percent success rate with 30,000 hunters, and we'll take the same number of bears," he said. "There may be a couple years of down harvest while the hunters adjust, but we've seen the hunters adjust and they continue to hunt. They don't simply stop because they no longer can use these methods." In contrast to Holmes' estimates, a House legislative analysis said 150,000 bear-hunting licenses would have to be issued to harvest the same number of bears by stalking that would be taken by 6,400 hunters using stalking, baiting or dogs.

Nature Conservancy saves bog

HOVLAND, Minn. (AP)—We are paddling along through sunlight and silence on Irish Creek when Dave Ingebrigtsen spies the flower. The small, white waterlily is a rarity in northeastern Minnesota and it speaks to the wildness of this place.

The place is the largest conifer bog in this part of the state, and on its surrounding highlands some of the maples and cedars have flourished since fires in the 1700s. It is a place of ducks and wild rice, northern pike and brook trout, otters and northern harriers—and this threatened waterlily with a blossom the size of a walnut.

For years, these 3,280 acres were paper company land, although they were used by many Cook County residents as if they were public. The land has been transferred to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to become officially public.

To most of those who have fished, hunted, watched birds or harvested rice here, the difference will be almost imperceptible. The land will still seem wild and lonesome and empty.

It will be spared the development that is occurring rapidly along Minnesota's North Shore. Instead of growing condominiums and gift shops, this tract will grow moose and brook

trout and maples.

The exchange of this land—from Champion International of Houston to The Nature Conservancy to the DNR—has been a remarkably smooth process. Especially considering this is a county where almost 90 percent of the land is public, and residents aren't often receptive to taking more land off tax rolls.

When word of the impending Champion land sale spread, Ingebrigtsen acted quickly. The DNR wildlife habitat specialist in Grand Marais knew the value of the land—for recreation, for wildlife management, for timber.

But the DNR could never have acted quickly enough to buy the land from Champion before it was purchased

privately. Even a few parcels purchased along the Arrowhead Trail, the main road artery north of Hovland, could have sealed off public access to much of the land, said Cook County Commissioner Dave Eliassen.

So Ingebrigtsen approached the Minnesota chapter of The Nature Conservancy, an international conservation group that often buys ecologically significant pieces of land and then sells them to public agencies for protection.

"Just a year or so ago, we had completed a Great lakes regional analysis, and the Swamp River watershed popped up as one of three places in Minnesota that was significant," said Nelson French, state director of The Nature Conservancy. "And it isn't often you get to acquire and protect ecosystems of this size."

The Nature Conservancy spent \$410,000 on the 3,280 acres, about \$125 an acre.

"They were just super," Ingebrigtsen said of the conservation group. "They did everything we couldn't do."

Cook County won't receive the kind of tax dollars from the land that would have come from private development, but it will receive more than it had in recent years. The state will pay the county \$3 per acre as payments in lieu of taxes. Champion's taxes were \$1.28 per acre.

"I think it was a good decision, myself," said Eliassen, "as far as for public access for tourists and people who live here. If people buy the land, they put up (no trespassing) signs, and pretty soon you can't go anywhere."

About one-third of the acquisition—1,000 acres—will be added to the existing Hovland Woods Scientific and Natural Area. That includes clusters of old-growth hardwoods that date to fires in 1755 and 1759.

Residents of the area will still be able to walk the land to hunt, as well as fish the Swamp River and Irish Creek.

"Just a year ago, we had completed a Great lakes regional analysis, and the Swamp River watershed popped up as one of three places in Minnesota that was significant."

—Nelson French
State director of the Nature Conservancy

Going Nuts!



Niaomi Runge photo

A squirrel surveys the campus while perched in a tree. Like students, the squirrel is taking advantage of this week's warm temperatures.

U of M studies eagles

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The University of Minnesota's Raptor Center will be studying the meanderings of up to a dozen bald eagles with satellite technology under a new \$100,000 program.

The project will be financed through the sale of 4,000 limited-edition prints of eagles painted by noted Twin Cities wildlife artist Rick Kelley.

Both the young and adults will be outfitted with transmitters about 3 inches long and three-quarters of an inch wide and deep. The transmitters will be fastened to the bird via harnesses, and each transmitter will have an 18-inch antenna.

It costs some \$4,000 to outfit each bird and follow it for a year. Information on the eagles' travels will be distributed over the Internet, which will provide a learning opportunity for students and allow them to contact biologists in the field, Redig said.

Local lamprey tastes like dirt; Europeans still enjoy eating it

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Portuguese and Spanish citizens are finding Great Lakes lamprey to their liking, a researcher says.

European restaurant-goers have given the bloodsucking fish high marks during taste tests, said Jeff Gunderson, a biology professor at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Europeans tend to find the freshwater lampreys less fatty but not as tender as their ocean-going relatives, said Gunderson, who is director of the Minnesota Sea Grant program.

Earlier this year, lampreys also were smoked, prepared in four different recipes and served to a consumer panel in Duluth. One local restaurant owner said the meat tasted like soil. But such earthiness apparently has a niche in Western Europe.

"The Portuguese described our sea lamprey as having a turf flavor. And that is how they describe their traditional lamprey," which is considered a delicacy, Gunderson said. The Europeans rated the Great Lakes fish a

4.7 on a five-point scale when prepared in traditional dishes.

As his next step in marketing the lamprey in Europe, Gunderson will conduct a mail survey of Portuguese consumers this winter.

"We need to know how much lamprey they eat now and how much they pay," he said. "Our understanding is they pay \$23 a pound for the ocean lamprey. And we need to determine how much they would be willing to pay for Great Lakes lamprey. Restaurants have indicated they might be looking for a less-expensive alternative." If the Portuguese and Spanish like the lampreys, they can have them, says Gunderson.

Each year, lampreys kill hundreds of thousands of pounds of valuable sport and commercial fish. A lamprey lives only 12 to 18 months but can kill up to 40 pounds of trout, salmon and whitefish in that time.

The lamprey is a parasite, attaching itself to a fish with its mouth—a large, tooth-lined disc—and sucking blood

until the prey dies.

The United States, Canada and Great Lakes states annually spend millions of dollars to reduce the eel-like fish's numbers, but it remains a threat to the region's \$3.2-billion sport fishery, officials said.

Poisoning and trapping are done when sea lampreys swim upstream into tributary rivers to spawn from May to July. That would be the easiest time to collect them for commercial sales, Gunderson said.

"Even though the lamprey have been the focus of a large control effort for over 35 years, there still remain significant populations of lamprey that could be harvested," he said.

No commercial harvest is done at this time, and transport is illegal because the lamprey is an exotic invader. Consequently, state and provincial governments would need to issue permits for any proposed harvest.

RUNNING THE SHOW

Cross country runners trimmed their times last weekend at LaCrosse.



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MAKING CONNECTIONS

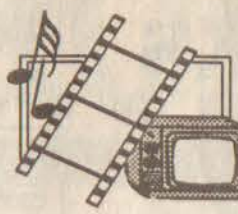
The dairy judging team didn't compete in the World Dairy Expo after winning last year, but team members did represent UW-RF in other ways.



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SPORTS JUNKIES

A new campus television show appearing on channels 10/19 aims to feed addictions to sports.



PAGE 4B

Have a
wonderful
weekend!

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS SINCE 1916

SPORTS

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OCTOBER 17, 1996

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Eric Brandel

New York's Jr. hero bursts O's bubble



"For touching a ball in play he should have been escorted from the stadium. Instead he had seats behind the Yankee dug-out."

Sports figures have always been considered to be larger than life. Many a man has become the stuff of legends through an act of strength, speed or pure luck.

Babe Ruth calling his shot. Franco's immaculate Reception. Mark Eruzione's game-winning goal against the hated Soviets. Bird vs Magic in both the NCAA and NBA Finals.

All it takes is a moment for someone to go from zero to hero. Who knew anything about the late Jimmy Valvano before his Wolfpack stole a national championship from Akeem, Clyde and the Cougars?

With all the notoriety that follows athletes, it's no wonder that the average person often tries to get swept up in the lore. Seeing a spectator run onto a football field is not an uncommon occurrence. It's a way for a delusional, probably intoxicated, sports fan to become part of the game they love.

In an effort to deter this act, television broadcasts no longer show fans running onto the field. They figure that if nobody sees the act, then there's no incentive to do it. The strategy seems to have worked. It appears that the best way to keep the fans from interfering in the game is to take away the glamour involved in doing it.

That truth leads me to ask one simple question...What's with Jeffrey Maier? Don't tell me you don't know who Maier is. You've heard of 12-year-old fan who plucked a Yankee victory out of the air by leaning over the right field fence.

In case you haven't heard what happened, here's a recap. The Orioles had built a one-run lead and, to quote Scooby Doo reruns, they would've gotten away with it if it hadn't been for that meddling kid. Maier reached his glove over the outfield fence and turned a fly ball into a home run. The Yankees went on to win the game in extra innings and the series three games to one.

The kid was interviewed 15 minutes after the play. His reaction to the whole event was simply "I never thought that anything like this would ever happen to me!" He sounded as if he'd won the Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes.

Maybe somebody should tell him that what he did was a "no no". For touching a ball in play, he should have been escorted from the stadium. Instead, he had seats behind the Yankee dugout for the next game.

While New Yorkers may consider him a hero, the sporting world should consider him a plague. Fans in every field, dome, or rink around the country now see what the true penalty is for interfering with play; you will be forced to go on talk shows, do interviews with reporters from around the world, and get free tickets to playoff games. You should be prepared to hire an agent, like little Jeffrey did.

What Major League Baseball should have done was sent a message that this was wrong. And since the media did its part to create the monster, it should help to slay it.

Maybe they could allow Roberto Alomar to spit in Maier's face and show the footage on Jumbotron around the country. A little harsh? Probably, but I guess I just like it better when the people deciding the games are actually in uniform. Maier crossed the line between athlete and fan. His action may have changed the outcome of the entire series. Who knows what would have happened had Baltimore gone up two games to none.

I guess the only good thing that came out of the whole event is that the little snit didn't get the ball.

The opinions in this column were not influenced at all by the fact that the author really hates the Yankees. Go NL!

Falcons fumble away hopes

Loss to LaCrosse dims conference title chances

BRETT LONGDIN
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

It had the make-up of a heavyweight fight.

Neither side had a blemish on its record, and neither side had been tested in its first four contests.

But this was not an ordinary match-up, this was UW-River Falls and UW-LaCrosse.

Things are different.

But when all was said and done, the champions stood tall-but not without a battle.

In a game that pitted arguably the top two teams in the WSUC, the Eagles proved why they have won two of the last four Div. III national championships and currently possess the longest winning streak in NCAA football (19) with a 42-31 win over the Falcons.

Both teams entered the game undefeated, but LaCrosse used a fourth quarter rally to come from behind to maintain a share of the conference lead.

"That was tough," Falcon head Coach John O'Grady said of the loss. "(LaCrosse) has a way of coming back, and we allowed them to do it."

O'Grady said he believed that his conservative play-calling contributed to the defeat, but he wasn't about to take anything away from the Eagles.

"That is one hell of a football team down there," O'Grady said. "They are better than I thought. I thought we

were better than them, but yesterday we were not."

O'Grady added that his team will not dwell on the defeat and will look forward to White water who comes to town for Homecoming on Saturday.

"We should do nothing but forget it and look at the good things we've done," he said.

River Falls (2-1 WSUC, 4-1 overall) led 17-14 at half-time after Travis Krauklis connected on a 36-yard field goal with 37 seconds remaining in the half, and the Falcons increased the margin to 10 (31-21) heading into the final stanza after Jeremy Gazdik intercepted a Jeff Baker pass and returned it 32 yards for a touchdown.

After that, it was operation comeback.

Everything River Falls tried to do for the final 13 minutes was unsuccessful, while LaCrosse (3-0 WSUC, 5-0 overall) could do no wrong.

The lead began to slip away with 12:41 left in the fourth when Eagle running back Mike Bechtel ripped-off a 71 yard touchdown run to pull La

Crosse within three.

Five minutes later, Toby Krause scored from four yards out to regain the lead at 35-31, and just two minutes later he delivered the knockout punch with his third score of the afternoon which put the game out of reach.

For the first time this season, turnovers played a major role in a Falcon game.

River Falls committed three costly fumbles, including two in the decisive fourth quarter-both which were converted into LaCrosse touchdowns.

"At the most critical times, (LaCrosse) really stepped-up the intensity of its defense and forced mistakes," O'Grady said.

Saturday's game also marked the first time this season the Falcons were outgained on the ground and in total offense. River Falls was limited to just 193 yards rushing and 316 total yards-a far cry from the 499-yard outburst from a week ago against Oshkosh.

But this wasn't Oshkosh-these

were the defending national champion Eagles.

"When our fullback doesn't gain yards against LaCrosse we struggle," O'Grady said.

And struggle the Falcons did. The fullback combination of Dave Letourneau and Eric Zinck was limited to 44 and 15 yards respectively.

Next on the agenda for the Falcons is UW-Whitewater who enters the contest undefeated (6-0) and with the most potent offense in the WSUC. The Warhawks have outscored their 1996 opponents by an average of 47-15.

"We've got to rebound because we have a great team coming in here Saturday," O'Grady said.

The Warhawks are expected to be without the services of leading rusher Eddie McKennie who is good for 168 yards per game.

Whitewater will now look to junior running back John Damato, who had 92 yards and two touchdowns in Saturday's 44-15 win over Stout, for the bulk of the carries.

Notes:

* Saturday's loss wasn't the only downfall as Brian Vensland was lost for the season with a leg injury. The senior strong safety suffered at least one broken bone in his right leg as well as a dislocated right ankle. O'Grady will now look to Broc Threinen to step in for the Falcons.

"That is a major loss not only because of his ability, but his on-the-field-presence and leadership," O'Grady said.

* Kicker Travis Krauklis extended his conference record for consecutive extra points to 43 after Saturday's game.

	1	2	3	4	F
Falcons	0	17	14	0	31
LaCrosse	7	7	7	21	42

KEY PLAY: LaCrosse running back Mike Bechtel broke free for a 71-yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter. The score pulled the Eagles to within three points.

KEY STAT: LaCrosse converted two Falcon fumbles into 21 fourth quarter points.

1996 WSUC FOOTBALL STANDINGS

TEAM	Conference	All Games
Whitewater	3 0	6 0
LaCrosse	3 0	5 0
Stevens Point	3 0	5 0
River Falls	2 1	4 1
Eau Claire	1 2	3 3
Oshkosh	0 3	2 3
Stout	0 3	2 3
Platteville	0 3	1 5

WSUC SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 19

Eau Claire	@Stout	1p.m.
LaCrosse	@Stevens Point	1p.m.
Platteville	@Oshkosh	1p.m.
Whitewater	@River Falls	1p.m.

Go Falcons!

Falcon tennis bows to Stout

Looks to Whitewater to get first WWIAC win

DAN HILSGEN
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Falcon tennis team came up with a 6.5-2.5 win against non-conference St. Mary's on Thursday.

The Falcons had a two match winning streak until UW-LaCrosse defeated them 9-0 on Saturday.

They are currently in the midst of a two match losing streak after Stout defeated them 9-0 on Tuesday.

The Falcons record is now 2-5 overall and 0-5 in the WWIAC.

Falcon Renee Schuetzle defeated Lisa Sampolis, her St. Mary's opponent, 6-3, 6-3. "Renee has been consistently competitive, and she plays smarter and smarter as she goes," said Falcon head coach Cindy Hovet.

Christine Kraft helped the Falcons by defeating Kristin Vanslawn, her St. Mary's opponent, 6-4, 6-1.

St. Mary's Karen Padden lost to Falcon Sarah Kastern 6-1, 6-2.

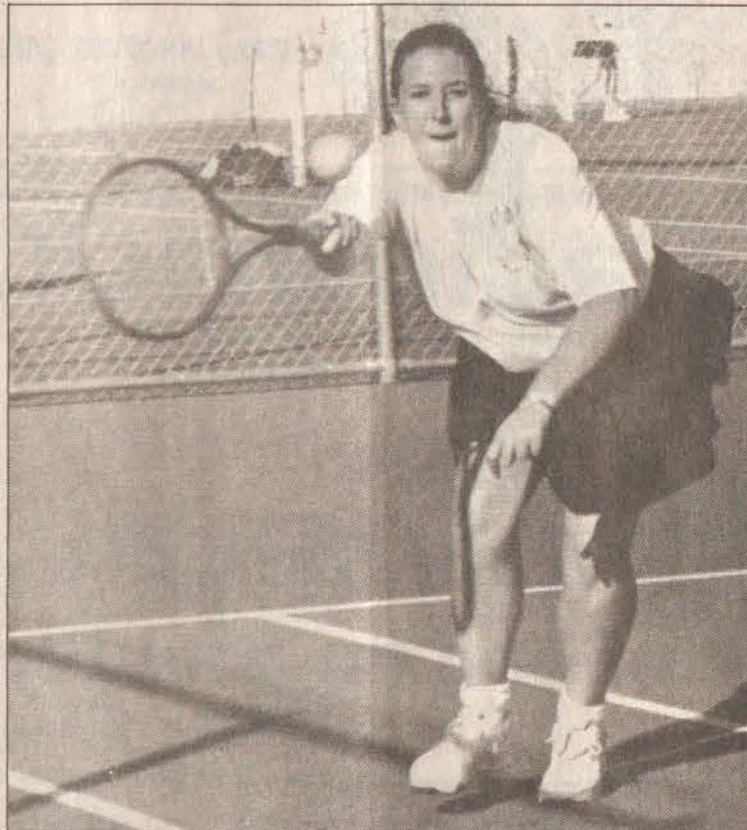
In a long match Falcon Julie Willkom tied St. Mary's Kristin Ditterson 7-6, 6-3.

Steph Angus overcame a tough first set to defeat St. Mary's Larie Crockett 7-5, 6-2.

In doubles, Schuetzle-Schaaf defeated St. Mary's Padden-Wolkerstorfer 6-1, 6-2.

Willkom-Angus also won their doubles match 6-1, 6-3. They defeated Reichenberger-Iverson of St. Mary's.

"Thursday we came out and played a really good match as a team," Hovet



Niaomi Runge photo

The Falcons Rory Holmquist returns a shot in a doubles match with her partner Sadie Rasmussen. River Falls lost the match 9-0.

said, "Saturday against LaCrosse we struggled."

"We have three big matches next week that we have to come out and get ready for," Hovet said. "The conference tournament is in three weeks. We'll be ready for it."

The Falcons hope to end their slump when they host UW-Whitewater on Oct. 18. The match will be held at Crabtree courts. The Falcons also have the WWIAC Meet coming up on Oct. 25-26 at Madison.

V'ball wins four

Face WWIAC rivals Saturday

CHAD URDAHL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Falcon volleyball team just keeps going, and going, and going.

In three non-conference matches last week, the Falcons came out on top and they defeated conference foe Stout Wednesday.

Wednesday's match was a rematch of a game at last weekend's Stout Tournament. The Falcons cruised in three games 15-5, 15-7, 15-7.

In last weekend's meeting with Stout, the Falcons won 15-3, 9-15, 15-8, 15-

11 en route to capturing the tournament title.

Anna Schmidt continued to rack up the kills. The senior from Marshall, Minn., hammered 15 to lead the Falcons.

Cara Gustafson followed right behind her with 14 and Jen Frodl chipped in 11.

Amy Holm continued to excel as a setter, gaining 40 assists.

Shantell Erbes, a junior from Fargo, N.D., led the team with 21 digs, while Gustafson had 13.

Against Luther, the Falcons dominated and won all three games handily, by the scores of 15-3, 15-8, 15-3.

Schmidt again led the Falcons with 10 kills. Erbes and Gustafson had eight apiece and Frodl scored seven.

Holm had 34 assists in the win over Luther and Schmidt had 19 digs. Erbes also scooped up 13 digs.

Maggie Kukar, a senior from Edina, Minn., also played well in the tournament.

"Kukar came on really well," Falcon Head Coach Patti Ford said. "Amy (Holm) set her up for attacks."

According to Ford, Kukar had seven kills and no errors against Luther.

"She hit phenomenally well," Ford said. "She's created another weapon for us."

"Kukar came on really well. Amy (Holm) set her up for attacks...She hit the ball phenomenally well. She's created another weapon for us."

-Falcon Head Coach Patti Ford

According to Ford, Kukar is another player who has had to play an increased role when other teams key on Frodl and Gustafson.

The Falcons were equally dominant against St. Norbert and won 15-5, 15-4, 15-7.

Frodl led the Falcons with 11 kills, and Schmidt had 10 against St. Norbert. Holm set her team up with 32 assists, and Ford says her play has been invaluable.

"It's great when you don't have any questions as to who's setting the ball," Ford said. "We never have to wonder what her day has had in store. She just comes in focused for practice and focused for games. She's been doing this for us for four years."

Gustafson also excelled at the tourney, earning her Player of the Week honors.

"She continues to find ways to score," Ford said. "According to Ford, Gustafson's serve has come on of late, and that has been critical."

"She's turned it (her serve) up recently," Ford said. "Those are fast, easy points."

The Falcons have compiled a record of 21-2 overall and 4-0 in the WWIAC heading into a tough weekend. They play Oshkosh and Stevens Point at Oshkosh on Saturday.

Oshkosh, right now, is ranked nationally at three or four," Ford said. "This is a huge test for us. They are a big, athletic team."

Although the Falcons are approaching the WWIAC Tournament, Ford says the team can't peek at games ahead.

"There are still four weeks to the conference," Ford said. "We have to stay focused and practice and work on little things. We just know we have to control every match we go into. The conference and region are way too tight to look ahead."

UW puck seeks return to glory

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Goaltender Kirk Daubenspeck serves as an unofficial spokesman on the history and tradition of Wisconsin hockey. Having grown up just minutes from campus, and being a lifelong Wisconsin fan, nobody was unhappier with last season's 17-20-3 effort than Daubenspeck.

The Badgers' uncharacteristic sixth-place finish in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association was bad enough. Having a streak of eight consecutive NCAA tournament appearances halted made last season a complete disaster in Daubenspeck's eyes.

WCHA coaches apparently believe Wisconsin's program—which has won five national championships and had only two losing seasons since 1970—has lost its edge. They picked the Badgers to finish eighth in the 10-team league. Daubenspeck thinks otherwise.

"I don't think by any means that Wisconsin lost any of its aura or tradition," Daubenspeck said. "But it was on a downward trend there for a couple of years, from the coaching staff to the players. We kind of got complacent and started thinking the name was going to win games for us."

"Preseason practices have been markedly different as the Badgers prepare for the Oct. 18 season opener against St. Cloud State at the Dane County Coliseum," Daubenspeck said. "It's kind of a new Badger hockey now. The attitudes are different and the personalities are different. It's almost like everybody's got a fresh start and we have a lot of confidence coming off the end of last year."

"The Badgers followed a 3-12-1 start last season by stringing together a program-record 11-game unbeaten streak before losing to eventual champion Minnesota in the WCHA Final Five. The strong finish led to off-season

optimism. But the fact remains that Wisconsin lost 62 percent of its scoring and has just two players returning who scored more than 20 points last season.

Senior winger Erik Raygor, who recorded 13 goals and 17 assists last season for 30 points, is the top returning scorer. Junior center Joe Bianchi returns after scoring nine goals and 13 assists for 22 points. Wisconsin coach Jeff Sauer said he hopes to counter a lack of offensive stars with a handful of players scoring in the 15-goal range.

Two highly skilled players who could help are sophomore Yuri Gusak, from Riga, Latvia, and freshman Niki Siren of Kouvala, Finland. "We've got five or six guys who have been waiting for their turn," Sauer said. "Now it's their turn."

If the Badgers do find some scoring, they may have the rest of the components to make their perennial first-division finish. For the third straight year, Wisconsin's defense will be anchored by Daubenspeck, who was 17-20-2 last season with a 4.01 goals-against average and .885 save percentage. "We'll certainly build around him," Sauer said. "Dauber is geared up for that and ready to handle that pressure."

The Badgers lost just one defenseman in Mickey Elick, which should make life easier for the senior goaltender this season. Sophomore Tim Rothering leads a group of young defensemen that Sauer said went from liability last season to strength this season.

What the Badgers lack in pure talent, they'll make up for in incentive, Daubenspeck said. "We've got something to prove this year," Daubenspeck said. "Right now we're at the bottom of the barrel and we're working our way up."



RF gymnasts host event

JIM THIES
SPORTS INFORMATION

The UW-River Falls women's gymnastics team will host its 11th annual Extravaganza on Wednesday at 7 p.m., at the Karges Center.

This year's event features members of the 1996-97 Falcons gymnastics team, members of the University of Minnesota men's gymnastics team, current members of the River Falls Gymnastics Club and John Roethlisberger, a 1992 and 1996 U.S. Olympian.

Advanced tickets may be purchased from any UW-RF gymnasts or at the Student Center information booth. Advance tickets are \$3 for students and senior citizens and \$4 for adults. Student and senior citizen tickets will be \$4 and adult tickets \$5 at the door.

For more information contact UW-RF gymnastics coach Jeanne DeLisle at 425-0681 or 425-0634. Proceeds will go to the Falcons gymnastics team.



FALCON SPORTS CALENDAR

	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.
		White water 1:00 p.m.					
		St. Thomas 1:00 p.m.					WWIAC Tourney at Oshkosh
		Stevens Pt. & at Oshkosh noon					
		White-water 4:00 p.m.					
							

Falcons get defensive

ERIC BRANDEL
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

If you can't score, then you can't win. That's what teams who played the Falcon soccer team discovered last week.

The Falcons allowed only one goal during a five game stretch that included four shutouts. During that stretch the team went 4-0-1 to bring their overall record up to 8-7-3, 6-1-1 in the WWIAC.

Following back-to-back victories over Superior and LaCrosse, the Falcons notched a 2-0 victory over Division II Moorehead. Kristin Tormoen scored her fifth goal in the past five games and Alayne duCharme scored her fourth of the year. The story of the game was defense. Sarah Hachey saved all 15 shots she faced to earn the shutout.

The Falcons travelled to St. Cloud for a game against another Division II opponent. The defense again was solid, but the Falcons were unable to score themselves as the game ended in a scoreless tie. Hachey made 17 saves in nets as River Falls was out shot 27-17 by the Huskies.

The Falcons string of shutouts came to an end against Mankato St. on Tuesday. But the Mavericks were only able to beat Hachey once and River Falls won 2-1. The win was the third straight game against a Division II opponent without a loss (2-0-1).

The Falcons will close out the regular season with another tough match at home against St. Thomas on Saturday. The WWIAC tournament starts Thursday at Oshkosh.

Paralyzed hockey player recovering

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) — A college hockey player, partially paralyzed after breaking his neck during practice, has undergone surgery, with doctors hoping they can restore more feeling in his upper body.

University of Alaska Fairbanks sophomore Erik Drygas, 20, was injured when he crashed head-first into the boards Monday.

There was slight improvement in Drygas' condition Tuesday, said Scott Roselius, UAF sports information director. "He's in reasonably good spirits, as much as can be expected for a situation like this," Roselius said after Drygas underwent surgery Wednesday. "Drygas had some feeling from his neck down to his chest, could flex his biceps and had some arm movement," Roselius said.

The accident recalls a similar injury last year that left a Boston University freshman completely paralyzed. Travis Roy, of Yarmouth, Maine, slammed into the boards minutes into his first collegiate game, and like Drygas, also fractured a vertebrae in

his neck.

Roy's parents called Drygas' father, Mark, on Tuesday to offer encouragement, the family said. While the initial results of Roy's injury were more serious, Mark Drygas said it was good to talk to someone whose son had experienced a similar accident.

Roy is back at school, but remains in a wheelchair. He has regained movement in his right arm.

Drygas, a 6-foot-4, 215-pound defenseman, fell head-first into the boards during a drill at the Patty Center.

UAF captain Cody Bowtell, who witnessed the fall, noticed the peculiar angle of Drygas' neck at impact. "Just seeing the position, you knew he was in trouble," said Bowtell, who rode in the ambulance to the hospital with Drygas.

Bowtell, along with other Nanooks players, was with Drygas for parts of Monday and Tuesday and said he was coherent. UAF opened its season Friday with a loss at home against the University of Alaska Anchorage.

CC team trims times

ERIC DAHLBERG
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Falcon cross country team continued its string of improvement last Saturday at the LaCrosse Invitational. For the women, Trish Moore led a strong Falcon contingent.

"Trish ran the race of her life," Falcon coach Kristi Kropp-Wagner said following Saturday's meet in LaCrosse. "She had a huge personal best, and I'm very, very pleased with her finishing thirty-fifth in a 143 runner field."

Moore took thirty fifth, for the Falcons finishing the 3.1 mile course in 19 minutes, 58 seconds in what Kropp-Wagner noted was a pretty good field of runners.

Not far behind was Margaret Minke who grabbed 51st in 20:15.

Melissa King, Mary Gietzel, and Hope Onken, who finished 56th, 64th, 68th in 20:25, 20:34, and 20:41 respectively, rounded out the women's group.

"This was a huge breakthrough," Kropp-Wagner said. "We did a lot better than I thought we would."

For the men, Ryan Haack came in 56th, taming the course which spans almost five miles, in 27:20.

Kevin Kuecker (92nd, 28:10) Lance Brock (99th, 29:40), Jeremiah Fredrickson (102nd, 28:47), and Randy Thull (103rd 28:49) joined Haack in the solid River Falls effort. "They're all setting personal bests," Kropp-Wagner said. "We're really, really fighting and giving our guts out as a team and have performed just outstanding thus far."

The Falcons will participate in the WWIAC an WSUC cross country meet at Superior on Saturday, Oct. 26.

"I believe going in we will and are going to do our best as a team and individually," Kropp-Wagner said. "I know we are really going to do our best."

Falcon "Foot" notes...Falcon

Trish Moore was awarded with athlete of the week for the Falcon women...Ryan Haack received the nod for Falcon men's athlete of the week for the second time this season...Wendy Hovet will participate in her first meet this year when the Falcons travel to Superior for the conference meet...Falcon coach Kristi Kropp-Wagner continues to remain optimistic with this year's squad. The Falcons were seventh last year at the conference meet.



FALCON PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

FOOTBALL: Offense-Quarterback Pat Simones carried the ball 15 times for 38 yards. Through the air, he completed 7 of 13 for 123 yards and one TD. "Pat had a great day running and passing the ball. He made several important plays," Coach John O'Grady said. Defense-Tackle Wade Oberpriller finished with four solo and three assisted tackles, two of which were for losses. "Wade played his usually consistent game," O'Grady said. Special Teams-Jesse Egner punted five times for a 32.6 yard average. "Jesse not only had a good day punting, but he also did very well on his kickoffs," O'Grady said.

VOLLEYBALL: Middle hitter Cara Gustafson led the Falcons to three wins and the Stout Tournament championship last weekend. In 10 games Gustafson had 25 kills and a .333 hitting percentage. She had 11 aces, 22 digs and seven block assists.

SOCCER: Goalie Sarah Hachey was between the posts of all three Falcon games last week, and not a single ball found its way past her. Hachey recorded shutouts in victories over LaCrosse and Moorehead and was part of a 0-0 draw with St. Cloud. "In only her first year, Sarah has become one of the team motivators. Each game she helps to boost the confidence of our young team," Co-Coach Nikki Meyer said.

CROSS COUNTRY: Women-Trish Moore was the top finisher for the Falcons in LaCrosse. Her time of 19:58 was good enough for 35th overall in what Coach Kristi Kropp-Wagner called a "very good field of runners." Men-Ryan Haack had a season best time of 27:20 to help the Falcons to a 16th place finish in LaCrosse. Haack finished 56th in what Coach Kropp-Wagner called "a season and all-time best."

TENNIS: Renee Schuetzle defeated her St. Mary's singles opponent 6-3, 6-3. She then teamed with Katie Schaaf to defeat their doubles opponent 6-1, 6-2. Schuetzle was defeated in both singles and doubles against LaCrosse. "Renee has been consistently competitive, and she plays smarter and smarter as she goes," Coach Cindy Hovet said.

The Parting Shot

Sylvain Lefebvre of the Stanley Cup Champion Colorado Avalanche made the most of his time with the famous trophy this summer. He had his newborn son baptized in it!



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Old man winter

Is he right around the corner?

JAMIE MOLITOR
S & E CORRESPONDENT

A quick look at any of the trees on campus tells you what time of year it is here in Wisconsin.

Fall. Ah, fall, crisp air, crunchy leaves underfoot, hot apple cider in your belly and the Packers (or that lesser team to the west) on television.

It just whets your appetite for winter, doesn't it?

That's right, I said winter. Soon the ground will be covered with a uniform white layer, the air will be so cold that it stings your lungs and tiny icicles will form on anyone who has a mustache.

Yes, I admit I'm one of those freaks who loves winter. It is simply the best time of the year. It's the main reason why I will never leave the upper Midwest. Heck, I'd like to move further north so I can get more winter.

In fact, I'm counting down until the first official day of winter. I'm giddy with anticipation.

Now, I realize that the majority of this country dreads winter, and hey, how can blame them? It's cold; cars don't start; you won't start, and everything freezes. I can't blame anybody for not liking winter.

But ask yourself one question. What other time of the year gives you such a good excuse to snuggle up next to your favorite someone? There isn't one. Winter wins hands down.

But my purpose this week is to inform you on the upcoming winter. No, I didn't call up any circle of vision astrology phone numbers or visit the local astrologer.

I figure with all my recently acquired knowledge from the meteorology class that I'm taking I'd take on a lofty venture and predict the winter. What the heck—I learned about air pressure and humidity and I should be able to predict six months worth of weather. Of course I wouldn't even attempt it without the help of the *Old Farmer's Almanac*.

I'll say this right off, this winter will not be as cold as last winter. According to the *Almanac*, this winter should be mild, averaging about one to two degrees above normal temperatures. Of course with higher temps comes more precipitation. The *Almanac* also says that this year should have above normal precipitation as well.

How about month by month you ask? Certainly. Let's start with the first real month of winter: December. The *Almanac* says that December should be relatively mild, but otherwise normal. January should be the coldest month of the year (big surprise there), especially in the middle of the month, but also expect some above average precipitation.

February should be wonderful for all you warm weather nuts. Expect above normal temps all month long and near the end of the month we could see record highs. But don't expect the high temps to last forever because March could see some below normal temps, according to the *Almanac*. Temps should be about as below normal as February is above normal. March could also see the heaviest snowfall of the winter at about mid-month.

Since we get some early warm weather, winter will stick around a little longer than normal. Expect April and March to be relatively cold and snow possible until early May. And much like this year, it should warm up rapidly with heavy rains at the end of the month.

Now I'm not saying that the predictions made by the *Almanac* are going to be absolutely correct. Hey, meteorologists have a difficult time predicting weather on a day-to-day basis much less for a span of six months. Here's my suggestion. Clip this column out, put it on your fridge door and see just how accurate it is. If it is, cool. If it's not, you better have an extra layer of clothes on when you go outside in January.

Just remember that soon you'll be sporting a pair of Sorels and thermal underwear, drinking hot chocolate and watching hockey down at Hunt.

Dairy judging team does not defend World Dairy Expo title

HEATHER PIEHL
STAFF WRITER

Something was missing this year at the World Dairy Exposition held in Madison, Wis. Oct. 4-6; the UW-River Falls dairy judging team.

Coaches Sandra Costello and Perry Clark felt the team did not have the experience necessary to feel confident and have a good competition; therefore, the team did not compete at the exposition.

"The goal is to give them experience and let them go when they can do the best they can do," Costello said.

This year there are 10 people who will make up two dairy judging teams. They are Mary Bangart, Anne Jacobson, Dave Jauquet, Bill Pirk, Tony Scheffler, Amy Vine, Kari Skiba, Joe Stanek, Stewart Storie and Steve Lichty.

Last year the UW-RF dairy judging team won the team national collegiate dairy judging contest and had the high-

est scoring individual at the World Dairy Exposition.

Perry Clark admitted that it was kind of hard not to take a team down this year after winning last year.

However, the competition rules were another factor that kept a team from competing at this year's World Dairy Exposition.

"The year after you win you have kind of tapped the rules," Costello said.

The members of last year's winning team were not eligible to compete in the judging contest at this year's World Dairy Exposition because of the rules at the Expo, according to Costello.

The second rule that Costello pointed out is that each member of the team can only compete a total of three times. So if there is a member that is a sophomore or a junior, the coaches do not want to use up all of his/her competitions in the first year.

"The sophomores and juniors still have another year to practice and do better," Costello said. This year's dairy

judging team will compete at the national level in Louisville, Kentucky on Nov. 10. At present they are preparing themselves by visiting various community farms and judging the cattle there. As the contest approaches they will go out on Wednesday from 5-8:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. to practice judging dairy cattle.

"I am confident that they will be ready for this competition," Clark said. Even though UW-RF did not have a dairy judging team at the World Dairy Exposition the college was represented.

Eight members of the dairy club went down to staff the UW-RF information booth set up there. They were Mary Bangart, Shannon Brozak, Amy Czesewski, Patti Caldwell, Colette Diers, Jordan Hahn, Mike Ketchum, and Tony Scheffler.

The members were there to answer questions that people may have about UW-RF, Clark said.

Colette Diers, one of the members

manning the booth, said people frequently asked about UW-RF's size, courses, and the majors offered.

When the members were not at the booth there were plenty of other things for them to do at the World Dairy Expo. There was a registered Holstein sale Friday night, a dance Saturday night and dairy cattle breed shows throughout the weekend.

Watching the naming of the supreme dairy cow was one of the most interesting things Diers did when not at the UW-RF booth.

"It was just like attending a human beauty contest," she said. "The people that led the cattle out had top hats and were dressed in all white, like a tuxedo-type outfit. The cattle were fitted properly, had gold sashes across them and had a spotlight on them as they came out."

There were also 200-300 companies that had exhibits set up in booths at the exposition. These companies were not only involved in the dairy industry, but almost any company involved

in agriculture. The companies included tractors, milking equipment, nutrition consulting and the mastitis council just to name a few, Costello said.

According to Clark, because of the wide variety of companies, the World Dairy Exposition is a great place to make contacts for the future. "It is a good place for students to make contacts and drop off resumes for internships and future jobs," he said.

"They can also get term paper and seminar information," Clark said.

Costello agreed. "If there is anybody in the industry you want to talk to you can be pretty sure they will be there."

Diers said she took advantage of all these companies in one place to look into internships.

"Saturday I did a lot of networking," she said. "I was given some names and numbers of companies to contact, and I gave my name and number to some companies to put on their list to contact me. It gave me a chance to get my foot in the door."

High five



Two workers brand a cow on the university lab farm this past week.

Niamoi Runge photo

UW-RF hosts Symposium

TINA RUHLAND
S & E Editor

Do not reach for that package of Ramen noodles, the can of chicken soup, the bagel or the Big Mac you are craving. How do you know that the foods you are about to consume are safe for your health?

Current issues and techniques in food safety and were the main topics of discussion at the International Microbiology Symposium at UW-River Falls.

"Our goal is to bring the industry, research, academia and regulatory agencies together to transfer technology on food pathogens," said Professor P.C. Vasavada, who is a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

The program gathered approximately 110 people from around the world to learn more about the food industry.

"We have people from New Zealand, Canada and throughout the nation here to learn about this important issue," Vasavada said.

The program is oriented toward food scientists and technologists; quality assurance supervisors, managers and technicians; food laboratory directors, managers and technicians; microbiologists and chemists involved in food quality assurance; regulatory agencies personnel and advisors; consultants and researchers involved in food safety and quality; and graduate and undergraduate students interested in food microbiology.

"This opportunity is very unique for students and faculty. It allows them to meet contacts in the food industry. These contacts are not just local but large companies representing the meat,

cheese, dairy and other food outlets," Vasavada said.

The symposium also won the opportunity to be the site of a National Media Fellowship seeking to learn more about food safety issues. The fellowship was awarded by the Washington, D.C.-based Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

"The program also allows us to showcase the University to national and international participants," Vasavada said.

UW-RF is one of the 31 universities selected for a Fellowship Program by a national panel of journalists and higher education public information officers. The symposium is an opportunity for media to learn more about the industry and report to the consumer.

However the Fellows were not present at the symposium. According to Mark Kinders, of the UW-RF News Bureau, the media was not given sufficient notice of the symposium. Yet he is optimistic that they will be here next year.

The symposium's technical program consists of lectures and discussions relevant to food borne pathogens, toxins, safety, quality and shelf life of foods. It also includes presentations by representatives of various companies involved in developing and marketing rapid and automated methods for micro biological analysis of food, water and environment.

The conference provides a basic understanding of the strategies and approaches available for the detection, enumeration, isolation and characterization of micro-organisms and toxins in food.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SECTION B, PAGE 4

STUDENT VOICE

OCTOBER 17, 1996

Christy Nelson

Movie has comedy down to a science



"A couple of times I was laughing so loud I had to rewind to catch the next wise-crack."

Last semester, some of us were lucky enough to have spent an evening with the stars of the TV cult classic "Mystery Science Theater 3000." Writers and actors Mike Nelson and Trace Beaulieu (along with robot stars Crow and Tom Servo) visited our campus and took questions from the audience, and showed some of the film shorts they—in the form of silhouetted screen critics—have provided sarcastic commentary for. If you attended the UW-River Falls MST3K night, you were also treated to a preview of the first (hopefully, first of many) "Mystery Science Theater 3000-The Movie," movies, now out on video.

I didn't go see "MST3K-The Movie" in a theater; in fact, not many people did. I believe, however, that this is a movie much better enjoyed on video anyway as it moves very fast. A couple of times I was laughing so loud I had to rewind to catch the next wise-crack. Someone (not me, I have a life) actually sat and counted the average number of put-downs during the course of a two hour show—700 plus. So as you can imagine, the remarks come lightning fast. And trust me, you won't want to miss any of them.

In "MST3K-The Movie," Mike and his robot companions are forced, by a sadistic Dr. Forester, to watch 1954's Universal Pictures "This Island Earth." As is the case with most of the films, the MST3K gang is subjected to, "This Island Earth" is almost unbearably terrible. It does, however, prove to be the perfect subject for the sarcastic commentary of the three silhouettes. One moment, the crew will make a classical allusion like quoting a Shakespearean sonnet to an alien, the next minute they switch to "Tommy Boy" style humor by declaring "who farted?" There is something for every comic taste in this movie.

If you're like me, you will especially enjoy the countless pop-culture references peppered throughout the movie. For instance, when John Gabriel, the actor who played the professor on "Gilligan's Island," popped up in one scene of "This Island Earth," the MST3K crew chimed in with "hey, what's this 'and the rest' crap?" Later, when the professor was seen driving a passenger around in a car, they added, "So, you say you made this car entirely out of bamboo, huh?" The talented writers of this movie didn't leave many stones unturned. They even re-used the McKenzie Brothers "Strange Brew" trick of commenting on cast and crew member's names as they roll up the screen during the credits. So don't be so quick to hit the VCR stop button this time.

All in all, there are only two complaints I have about the first MST3K movie. First, it's so funny that instead of helping fans like myself get over the show's recent cancellation, it just rubs salt in the wound by making you yearn for a regular dose of the gang's sarcastic one-liners. My second complaint, albeit incredibly petty, is that Mike Nelson sports a UW-Stout T-shirt in the beginning of the movie, despite being a former UW-River Falls student. What gives? Tisk-tisk, I think someone has forgotten his roots!

Editor's Note: Mystery Science Theater 3000 was picked up by the Sci Fi Channel for more episodes. Actor Trace Beaulieu has since left the show.

New campus television show designed for "Sports Junkies"

JASON EGERSTROM
STAFF WRITER

This year there may be less channel surfing for sports fanatics.

"Sports Junkies," a new television program on channel 10/19, is here. "It's kind of a play-off," said advisor Rob Snyder. "If you're into drugs you're a junkie. Well, if you're into sports you're a sports junkie."

Snyder was involved with a similar sports show when he taught at the University of Northern Iowa.

UW-River Falls students began to show serious interest in doing their own show after they saw tapes of the show done at Northern Iowa, Snyder said.

Students volunteer their time to do the show. The set looks similar to ESPN's "Fabulous Sports Babe Show," with athletic jerseys and other memorabilia hanging behind the hosts.

Snyder said, "Sports Junkies" is different from most sports talk shows. The show tries to stay away from analyzing games. Instead they talk about other important issues relating to college and pro-sports, such as the large salaries of athletes, gender equity issues and college football polls.

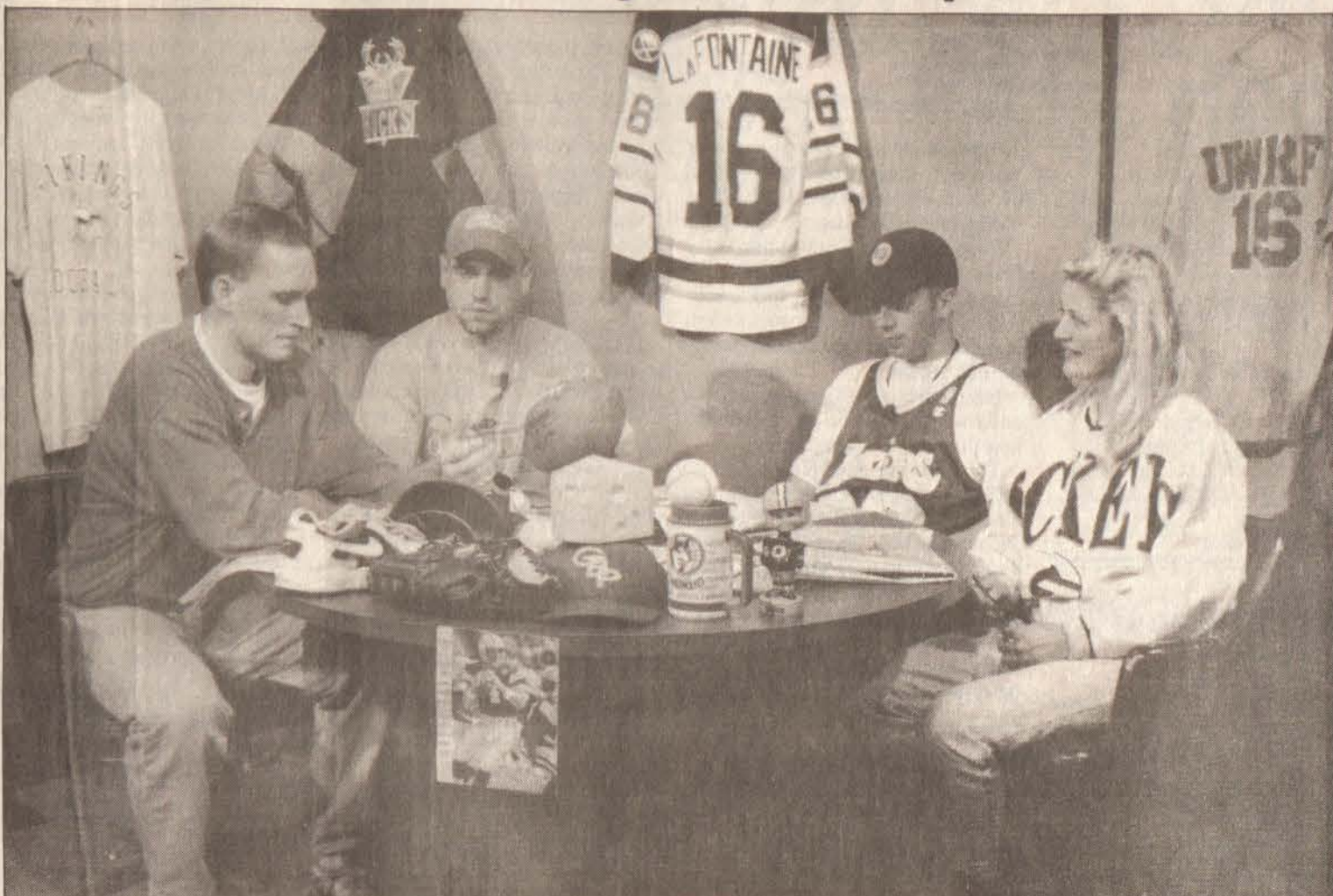
"The show runs Monday night through the following Monday," Snyder said. "By the time it's running on Sunday, if we are talking about last week's Packer game; who wants to listen about last week's Packer game."

One of the volunteers, journalism student Dan Walz, spends about seven to eight hours of work a week for each half-hour show.

Walz approached Snyder in the Spring of 1996 semester with the idea for the show. Walz viewed the tapes of the show from the University of Northern Iowa. And this fall, UW-RF students set up an organizational meeting.

"It's a great experience and something I love to do," Walz said.

Feedback from people in the River Falls and Hudson areas has surprised Walz. Strangers who recognized him have approached him to comment on



Shown left to right: UW-River Falls students; Joe Hunstock, Dan Walz, Al Jaeb and Rose Selbel on the set of "Sports Junkies," the new campus television program designed for sports fans. The show runs every Monday night through the following Monday on channel 10/19.

the show.

"It's good to know people watch."

"People should watch because we bring up good points and we make people aware of the issues," Walz said.

People are watching the show.

"They have potential for a good show, but they need to pay more attention to posture, and use more articulation and eye contact because it's hard to watch and it would look a lot more professional," said Charlie Bakker, a UW-RF student.

Steve Teeters, a sports junkie host, said he is enjoying his experience

with the new show.

"A lot of people like sports," he said. "We add information people may not know and we are highly opinionated. It's fun."

Sports Junkies also has "border war" each week between at least one person from Minnesota and one from Wisconsin, Teeters said.

"People like to see that because it's funny to watch," Teeters said.

The "Sports Junkies" job isn't too easy though.

"The hardest thing is to come up with topics that are controversial," Teeters said.

Teeters said he is learning more about feeling comfortable on camera than the technical part of the show.

Several of the issues discussed on "Sports Junkies" are also discussed by Walz, Teeters and others on "Sports Roundtable," a WRFW radio show on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

About nine students volunteer working with "Sports Junkies," which tapes every Monday at 5 p.m. in Television Services located in Kleinpell Fine Arts.

Four hosts, or talent appear on camera at the same time. One person, sitting near the center camera, is the moderator. The moderator is respon-

sible for introducing the show and the topics, Snyder said.

He said because there are five talent on staff, the four people on camera rotate every week. So each person must also work off camera as well.

The "Sports Junkies" talent never auditioned but there was a requirement to be on camera, Snyder said.

"Anyone who can carry on a decent conversation about sports is on camera," he said.

Though the talent, or on-camera positions, are filled, additional crew

Sports Junkies•5B

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An Extragalactic Look

By: Celestial Sights

Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) A close friend's decision has got you down. Don't worry too much; you won't lose them completely. Mood swings are setting the tone; try to control it before you drive everyone crazy. Have faith in your sweetie. This Weekend: Don't spend any money—funds won't permit.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) This is going to be a hot week. Go with your gut feeling, or you'll be sorry. A sibling is going overboard—family stepping in would be a good thing. This Weekend: Hit the dance floor!

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Stop talking on the phone! The bill will get you into serious trouble. Insecurities leave you feeling down; don't worry so much. A secret you've been hiding will come back to haunt you. This Weekend: Do something nice for someone else.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) You've got studying down pat. It's time to direct your attention to the social aspect of things. Go after what you want. This Weekend: Cheer on your favorite team for homecoming!

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) Kick that bad habit people have been on your case about, but do it for you, not them. Start something new this week, it prove to be adventurous. Something from your past may resurface; be prepared to explain! This Weekend: Fill the gap in your life with something rewarding.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20) A trip to a far-off place will be fun, but keep on classwork. Low grades won't get you anywhere. Make friends with older people; it will be to your advantage. This Weekend: Work hard and then party!

Aries (March 21-April 20) Get your head out of the clouds and back where it belongs. A fight with a friend will get you down—it will all work out. This Weekend: Cuddle up with your significant other and watch the snowflakes fall!

Taurus (April 21-May 21) You seem to be on the right track. Tough situations leave you questioning your decisions; don't worry, they were the right ones! Your generosity brings a smile to others. This Weekend: Put your big plan into action.

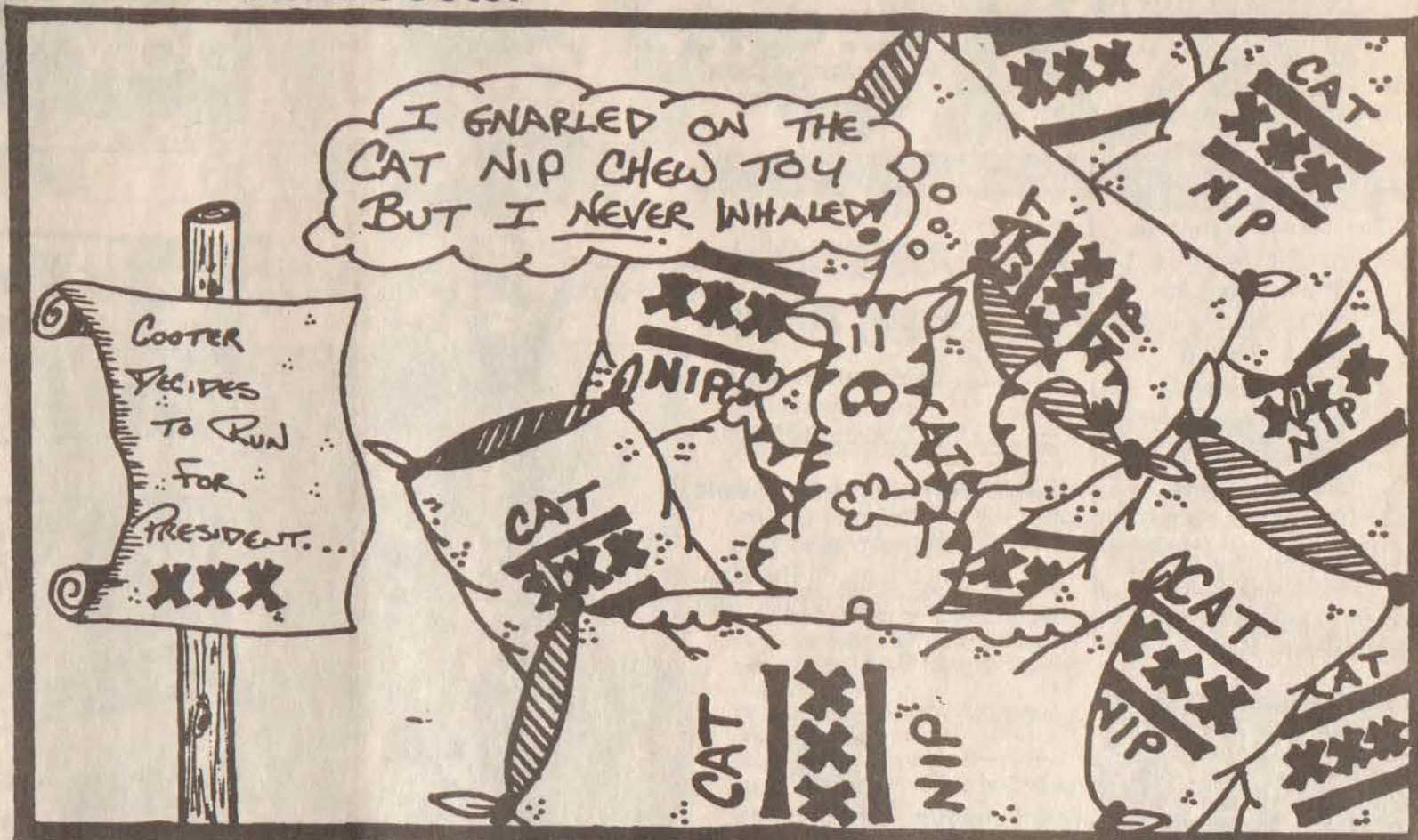
Gemini (May 22-June 21) Your significant other is leading you in circles. Listen to your heart and head for the right answer. Hang out with friends to clear your thoughts and keep hitting the books! This Weekend: Give that special someone some personal space.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Money troubles have you down, but taking it out on others is not cool. Someone is trying to tell you something. Listen up or you'll be left in the dark! A phone call will change things drastically. This Weekend: Make up for lost time!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) Family communications aren't looking good. Try to avoid hurt feelings. All good things must come to an end. Let go with a smile rather than a tear. This Weekend: Chill out—you've had your fun for the week.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) Things aren't going well—keep your chin up. A person you've never noticed may have some good advice; listen with an eager ear. Friends are a great escape. This Weekend: Have fun—you deserve it.

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Sports Junkies

From 4B

people are needed, Snyder said.

Walz agreed. "I encourage people to get involved with us," he said. "They don't have to be a broadcast journalism major either; they can be any major."

At least three of the nine volunteers are not in the field of journalism, and anyone is welcome to help Snyder said.

"Sports Junkies" airs three times a day, at 12:30 a.m., 7 a.m. and 5:30

p.m., seven days a week.

If anyone would like to become involved with the "Sports Junkies" production, they should get in touch with Snyder at 425-3169.

If anyone has any topic ideas or any other feedback regarding the show they may call Snyder or Dan Walz at 426-1826 or Television Services at 425-3175.

"We love to hear feedback," Walz said.

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