

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS Student Voice



Falcons lose to UW-Stevens Point, 4-time WIAC champions
See B1

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ART FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



Angie Kveene and Melissa Phelps, freshmen, look at scarves made by UW-RF art students. Students entered artwork for the annual Student Scholarship Sale. Seventy percent of the profits from art sales go toward the student artists while the remaining profits go toward scholarships, artists speakers and art field trips.

Photo by Teresa Schmitt

Chancellor eyes potential I-94 gold mine for UW-RF

Mike Longaecker
Staff Writer

Drivers hurtling east to Eau Claire from the Twin Cities often find themselves adapting to changes in the environment.

Purple slowly turns to green and gold. Traffic congestion becomes open road. Radio stations fade to static.

The gas pedal hits the floor.

For UW-River Falls Chancellor Ann Lydecker, the pragmatic possibilities along this stretch of road don't appear as endless stretches of farmland and rolling hills—they look like dollar signs.

Coined the "I-94 Corridor," the nine-county region houses three state universities and some of the fastest population growth in the state—the economic potential of which has yet to be fully realized, Lydecker said.

"The Twin Cities will grow out," Lydecker said. "How do we bring the services to the people as it grows so that the desired services and cultural opportunities are growing with the people?"

The chancellor is looking at a broad - though not yet clearly defined - plan to attract businesses to the region that could both reap the benefits of University influence and help promote regional growth.

The potential benefits for economic growth surrounding the universities of UW-RF, UW-Stout and UW-Eau Claire draw from a highly educated workforce and the expertise of faculty as contributors to business research and development, Lydecker said.

"We have a labor force and a knowledge base," Lydecker said. "Plus, there are a number of people who just like to live in an academic community."

As businesses move in, the University can offer employees access to continuing education as well as the chance at attending cultural events associated with the University, which Lydecker called "a marketing plus."

Lydecker sees the wealth spilling across the St. Croix River from Minnesota into western Wisconsin as something that needs to be capitalized upon.

"If we have to ride somebody's shirttails, I'm not too proud to say 'There's a wave here, let's get on it and ride it,'" Lydecker said.

"The tendency in Wisconsin has been to look east," Lydecker said. "People in this part of the state haven't been looking east—they've been looking west. It's time that the rest of the state start recognizing that part of the state looks west for its growth, not east."

Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance, Virgil Nylander, agreed, saying the

region is "ripe for development."

Lydecker has been working with experts and the chancellors from UW-Stout and UW-Eau Claire to harness the potential of the three universities that lie along the stretch.

Two weeks ago, Lydecker held a meeting on campus with representatives from Northstar Economics, a consulting firm that does economic studies on various regions, the results of which often lead to policymaking.

A representative from UW-EC also attended the meeting.

Lydecker said it's "highly likely" that a study on the I-94 Corridor will take place, although the cost, the scope of the study and the partners involved have yet to be determined.

Although she didn't reveal names, Lydecker said at least two businesses will help fund the study.

In 2002, NorthStar Economics prepared a study of the UW System's economic contribution to the state. Among its findings, the study reported the UW System contributes almost \$10 billion to the state's economy and employs almost six percent of the state's workers.

Lydecker said she hopes the I-94 study, which will look at potential areas for economic development in the region, would be underway by spring. The goal, she said, would be to reveal the findings of the study next fall at a local economic conference.

Lydecker pointed to businesses already joining forces with UW-RF, most notably BioDiagnostics Inc., of River Falls.

A seven-year-old company specializing in seed testing, BioDiagnostics keeps a "close relationship" with UW-RF, said President and Owner Quentin Shultz.

Shultz said BioDiagnostics regularly hires UW-RF students as a portion of their seasonal labor force. Of BioDiagnostics' 18 full-time employees, Shultz said 11 are UW-RF graduates.

"We wanted to be in this community because of the University," Shultz said.

Before moving to River Falls in 2001, BioDiagnostics employed five UW-RF students at its Ellsworth facility. Upon moving to River Falls, the number of students jumped to 20.

"We've had excellent experience with a high quality workforce," Shultz said. "UW-RF must be attracting some high-caliber individuals."

Another step being used to counter what economists at last month's Wisconsin Economic Summit called a "perceived lack of entrepreneurial spirit in the state" has been the Angel Investment network.

The Angel Investment network is a non-profit.

See I-94, A3

Ryan Krause's family, friends reflect on his 'heart of gold'

Anne Cloeter
Staff Writer

Friends and family said UW-River Falls freshman Ryan Krause was quiet and rarely seen at UW-RF. His frequent trips home to nearby Hager City, Wis., didn't allow for much leisure time on campus.

But at home, Ryan was full of quick wit and jokes. "His friends called him Bean after the TV show 'Mr. Bean' because he did a lot of the same facial expressions," said Heidi Krause, Ryan's stepmother. "He had a good sense of humor."

A 20-year-old who liked to play football and basketball, Ryan was always thinking about others first.

Family and friends were always on his mind, but Ryan was on their minds, too.

"As soon as his car would pull into the driveway, the kids [Ryan's siblings] would come running out saying, 'Ryan's home!'," Krause said.

A lot of his close friends were in high school, often bringing Ryan back to Hager City.

In fact, he was thinking about taking a year off from school to wait for his best friend to graduate from high school so they could room together. But instead, he chose to start his college career this year.

"He wanted to be closer to home [when choosing a school]," said Gloria Barber, Ryan's mother. "He tossed around teaching as a major, but he wasn't really sure."

These trips home didn't allow much of the campus community to get to know him, but Ryan liked UW-RF and adapted well as a freshman, Barber said.

"We got along fine. We had very different schedules, so we didn't spend a lot of time in the room together," said sophomore Noah Kurth, Ryan's roommate. "He was a very private person."

This private person, however, had a heart of gold.

"He was a sensitive boy who had too much heart," Krause said. "He cared much more about other people's feelings than his own."

Because he was "an all around great kid", Krause said her stepson's death "just doesn't seem real."

Ryan's mother agreed.

No insurance leaves some without options

Rachel Gaynor
Sarah Day
Staff Writers

While most students worry about getting their car and wardrobe ready for winter, some students have the extra burden of worrying about how to get through the season without a spendy trip to the clinic.

Many students enjoy the benefits of their parents' insurance. However some UW-River Falls students are left in the cold without options. Students without insurance have to beat their cold or shell money out of their own pocket to pay for relief.

UW-RF has given some help to students in this position.

Students can show their Student ID cards and get free trips to the clinic.

But these trips are not actually free. Segregated fees paid by stu-

dents help support these services.

However, not all services the clinic provides are covered by student health services. Visits to see a physician and things like throat cultures are covered, but more serious and expensive things are not.

That's when insurance foots the bill.

In a survey about colleges nationwide done by the American College Health Association (ACHA) and the National College Health Association (NCHA), 84.6 percent of UW-RF students indicated they had some sort of health insurance, 9.2 percent were unsure and 6.2 percent said they did not have any health insurance.

Naomi Marshal is one student without insurance. Marshal, a senior history major, said health insurance was just not an option.

"It was either go to school or have

See INSURANCE, A3

Seasonal stress may hit hard as finals near



Photo by Teresa Schmitt

Junior Angie Hurst utilizes the Body Shop in Hathorn Hall to alleviate stresses from the upcoming finals week.

Julia Allen
Staff Writer

Stressed out by the thought of upcoming holiday hoopla and finals?

Join the crowd.

According to a survey given to 1001 people by CNN in October of 2003, people in the Midwest suffer the third highest level of seasonal stress in the nation.

While seasonal stress may rear its ugly head at UW-River Falls, students said they have learned to fight back.

Paul Rogers, marketing and speech communications major, said many things contribute to his stress at the end of the semester.

"Things like schoolwork, end of the semester projects, work, paying rent and family obligations all make me feel stressed," Rogers said. "Not to mention the hoopla of the holidays."

Niki Siedschlag, psychology major, said her stress can bury her if she doesn't get away for a break.

"Everything ranging from finishing schoolwork and projects to the holidays affects my level of stress," Siedschlag said. "But it isn't any one of these issues in particular that makes me feel stressed out, it's all of them."

Alice Reilly-Myklebust, Student Health Services director, said students should take one task at a time.

If students don't slow down, Reilly-Myklebust said they may

find themselves in more of a bind.

"Stress can be a factor in causing illness," Reilly-Myklebust said. "It's important for students to take a short break and then go back to the task at hand."

Gender seems to have no effect on seasonal stress.

CNN's study showed men and women suffer stress much the same.

Forty-three percent of women ages 18 to 34 reported an increase in stress during the holidays, while 37 percent of men 18 to 34 did.

However, not all students feel the pressure of stress when the end of the semester and the holidays approach.

Jordan Isackson, biology major, said he has found the key to giving stress a run for its money.

"I found that when I work hard early, I can relax later," Isackson said.

Just as each person has different stressors, there are also different methods UW-RF students find to de-stress.

See STRESS, A3

BRIEFS

Resumés

Despite a tight job market, Career Services is still receiving requests weekly from employers to send them resumés of graduating seniors and alumni who are qualified for their open full-time positions. To request our free resume referral visit www.uwrf.edu/ccs/form_resume_referral.htm

Sponsor a Family

St. Croix and Pierce County are in need of individuals or groups that would be willing to sponsor a family in need over the holiday season. For more information contact Laurie Weinberg at 425-6751.

Spring Meal Plans

Now is the time to change your meal plan for spring semester. Your current meal plan will carry over to spring unless you stop in the Food Services Office to change. Make your changes before you leave at the end of the semester to ensure that your spring semester billing is correct. Once you have used the plan in January, you will not be able to make changes until Feb. 16-27. Fill out the meal plan change Form in the Food Services Office.

Voice Lessons

Voice lessons are available to all students through the music department. Instructors focus on building a healthy, beautiful sound, and on introducing students to the wide variety of vocal music available to singers. Contact Paul Schaefer for more information at 425-3778.

Falcon Foods

Falcon Foods is gearing up for holiday specials and is currently taking orders for Christmas delivery of cheese gift boxes. Ice cream is also available. Some flavors include winter wonderland, peanut butter cup, vanilla, chocolate, peppermint stick and maple nut. Ice cream is available in individual cups, 1 quart, one-half gallon or 3 gallon tubs. Falcon Foods is in room 149 on the lower level of Food Science and is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call 425-3702.

Looking for Quotes

The Literary Society is looking for quotes to share at its next meeting. Contact gayle_poepping@hotmail.com if you have one you'd like to share

PUBLIC SAFETY

Cash drawer stolen

Anne Cloeter
Staff Writer

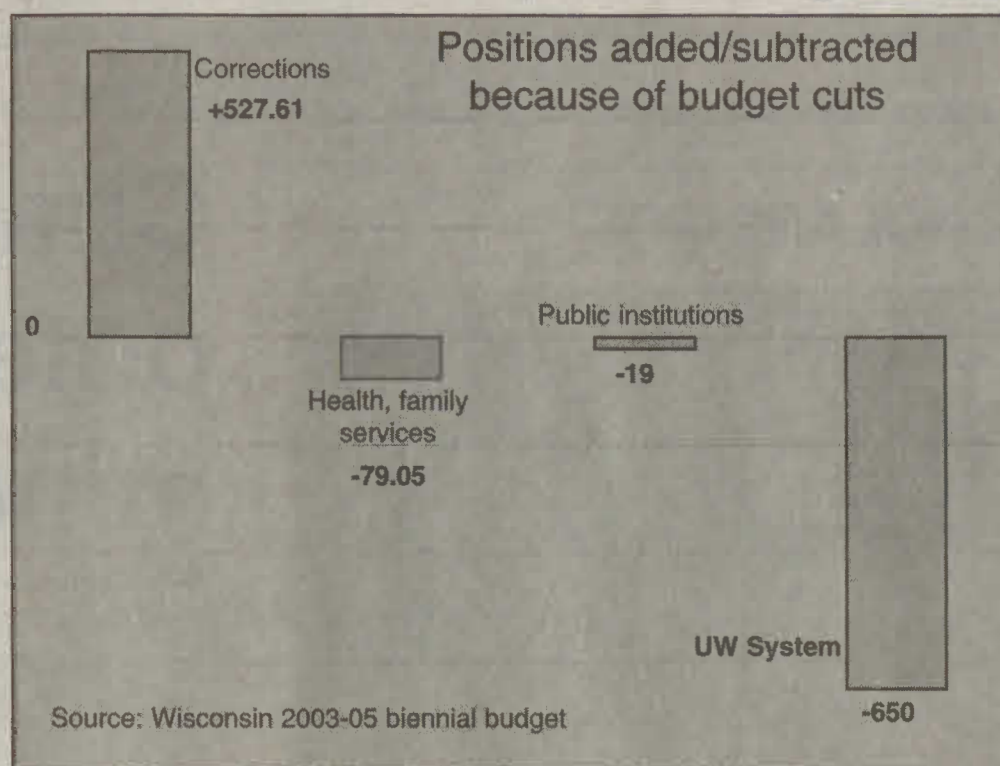
—An RA in Prucha Hall called Public Safety to report a group of people drinking in one of the rooms Nov. 20. When the officer arrived, both Mark R. Bookman, 19, and Douglas J. Wence, 18, received \$243 citations for underage consumption. Later that night, an officer was called back to Prucha Hall because Bookman was found in the bathroom with his head bleeding. He slammed his head into a window because he was upset about the ticket he received earlier. A River Falls ambulance was notified, but

Bookman refused to go to the hospital. He was issued a \$274 citation for disorderly conduct.

—After a noise complaint at a West Johnson Street apartment Nov. 20, a River Falls police officer arrived and issued a \$102 loud and unnecessary noise citation to resident Erik A. Blaser, 23. Cassandra M. Enerson, 20, was also leaving at the same time and received a \$164 underage consumption citation.

—A cash machine drawer and money were taken from the Library Nov. 24. It was noted that other machines around campus have been also tampered with recently. There are no suspects.

Money crunch attributed to number of prisoners, spending on K-12 education



Budget cuts resulted in a loss of 650 jobs throughout the UW System.

Kate Camplin
Staff Writer

Higher education is being cut from the state budget and UW-River Falls is feeling the pain. Over the past few weeks, the Student Voice has covered the effects of these cuts on each college. The dramatic lack of money can be seen in everything from open faculty positions to insufficient technology. If the state's money isn't going to higher education, then surely something else is benefiting from it.

Wisconsin forms its budget every two years, and the current 2003-05 budget cycle will increase the state's spending by more than \$423 million. The UW System, however, received a \$250 million cut in funding. This is the largest single cut in UW System history.

"The budget cuts to the UW System this year exceed the total cuts made over the past 10 years," said Marshall Toman, English

department chair.

There are two reasons why higher education is being cut from the state budget, said Mark Kinders, UW-RF Public Affairs director and liaison between UW-RF and the state Legislature.

First, higher education is no longer a shared value. It used to be that the state felt society gained more than the individual when the state subsidized higher education. Wisconsin felt college graduates were an asset to society. Now, the state feels the individual benefits more than society and has subsequently shifted more of the financial burden to students and their parents.

Second, the largest public policy issues in the state today are also the most costly ones.

The top five budget items include health care and family services, corrections, K-12 education, local governments revenues and higher education. The weak state economy means there just isn't enough money to go around.

In fact, the Wisconsin budget for July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005 is \$48 billion. Only \$24 billion, the general program revenue (GPR), is from taxes and available for the

is getting money pulled back because the state is facing a heavy burden of making this commitment," Kinders said.

Another budget buster is shared revenue. Wisconsin gave local governments \$1.1 billion from the budget. Many see this money slipping through the cracks.

"The state of Wisconsin is well known for having too many layers of government," Kinders said. "This results in local government not being as efficient as it can be."

Corrections are another hot topic in the budget discussions. Many see the money being cut from higher education directly correlating to the increases given to corrections.

"The state has certainly shifted their priorities," said Gorden Hedahl, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "They are decreasing money for higher education while increasing spending on prisons and corrections. I think this is misplaced."

Others disagree.

"I don't think it is a fair correlation," said state Rep. Kitty Rhoades. "It is not an either one or the other issue. At least I don't think so."

State Sen. Sheila Harsdorf agreed

and said the increase given to corrections is because Wisconsin is tough on crime and the number of inmates has risen.

"We have the responsibility of ensuring higher education and enforcing prison sentences," Harsdorf said.

But those who have invested a great deal of time and effort into education still feel the amount of money they receive is insufficient. "History won't judge us by our prisons but by how we have educated our citizens," said UW-RF English Professor Jennifer Brantley.

Everyone does seem to agree that the depressed state of Wisconsin's economy is having a major impact on the budget.

Determined to make a difference, the UW System has set out to educate the Wisconsin public on the economic importance of higher education. Through conferences, public forums and press releases, the UW System has presented numbers showing the financial value of a college degree.

For example, statistics released by the UW System show college graduates earn almost \$1 million more than high-school graduates over a lifetime. They also strive to show citizens that UW graduates stay in Wisconsin and contribute to its economy. Eighty-two percent of resident graduates and 21 percent of out-of-state graduates choose to live and work in Wisconsin.

"We need to let the public know that the students that are coming through here are committed to giving back in some way," said UW-RF Chancellor Ann Lydecker.

These long-term projections are sometimes lost when more eminent issues come to the surface.

"Each issue is important to different people at different times," Harsdorf said. "It comes down to public input and state priorities. Then it becomes a balancing act."

In the meantime, faculty and staff are encouraging students to get involved.

"The one hope I have is that students will realize the importance of education," Toman said. "Not only to them, but to society as a whole and they will influence voting to give money back to higher education and especially students."

STUDENT SENATE

Tied vote on MRF increase broken by Schuelke; motion passed

Eric Quade
Chief Copy Editor

In an extremely tight roll call vote at last Tuesday's Student Senate meeting President Matthew Schuelke was forced to choose whether or not to support raising the Mandatory Refundable Fee (MRF) from \$1.35 to \$2. After some delay and a few clearly visible expressions of distress, Schuelke passed the motion.

The MRF is what funds the United Council. Each student pays their MRF through student fees, but what makes the MRF different is that students can request a refund within the first six weeks of a semester.

In other Senate related news:

—Senator Nick Cluppert traveled with his student affairs committee to UW-Stout and UW-Superior to build better inter-university relationships and consider possible partnerships in lobbying area legislatures for continued tuition reciprocity agreements.

—Cluppert also reported Faculty Senate's general education committee has finished with its draft of a new general education proposal. Academic Policies and Programs (AP&P) is now reviewing the proposal and has requested Student Senate's opinion.

Emphasizing the importance of the proposal, which has been in the works for the past four years, Schuelke asked every senator to come up with suggestions.

—A more efficient way to connect senators with student issues and concerns might be in the works. A Driscoll/Gavin motion proposing the Senate's endorsement of a "gripe line" was passed. The "gripe line" would work via e-mail, instead of the typical suggestion box used currently.

—Legal Services has landed another lawyer. This brings the current number of lawyers available for student legal advice to four.

The Student Senate will meet again next week at 7 p.m. in the Regents Room of the Student Center.

UW-RF Cares For Your Air

Thank you for supporting the Great American Smoke Out and the 25-ft smoke-free radius policy

All Students, Faculty and Staff are invited to join Chancellor Lydecker in a holiday celebration! Come and enjoy the refreshments, festive music and lively conversation.

Chancellor's Reception Thursday, December 11, 2003 2-4 p.m. Falcon's Nest, Student Center

Celebrate this Holiday Season...

Sponsored by the UW-RF Special Events Committee.

Hurry up and wait: Policy creates problems for military veterans

Dave Misselt
Staff Writer

Anyone who has spent any time in the military is familiar with the phrase "hurry up and wait." It was an unofficial Department of Defense policy even before there was a defense department.

Countless GIs have wasted a portion of their lives standing around waiting for something to happen. The military frowns on tardiness.

The military is not the only government bureaucracy that embraces the hurry up and wait mantra.

Usually unintentional, the cogs in the government machine turn very slowly.

UW-River Falls is no exception, especially when it comes to money.

Nine students, all disabled veterans, are either still waiting for financial aid checks that should have been received in September or have experienced repeated delays when registering for classes.

These students are known in the trade as Chapter 31s. They attend universities and vocational schools throughout the UW System by virtue of the Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

This program was established by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to help disabled veterans obtain a college degree or vocational training in order to return to the work force.

The VA pays for the Chapter 31 students' full tuition, most of their school supplies and a monthly stipend to help with living expenses while they attend classes on at least a part-time basis.

For some, it is the only way they could go to school.

"I'm really grateful to be in the program," Bob Wolfe, retired army special forces sergeant turned college student, said. "I wouldn't be here if not for the VA."

Though appreciative of the educational opportunity the program has given them, many of these veterans experience difficulties receiving their benefits.

Army veteran Angelina Velazquez said she has bounced between the Cashier's and Accounts Receivable Offices in search of her financial aid money at least three times a week since September.

"They keep telling me to come back in a couple of days, but nothing gets done," said Velazquez, a marketing communications major. "It's frustrating."

Because she has not received the \$2,200 of fall semester financial aid she is entitled to, she was two months behind on her rent and forced to leave her apartment.

"It's caused a major financial hardship for my daughter and me," Velazquez said. "As a single mom, I depend on my financial aid to get by."

Timely payment of financial aid is not the only problem facing these students. Simply registering for classes has been made more difficult due to the University's handling of VA payment authorizations.

The problem lies with the \$100 pre-registration fee. Holds are placed on these student's records, even though the cashier has received the VA payment authorizations

weeks in advance.

Because of the resulting delay in registration, some Chapter 31 students have not been able to enroll in needed courses.

"I had to get the hold lifted three times so I could register," Velazquez said. "I missed three classes because of the hold up."

Velazquez is not the only veteran having difficulties.

Marine Corps veteran Ann Walker experienced the same problem while registering for fall and J-Term classes. She tried for nearly a week to register for J-Term, but couldn't because of the deposit hold.

She made two trips to the Accounts Receivable Office before the hold was temporarily lifted allowing her to register.

Wolfe also had problems registering because of the same deposit hold on his records.

"I had to get special permission for one class," he said. "By the time I could register it was full."

Leonard Shier, 22-year Army veteran, has experienced the same problem a few times, but said asking the right questions resolved the issue.

"Everyone has been outstanding in helping me register for spring classes," Shier said.

Another complaint voiced by veterans concerns the lack of information received from the Financial Assistance Office about student loans or grants they may qualify for.

"I'm left in a void," Wolfe said.

Wolfe has attended UW-RF for two years and said he has yet to be informed what additional financial aid monies he is qualified for.

"No one tells me what's available," Wolfe said.

"My biggest complaint is being left out of the loop."

John Miller, VA vocational rehabilitation counselor, administers the program at five universities and six technical colleges in Wisconsin.

He insists UW-RF is the only campus of the 11 that withholds financial aid checks until final payment is received and does not waive the \$100 registration fee for Chapter 31 students.

His assertion was verified by veteran's representatives at UW-Stout, Platteville, Superior, La Crosse, Stevens Point and the six technical colleges. Attempts to contact the UW-Eau Claire representative were unsuccessful.

These campuses use what is called third-party billing indicators. After verification of a veteran's status, an indicator is placed in their records verifying payment is forthcoming from the VA.

The payment authorization is considered the same as cash at these campuses and any financial aid is immediately paid to the student. In addition, the \$100 registration fee is waived, avoiding any delay in registration.

The policy at UW-RF is to apply the Chapter 31 student's financial aid toward their tuition and not issue a refund until an actual government check is received by the cashier. Unfortunately for the veteran, this process may take weeks or months before payment is made.

"The voucher is as good as cash in hand," UW-Platteville veteran's rep, Ed Deneen said.

Not all UW-RF veterans have these problems and many had complementary things to say about the financial aid staff and the Veteran's Assistance Office.

"The vet's office has always treated me good," Wolfe said.

This semester has been especially troublesome for both students and financial aid staff as well. The Financial Aid Office has been plagued by problems converting to the eSIS system. This has added to the delay in payments.

Fortunately, action to correct the Chapter 31 payment problems quickly began once the problems were brought to the attention of Vice Chancellor Virgil Nylander, Financial Aid Director David Woodward and Lidia Mullenax, UW-RF certifying official.

According to a Nov. 20 email message from Woodward, a third-party payment system is being set up at UW-RF and personnel in the Accounts Receivable Office are working to refund the past due payments to the veterans.

However, veterans won't know if the problems have in fact been corrected until they register for the fall 2004-05 semester.

I-94 from A1

it corporation that brings together potential entrepreneurs and wealthy investors to lay groundwork for possible business startups.

"We just started the St. Croix Valley Angel networks," said Barb Nemecek, dean of College of Business and Economics at UW-RF. "It's being housed here on campus and operated through the Small Business Development Center so that entrepreneurs can work with directors from the SBDC as they prepare to present their cases to investment groups."

Angel Investors met Nov. 18 with entrepreneurs in River Falls, in a meeting Nemecek called "very promising."

The Angel Investment network, Lydecker said, is "an opportunity to bring people out of the Twin Cities and over to our side of the river."

"Our University is in a position to recruit out of the Twin Cities more easily than either Stout or Eau Claire," Lydecker said. "Not to selfishly keep it all here, but to sort of say, 'hey, come to Wisconsin.'"

This opportunity, Lydecker said, helps to unify the I-94 Corridor and

share in the resources and strengths that each university holds.

"Maybe they're going to be better near Menominee, where they have more the engineering-technical programs to locate there," Lydecker said. "Or maybe it's going to be in the health area where they'd be better off in Eau Claire, where they have the kinds of nursing programs that are going on."

Tom Still, president of the Wisconsin Technology Council, a science and technology advisor to the governor, also sees growth potential.

Still looks not only at the stretch between the Twin Cities and Eau Claire, but all the way to Chicago.

Calling the stretch the "IQ Corridor," Still likens the span between the two metropolitan areas to the tech-heavy region between Simi Valley, Calif. and San Diego.

Still noted Chippewa Falls' Cray Research, a supercomputing forefather and current industry leader, as one of the stepping stones along the corridor laden with "knowledge and tech-based" businesses.

Still said the areas comprising the I-94 Corridor have "everything needed to be successful," and the "area is poised to grow even more."

Stress from A1

"For me, exercise is a great way to de-stress," Rogers said. "I feel better physically, and more important I feel better, mentally. It makes me slow down and take things one at a time."

Siedschlag takes a more academic approach to relieving stress.

"I make a list of things I need to do each day," she said. "I feel I have accomplished something, which helps my productivity."

Siedschlag also said she rewards herself for completing everything on her stress checklist by taking a

night off to spend time doing things she enjoys.

While UW-RF students may be stressed about upcoming deadlines and the amount of work on their to-do lists, most seem to understand the concept of going with the flow.

"You can always be stressed out really," Rogers said. "You just have to keep things in perspective and learn to practice time management. Everything always works out in the end."

For tips on how to avoid getting behind in your end of the semester projects, visit the UW-RF Academic Success Center website: <http://www.uwrf.edu/academic-success/>

Insurance from A1

health insurance; I chose school," Marshal said.

Marshal got kicked off her parents insurance when she turned 23 and has not been able to afford it. She said she hasn't had any major health problems so far.

"If I did [have a health problem] I have no idea what I would do," Marshal said. "I would call home and beg my family for money."

UW-RF does not require students to carry insurance. But according to the UW-RF Health Services Web page, students are "strongly encouraged to carry health insurance."

The site also states that students with health insurance should check with their carrier to ensure coverage continues at college. Students should also carry their insurance cards with them.

The UW System has designed a health insurance plan especially for students attending universities and schools in the state.

"I'd be very surprised if students could find a better plan," said Alice Reilly-Myklebust, Director of Student Health Services.

Any student taking five or more credit hours is eligible and may enroll in the plan on a voluntary basis. This plan has many benefits because the River Falls clinic and hospital are both preferred providers, meaning they provide specific care at negotiated prices.

There isn't a local agency UW-RF goes through anymore, but the new company working with the UW System seems to be working out well.

"The company seems to be very responsive," Reilly-Myklebust said. "It's a voluntary plan; it's still not perfect."

Other students, like Tim Bowers, are paying for their own insurance.

Bowers, a senior dairy science major, has been paying for his own insurance through State Farm Insurance. Bowers said he has not had any problems paying for his own insurance, and that he's been lucky because he hasn't had any health problems yet.

Bowers said the government considers him to be wealthy enough to pay for his own insurance.

"I have not been claimed as a dependent of my parents for a long time," Bowers said. "Because they (Uncle Sam) said that I was making too much money."

Bowers said his insurance plan is working out well. His policy has a high deductible which translates

into a low payment for his insurance.

"For somebody in my situation I feel that it is the better way to go about getting insurance," Bowers said.

Students graduating in December or in the spring are starting to think about what they are going to do for health care as well.

Senior students, like Terri Ellman, are dealing with that harsh reality right now. Ellman, a speech communications major, said she is looking into insurance plans. Ellman is worried how expensive insurance is and how she is going to pay for it on her own.

"I'm freaking out," Ellman said. "I hope I can get a good job that offers decent insurance."

Students who pay for their own insurance need help if they don't want to go broke by the time they graduate. Students without insurance literally take their lives into their own hands.

Reilly-Myklebust suggests students call around, but also warns students to read everything because cheap coverage doesn't always mean good coverage.

Reilly-Myklebust stressed the importance of having health insurance.

"The thing with college students is they are young and healthy and don't think they need insurance," Reilly-Myklebust said.

Reality Check

Ever hear that...

71% of UWRF students have 0-5 drinks per week?

72.2% of UWRF students don't allow alcohol to interfere with their test performance or other class projects.

21% of UWRF students have not drunk in the past 30 days.

88.2% of UWRF students have never been in trouble with the police as a result of drinking.

The reality is, you heard right!

One drink = 1 beer, 1 mixed drink, OR 1 shot

UWRF Core Alcohol & Drug Survey Data ♦ March 2002

UWRF Student Health & Counseling Services

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EDITORIAL

I-94 corridor concept means opportunity

Many students, faculty and staff look at the interstate connecting UW-River Falls to the Twin Cities as an easy way to get to a wide variety of entertainment, shopping and job opportunities, among other things.

A look toward Madison tells the same story. On the front page of this week's Voice, however, Chancellor Ann Lydecker pointed out that what is coined the "I-94 corridor" could mean more for UW-RF than what most would ever imagine.

While most see the stretch of highway as a means of transportation and may hardly notice the changing surroundings as they travel from River Falls to Minnesota or the other side of Wisconsin, the economic possibilities waiting to be uncovered are extensive.

More than just open fields and larger cities, the I-94 stretch runs between nine counties, houses three state universities and also has some of the fastest population and economic growth in Wisconsin.

What this means for students is the potential for a plethora of job opportunities. For UW-RF in general, the incoming boom of business could mean more people in the workforce looking to continue their education. Put simply, more people in the area means more money for the University.

UW-RF isn't the only university in the area looking to take advantage of economic opportunities looming on the horizon. UW-

Stout and UW-Eau Claire chancellors have attended several meetings with Lydecker to discuss the opportunities.

Though the small-town feel River Falls possesses is something cherished by many, the unwillingness of people in the city to accept the inevitable—the growth of the Twin Cities—may hinder any kind of plans Lydecker and other administrators have on the drawing board.

Lydecker seems to embrace the idea of bringing businesses to the region. With those businesses come people looking to move where the jobs are. It's something the citizens of River Falls simply aren't ready to deal with. It's too bad, because they will have to learn to adjust quickly as urban sprawl becomes more of a reality. Actually, it is the reality already.

Lydecker said it best when she said UW-RF has a "labor force and a knowledge base. Plus there are a number of people who just like to live in an academic community."

In fact, several businesses are already taking advantage of the University, its students and the workforce graduating and staying in the area.

The sad thing is that while the Twin Cities is just a hop, skip and a job away, and a decent-sized campus lies within the heart of the city, River Falls continues to deny what could be an enormous asset to them as well.

People are in awe over how much money the Kansas City Chiefs' training camp brings to the area yet they are unwilling to see that other businesses would do the exact same thing.

The reality of the situation is that River Falls residents are unwilling to accept change. Twenty years ago most people here probably never would have thought they would be affected by growth from the Twin Cities. And that's understandable.

But times have changed and that means it's time to adjust. Many people at the University would more than likely love to keep the small-town feel they have grown to appreciate, but they know it's time to take advantage of what's bound to happen.

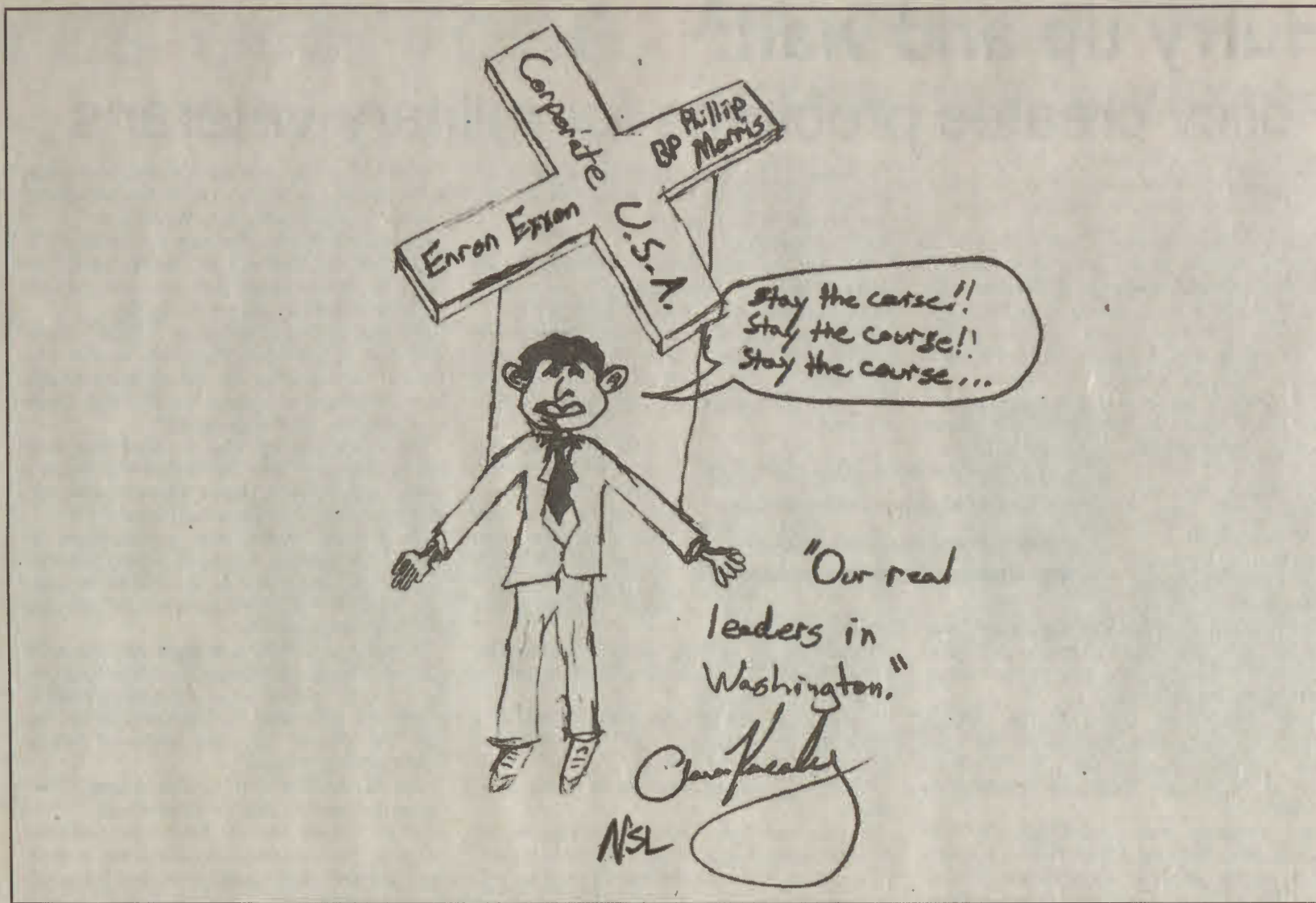
Things will definitely change, but, without a doubt, the changes will be beneficial for all.

"The sad thing is that while the Twin Cities is just a hop, skip and a job away, and a decent-sized campus lies within the heart of the city, River Falls continues to deny what could be an enormous asset to them as well."

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Student Senate meetings are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Regents Room of the Student Center. The Senate office is located in the Leadership Center. For more information about student governance call 425-3530 or 425-4911 or visit www.uwrf.edu/student-senate



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parrish sparks debate with abortion views

I was on campus at UW-RF recently and decided to pick up a copy of The Student Voice. While paging through the articles, I stopped in the Viewpoints section of the paper. As a proponent of free speech, I understand entirely the value of an opinions page. However, for every opinion, there should be a retort.

Mr. Andy Parrish wrote an article entitled, "Left might think right with womb tax." It focused on his own personal, and heavily conservative, view of "partial birth abortions." I wish to impose my view, as well as a handful of facts. First, I would like to know where Mr. Parrish gained his belief that "liberals believe that life does not begin until (the liberal government) can tax you." I state the obvious: taxes are a fact of life. But contrary to Mr. Parrish's beliefs, the conservative right has imposed more taxes on the middle class than the more liberal left. This is true in recent years, as well as under the reign of President Bush. In fact, our current president has asked for more than \$86 billion to pay for his little soiree in Iraq. Mr. Parrish noted that the "left" would like to tax a fetus inside a mother's womb to pay for such social issues as education. \$86 billion dollars would hire over 1.1 million teachers for a year. Clearly, with the quality of Mr. Parrish's article—more than 10 major grammatical errors—I believe education should be our nation's primary concern.

The "meat" of Mr. Parrish's article described what he, and others in the political right, have called a "partial birth abortion." Dr. Howard Dean, one of the democratic presidential candidates, states this:

"As a physician, I am outraged that President Bush has decided that he is qualified to practice medicine. There is no such thing in the medical literature as 'partial birth abortion.'" But there are times when doctors are called upon to perform a late-term abortion to save a woman's life. Today (Nov. 6, 2003) President Bush has made it a crime for a doctor to perform such...procedures when a woman's health is at stake."

These third-trimester, or late-term abortions, in fact are not a nationwide epidemic. Most states have laws against such abortions except in extreme cases when a woman's health is at stake. Bush, in his persistent efforts to overturn Roe vs. Wade, has made even the extreme circumstances illegal on the federal level. Eliminating a

woman's right to choose is unconstitutional under that Supreme Court decision.

My final concern with this opinion article is Mr. Parrish's graphic description of "how to be your own abortionist." I ask myself, "Is this really necessary?" If this is his way of trying to get his point across, it should not be done in a newspaper. If I wanted to discuss the war in Iraq, would the paper print a graphic description of the children and women shot by U.S. troops in the name of "freedom?" I think not. I close with a few simple thoughts...Do you want these conservative values pushed on you by people like our president and Mr. Parrish? Should a president practice medicine when he can't even use the English language properly? Should a newspaper print an article where their contributing writer fails in the same fashion as our president? Don't be led blindly. Stop and think. Showing the other side,

Aaron Cochran, student.

Andy Parrish would like to believe that all liberals are in support of partial birth abortion for any reason the mother wishes. First, I would like to point out that I am as liberal as you will find and I am against partial birth abortion and third term abortions as well, unless the mother's life or health is at risk. Being a big government liberal, I would rather put that decision in the hands of the Doctor, rather than let Congress tell him what to do. I am in favor of protecting the woman having the right to life as well. And I am not alone, in an ABC poll 50 percent of democrats said they are against partial birth abortions; 76 percent of republicans said the same. When asked to take into account the woman's health, 73 percent of democrats said they are in favor of protecting the mother, and 55 percent of republicans said the same. When asked why they voted against this bill, most said it was due to the lack of protection given to the life of the mother. Before you say is, yes, some protection was included, but many did not think it was enough. This would fall in line with what the majority of republicans and democrats believe. Also, I think it is fair to point out that this is not a common operation, a 2000 report by the Guttmacher Institute said less than two-tenths of one percent of abortions are partial birth abortions. The reason they are rare is

that no woman chooses to have an abortion just because they don't want to have a child. Also, it may be due to the fact abortion is, in fact, outlawed in most states in the third term under Roe vs. Wade. In a rare case, one doctor in Michigan was already charged for providing an abortion in the third trimester for a non-medical reason.

This article in more of a shallow attack and a cheap attempt to demonize liberals at the expense of a valid issue. Your points about taxing the baby to get liberal support is about as dumb as saying republicans would support it if they got a tax break. This article is nothing more than a rant against liberals with abortion as a shield. When given a chance to provide a piece on why we need to deal with these issues, Andy chose instead rhetoric and baseless attacks. Talking about what type of limits for the health and life of the mother would have been a far better issue. A look at the facts about when and if D&X (the medical term for this type of abortion) is needed, and if other forms of abortion common at other times may be affected by this law. Maybe a look at why three judges have already ruled the law illegal would have been more productive? But go ahead and just bash liberals and don't bother with facts; we liberals are used to it. And if you want to talk about taxes, why don't republicans just stop our debt spending? It's easy to cry about taxes when you just cut taxes and spend more and don't worry about debt.

Support our troops, vote out Bush.

Brian Dobbs, student

I would like to respond to Andy Parrish's article in the last issue of the paper. I understand that the article is an opinion piece, but several of the comments were neither opinion or fact. I am not talking about any of the graphic descriptions of an abortion, but am referring to several comments that are blatant untruths about liberals. Mr. Parrish made the following statements in his article: "Liberals believe that life does not begin until they can tax you," and "some people argue that this new partial birth abortion ban takes away their right to play God." These statements were so absurd that I thought the author must have been joking, but due to the inclusion of the detailed description of an abortion, I assumed he was being serious. The previously quoted state-

ments insinuate that at least some liberal believe them. I have listened to and read many political viewpoints, liberal and conservative, and have never heard anyone say or even imply either of those two statements. It should be preposterous for someone to argue that abortions should not be illegal because it would take away their right to play God or that life does not start until you are taxed. For the author to attribute these beliefs to anyone is equally as silly.

There are also two other statements made that I felt were deliberate misrepresentations of people's beliefs. There were, "I have to say to the anti-life crowd..." and "If we tax the baby...the left will fight to keep the baby alive instead of fighting to abort it." To call someone anti-life who is pro-choice is insulting and imbecilic. The common "with us or against us" attitude used is overly simplistic and naïve. There are myriad opinions from people who are pro-choice. You can be staunchly against ever getting an abortion yourself and still be in favor of keeping the procedure legal. This certainly does not make someone anti-life, but it is where the "choice" comes in. The majority of people who are pro-choice are not "for" abortion; they simply believe it is an individual's right to choose. This same logic works for the second quote: liberals do not strive to kill babies.

Mr. Parrish ended his article by saying "Support our troops, support our president and have a great conservative day." I would like to end this letter by saying, support our troops, question what the president (and every elected official) does, never blindly follow or believe all the rhetoric fed to you, and have a great day.

Torey Kauth, ITS Staff member

Don't hide behind chalk lines

We are college students, a logical people. It is no longer a battle over coolness with cardboard swords; it is a war for the mind. When we are insulted or our beliefs are dragged through mud, it does not make us second-guess ourselves. We shrug or revolt. We know that love is the answer. Whether or not we agree with what the sidewalk says, we do not want to ally ourselves with whoever wrote a mean statement simply because they were unlovely.

See LETTERS, A5

Student Voice

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

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

Letters concerning coverage or content should be directed to: Editorial Board, 304 North Hall, UW-River Falls, 54022.

The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper's adviser, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

All letters to the editor must be legible and contain a first and last name and phone number. Unsigned letters will not be published.

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

Letters to the editor become the property of the Student Voice and cannot be returned. Only one letter per person per week will be accepted. The student re-

tains reprint rights to all published material.

All letters to the editor, news releases and briefs, display ads, and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon for inclusion in Thursday's edition.

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Parking concerns everyone

Park is a four letter word, and in this town it seems to carry several negative connotations. While I'm sure everyone is tired of hearing about it, the parking situation has not been solved, rather, it continues to worsen. In fact, it's beginning to resemble a grudge match, with the students on one side and the citizens who live near the university on the other. Lucky for me, or perhaps unlucky, I have the minority perspective of being both a student and a resident who lives less than a mile from the college.

I am a citizen. I was born in the hospital where the public library now stands, have spent weekends, summers, and holidays on the farms of both sets of grandparents outside of town. I still remember when River Falls had only two stoplights—Main and Maple and Main and Cascade, I think—and directions to the Perkins included the words "the edge of town." I have always loved the small-town feel of this city and so my decision to move back here to attend college was not a difficult one.

I am also a student. My first year here was uneventful on the parking front. Being a dorm-dweller, I did not understand the challenge of being a commuter student. But time marches on and I moved out. Completely out of town, actually, and became one of the students who drive. What a shock it was to have to leave home a half-hour early just to ensure I found a place to park without being late to class.

I learned the University only has to provide parking for 1 in 3 students. It is assumed the rest will walk or not all have class at the same time. To drive (pardon the pun) this point home for non-students, imagine arriving at your place of work only to realize that they had moved



JAMIE NIELSEN

the employee parking lot three to five blocks away and there were only enough spaces for half of you at a time. By the way, to add insult to injury, the

"executive" lot stayed snugly next to the building. Better get a bike or start hoofing it.

This is what many students face every day, except now our "lot" is getting smaller and further away every semester. I tell myself that I don't care; I'm graduating. But I do care, because I think we're all smarter than this.

I've even heard a few good suggestions. Andy Parrish, fellow columnist and vocal opponent of UW-RF remaining in the United Council, suggested that rather than put approximately \$7,000 a year into the UC, we put that money in a high-interest fund to build a parking ramp in a few years and really alleviate the problem. For those of you who don't like the idea of such an eye-

sore, that money could also be used to buy some of the more derelict properties near campus and put up relatively inexpensive flat lots. We're going to need more lots sometime in the near future. Here's a way we can provide for ourselves without giving up more money and get something we really need rather than unisex bathrooms and renamed holidays.

We've also already learned that offering public transportation such as unheated trolleys with unpredictable stop times pale in comparison to winning the gamble that you may be able to snag a good spot near a building from the comfort of your warm car. Students want to have the dignity and convenience of driving themselves to where they want to go, just like the rest of you citizens do everyday.

The city and citizens of River Falls and the surrounding townships have done a wonderful job of planning for future growth—regulating housing and the types of business you want in your town. It seems it's only when a problem strikes at the very heart of the city, rather than at its edge, that everyone seems at a loss for a solution. However, as neighborhoods continue to practice the NIMBY—Not In My Back Yard—solution, the commuter car problem will eventually reach the city limits and then maybe we'll find a solution. Or maybe, we can all be the adults I know we are and find an answer before then.

Act will encourage justice, not hinder it

Our state legislature has the opportunity to put the safety and welfare of every Wisconsinite they represent in the hands of those very citizens—literally.

The Personal Protection Act, which Governor Doyle vetoed in the face of overwhelming legislative support, would allow trained persons 21 years old and older to carry concealed firearms.

Despite Doyle's veto, Congress might yet override his mistake. In fact, its wide-ranging congressional support makes an override almost tangible.

Congress should override Doyle's veto for many reasons.

Let's start with the democratic reason: The people want it. In a state where guns are deeply embedded in its culture, conceal and carry would find most Wisconsinites tripping over themselves to receive the required training. In fact, many may wonder aloud why the hell



ERIC GUADE

hanging; arming citizens against whackos and dealing out justice old West-style is often seen as an issue of taking

personal responsibility to them. Democrats fear people circumventing the legal system and taking justice into their own hands; they would much rather defer law enforcement to the police than chance vigilantism. But this is one instance where Democrats should put more emphasis on the civil liberty aspect of liberalism. Where's the liberals' distrust of power when they give only the government the right to carry guns?

Of course new issues of where to draw the line will come up if the Personal Protection Act becomes law. There would undoubtedly be cases where a victim skips the trial and fatally shoots an aggressor or where an aggressor is shot dead while trying to flee a citizen's custody. But these scenarios aren't much different than guilty men buying their freedom in court or when cops accidentally kill an uncooperative suspect.

Justice is always problematic. Society may strive for perfection, but no road to greater justice and security will be without the occasional pothole that will need patching.

Is it such a radical idea to give citizens an active role in their own security? Is it not worth a shot?

Is it such a radical idea to give citizens an active role in their own security?

ond incentive for Wisconsinites: more efficient/effective law enforcement. We live in a fairly rural state, even nowadays, so police duties often require cops to cover large expanses of the countryside—a situation where not even the best of the best could effectively do his or her job.

Finding a cop when you need one for those in urban areas can prove just as trying for a different reason: too few resources for too many people. Cops can't be everywhere at once, so there must be some sort of prioritizing that occurs. Now, do we want to put so many cops on

Two-bit wrongs won't make everything right

Growing up, one of the many important lessons I learned, as I'm sure many other people did, is that two wrongs don't make a right.

It apparently wasn't a lesson learned by everyone, however.

Recently, members and supporters of the Gender Equality Council decided to raise awareness about inequality in the workforce. The fact that women, on average, make less than men in the work field seemed a wrong they needed to right. Their solution was to sell ice cream bars in the Student Center at a price of \$1 for men and 75 cents for women.

Before I'm branded a sexist jerk, I feel it's necessary to preface what I'm about to say.

Women are entitled to equal pay and equal treatment in the workforce. They have every right to be respected on a professional level in their place of work, and they deserve equal treatment outside the work world.



KYLE WEAVER

Unfortunately, however, I refuse to believe that by asking males to pay an extra quarter for an ice cream bar, somehow the world will become a better, more equal place.

The whole concept of selling something to one person with the price based on their gender is discrimination per se.

In other words, the Gender Equality Council is trying to right a wrong with another wrong.

What if I and a group of friends were to sell candy or food to white people for one price but charge black people two-bits

more? What if we were to give Christians a special half-off deal on sandwiches, but made Jewish people pay full price? We'd surely be branded racist or anti-Semitic.

But when this group charges men more than women, it's called "equality," a concept embodied in their name.

That's the problem with America. Everyone thinks that they're owed something. Everyone is looking for a hand-out. They think that in order

to fix the world, we need to take from the haves and give to the have-nots.

Our country was founded on hard work and dedication, and if you want something you should earn it, not have it given to you.

Don't get me wrong, when someone is down and out, it is the most noble thing in the world to help them out. I believe very strongly in the concept of service. But not if my helping one cause or one person will put another down.

If I were someone who was down and out, I would be very appreciative of people who were willing to help me out. But I wouldn't expect them to. And I certainly wouldn't think that anyone owed it to me.

As I understand it, the profits from the ice cream bar sale are being given to a worthy cause. Whatever the cause, if I had been given an equal opportunity to contribute, I would have.

In the end, members of the Gender Equality Council would be better off heeding the advice of an old cliché: You can catch more flies with honey than you will with vinegar.

LETTERS from A4

ing. Even more so when we disagree. It reinforces our belief as in the right. If a person doesn't have love, then they cannot know truth.

A person who calls himself "anonymous" is a coward. Who is he arguing with? He doesn't know. Fists in the wind. He didn't fight a dragon, but instead he built the castle wall higher and left our damsel Reconciliation sleeping in the tower. Easily done.

If you want to make a real change, find a human being. Discuss, argue, try to come to some logical consensus. You gyp yourself out of a different perspective when you don't do this, and gyp your friends out of gaining your greater wisdom. The sidewalk should be used for advertising or a positive thought—that poem on the wall outside KFA was wonderful—but not to ruin someone's day. If you believe something so strongly, stand to be refuted. What you accomplish with sidewalk chalk is hit-and-run, and should show you that you are afraid. Maybe just of being wrong.

Beth Werning, student

Safety still vital in small towns

Between Thanksgiving break and our winter vacation we are all very busy. Between our upcoming finals and the prospect of a rewarding break from the daily grind of school, some things get overlooked. As you may have heard, the Minneapolis television station, WCCO, came to our campus to test residence hall security. Unfortunately, the report found several lapses.

Whether we like it or not, changes will come to River Falls. Life in the residence halls will change. You may have heard news around campus; a 24-hour lockdown could very well be enforced this coming semester. Students at River Falls need to be heard. Hopefully many of you attended the open forums to discuss campus security earlier this week. It's critical that students voice their opinions, especially with difficult issues like residence hall security.

Believe it or not, we as a student body have a powerful voice. Each student living in a residence hall has two wing representatives to hall council. I strongly urge you to express your opinions to your wing representative. Each hall also has a

residence living representative. These representatives have the power to influence life in the residence halls themselves.

Student Senate will take action with residence hall security. As a group that exists to serve the student body, it is important that we act on this issue. However, it is difficult to do anything without hearing from our student population. I hope you take the time to look over the list of senators in the paper. Find one of us, whether it is in a class or in your hall, and let us know how you feel about the changes coming to our campus.

Regardless if we like it or not, changes will come to our small campus. I hope we all get our voices heard to ensure River Falls is a safe campus, but not at the expense of the independence and fun that college is supposed to be.

Joe Eggers, Student Senate

Reciprocity, UC appreciated

I do not understand why your cartoon in the recent Student Voice shows United Council giving money to irrelevant issues. Were it not for reciprocity, I, as well as

many other students, sure as hell would not be going to school here, or probably at all. When reciprocity was threatened a couple years ago I was prospecting what life would be like without college. Thanks to UC I will soon be a college graduate. Sounds to me like my \$1.35 saved me \$3000 and a fair chance in the job market.

Kevin Stanke, student

Political freedom starts in class

Very few students give a second thought to what they are being taught in class. Unfortunately, some professors are allowing political bias to influence their own teaching curriculum. To help create a more neutral environment letters were sent to professors who demonstrated bias that caused certain students to feel uncomfortable in expressing their views. The suggestions in these letters were based on guidelines set by a national student organization known as Students for Academic Freedom. This group fights to dissolve bias within college classrooms in hope of creating a neutral learning environment. Some pro-

fessors, however, misunderstood the meaning of the requests in the letters and viewed them as personal attacks. This was not intentional at all.

First, I would like to thank those who took the time to read these letters. Students have already noticed changes in the classroom, but there is still work to do. For those who disagree, I offer the following. Professors and students alike are more than welcome to present their opinions in class and should be able to do so without repercussion. If professors choose to voice their opinion on a topic, it should be made clear that it is simply an opinion and the topic should be open to other interpretations. If students are not exposed to other interpretations, students may not seek out more information and determine what they feel is true.

Second, under no circumstances should a politically based view be presented as fact in a class curriculum unless it is accompanied by opposing political viewpoints. Certain professors have exhibited more liberal teachings including statements such as a negative income tax and credits would be a good solution to poverty. Some have also allowed their bias to influence grading on papers that deal with issues in the political

realm. Other situations include presenting controversial videos in class that have nothing to do with the class curriculum and inviting speakers who have very bias political views without selecting persons with opposite views.

The responsibility does not fall entirely on the professor. As students, we also have a role in creating neutral classrooms. We should all be aware of bias. Stating opinions in the class is not an example, but if that opinion is presented as fact then it could be considered bias. We also need to help ensure that disputes and opinions in class are presented in a professional manner. It's up to us to bring concerns forward. Professors will not know there's a problem unless someone speaks up.

Bias has been evident not only in political science, but in other departments as well including economics, English and history. We pay for the education we receive and should expect well-balanced information from every class. In closing, I ask that professors do their part to keep bias out of their classes and students keep a watchful eye to ensure that each class remains a neutral and respectful environment.

Matt Wolf, student

How are you dealing with the stress of your first semester of finals?



Jeff Molander, freshman

"I haven't really needed to yet. I'm doing OK. I haven't had to write any papers yet, I got easy stuff."



Kate Sorenson, freshman

"I've already started studying. I have two cumulative finals and four regular tests. I've basically cut out all social activities for the next two weeks in order to study."



Cary Cardinal, freshman

"I haven't thought about it much. A bunch of papers I have to write are stressful. Procrastination but I still have to get it done."



Kyle Borley, freshman

"I'm more stressed out about the Packers right now than the finals. I've worked hard enough this semester, I either have it or I don't. I have faith in my work."



Kathy King, freshman

"I'm not stressing out over finals. I put my work in through the semester so I don't have to worry about finals. None of them are cumulative either."

PHOTO POLL
by Eric Ebert

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Section B

UW-RF Hockey alumnus gives back to program

Mike Foley
Sports Editor

A former UW-River Falls hockey player and alumnus donated a state-of-the-art digital video analysis system worth \$20,000 to the men's hockey program last summer.

Doug Cole, a Falcon goalie from 1981 to 1985, found success on and off the rink since he arrived at UW-RF. He won a NAIA national championship for the school in 1983 and played in several leagues in Canada, the United States and Europe. Now he works for XOS Technology selling and maintaining the Video Enhanced Game Analysis (VEGA) system for hockey.

"The software breaks the game down," Cole said. "It logs video, telestrates and can do almost anything as far as breakdown. Then you can show it to the team. You can move it frame by frame or move it forward or backward."

What makes VEGA so valuable to professional and collegiate teams is how it allows coaches and team video techs to sift through hours of game or practice tape with a few clicks of a mouse. Some professional hockey teams use VEGA with live cameras to tag video during a game so coaches and players can see it and make adjustments during intermissions or on the bench during live play.

"My customers are the San Jose Sharks, the Vancouver Canucks, the Calgary Flames ... we have about 13 NHL teams using our stuff," Cole said. "In a year and a half we have taken over the NHL market and now we have the lionshare of the NHL teams."

Though many professional teams opt to spend millions of dollars on much more elaborate systems, the Falcons will use the VEGA system in connection with their regular film sessions to show area the team needs to work on as well as bright spots. Not only will this donation bring UW-RF men's hockey into the digital age, but it will also save Falcon head coach Steve Freeman the pain of reviewing hours of tape.

"I go through the whole tape and then I take out clips of areas we need to work on," Freeman said.

"It's very time consuming, because we have to skip through the regular parts of the game. It may only be an hour of tape, but it takes between three and four hours to cut a tape down."

VEGA will allow Freeman to cut his analyzing time down to a fraction of what it has been in the past.

"It will save us a lot of time and streamline a lot of the things we do," Freeman said. "With this new system, we're able to tag the tape to find the things we need and pause things quicker just by hitting a button."

The system isn't set up perfectly yet, but Freeman is working with team manager Nick Siergiej to get the system up and running and find the best way to incorporate the technology into the team's capabilities and philosophy.

Through the season, Freeman will still be reviewing his tapes the way

"A couple years ago Steve asked me to talk to the team after a game. I told them that these four years will go by so fast that you won't even get it. It's important that you save things for later — when you get to be 30, 40 years old and you look back."

Doug Cole
UW-RF alumnus

maybe another coach came in, I could protect my company."

Not only is Cole donating a \$20,000 system to the UW-RF, but he is also giving his time and energy to support and service the system. Cole estimates that the support he gives is worth about \$5,000 per year. Oftentimes, Cole makes it to River Falls when he goes to St. Paul to support the Minnesota Wild's VEGA equipment.

Coming back to UW-RF and seeing the school's hockey players of today is a breath of fresh air for the man who proudly displays his old Falcon jersey in his office. He said giving the VEGA system and his support service to the university is his way of giving back.

Cole grew up in British Columbia and started playing hockey when he

See COLE, B4

Throwing in the towel

Offense absent as men fall to UW-SP for the 18th consecutive time, 56-38

Eric A. Page
Assistant Sports Editor

If the UW-River Falls men's basketball team was the favorite going into their showdown at UW-Stevens Point Wednesday night, they didn't seem to realize it.

In what their coach called a performance lacking heart and soul the Falcons (2-3, 0-1 WIAC) were put to sleep by the No. 2 ranked Pointers (4-0, 1-0) 56-38 in the conference opener for both teams.

The Falcons were picked by the conference sports information directors as the preseason favorite to win the WIAC.

The four-time defending champion Pointers showed Wednesday night that they have no intention of surrendering their crown.

A swarming Pointer defense forced nearly as many first half turnovers (12) as they allowed points (16).

A lackadazical Falcon offense was content to pass the ball around the three-point line until they were forced to take bad shots against the shot clock. The result was a season-low shooting percentage of 33 percent.

"I am disappointed with the lack of emotion and heart," Falcon coach Rick Bowen said following the loss. "That has to come down to coaching and I have to look back at myself."

While Pointer coach Jack Bennet, who has never lost to Bowen's Falcons, said that his team "couldn't play any better defense than they had played," the teams offense was far from dazzling.

As a team, the Pointers shot only 41 percent but they made twice as

many free throws (12) as the Falcons attempted.

Despite all the Pointers' statistical advantages, which included a 31-28 advantage on the boards, the Falcons were never out of the game.

They were also never in it.

"We played terrible and yet we were only down 12 with nine minutes left and we had the ball," Bowen said. "One three and a little change and we're right in it. My guys couldn't figure that out."

Rich Melzer, who came into the game averaging 29.8 points was held to only seven. That broke a 57-game streak of scoring in double figures that dated back to the All-American's sophomore season.

"Rich is a streaky guy," Bowen said. "When he hits a few he is going to hit a lot more, but when he misses a few he gets in his own head a little bit."

Melzer's usually strong supporting cast was also silenced as no Falcon players were able to break into double digits.

The Pointers were led by Jason Kalsow, who scored 17 points and pulled down 14 rebounds, while going head-to-head with Melzer.

"Stevens Point made a statement tonight," Bowen said. "You look at the paper tomorrow and say 'Man, they kicked our butt.'"

"We were primed for a big ball game tonight, and I am disappointed that we didn't show up."

The Falcons open their home season against defending WIAC tournament champion UW-Oshkosh Saturday at 7 p.m. at Karges Center.

"We were primed for a big ball game tonight, and I am disappointed that we didn't show up."

Rick Bowen

Men's basketball coach



Photo by Eric A. Page

Falcon All-American Rich Melzer buries his face in a towel late in the second half of the Falcons 56-38 loss at UW-Stevens Point on Wednesday night. Melzer was held to seven points, the first time in 57 games he hasn't reached double figures.

No. 5 Pointers embarrass Falcon women's basketball team, 94-50

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls women's basketball team fell behind 56-9 to No. 4 ranked UW-Stevens Point en route to a 94-50 loss to open their WIAC season.

The second half was played to nearly a draw as the Falcons managed to put 36 points on the board to the Pointers 37, but the damage had already been done.

Fifteen Falcons players saw court time with 10 playing more than 10 minutes.

Megan Lindman scored 11 points and grabbed five rebounds to lead the Falcons. She was the only Falcon to score in double figures.

Sarah Kochevar and Gina Astedt each chipped in with five boards as well. Amber Sickels scored nine points while leading scorer Erin Effle was held to only four points in 18 minutes of action.

Last week, four Falcon players, led by Effle's 18 points, scored in double figures to help lead the Falcons to a 72-67 win at Bethel Nov. 25.

Besides Effle's 18 points, Darcy Olsen and Sickels each scored 12 and Traci Reimann added 10. Effle led the Falcons with 10 rebounds.

Chantele Melgaard led the team with four assists and she scored six points. They won the game at the line, going 24-31 (.774). The Falcons were 22-52 (.423) from the field, including 4-12 from three-point range. The Falcons had a 39-26 advantage in rebounding. Every Falcon who played picked up at least one rebound.

Bethel was led by Katie Stensrud and JoLynn Thielke who both scored 14 points.

The Falcons, now 3-1 overall, will host UW-Oshkosh at the Karges Center Saturday with action starting at 5 p.m.

Women's hockey nets 14 goals in two home games

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls women's hockey team found some offensive firepower in sweeping a two-game

series from Lake Forest Nov. 21 and 22 at Hunt Arena.

The Falcons scored 14 goals and allowed just one in 5-1 and 9-0 NCHA wins over the Foresters.

The two wins are the first of the

year for the Falcons in NCHA play. They now stand 2-2 in league play and they are 5-4 overall.

In Saturday's win, the Falcons exploded for five second-period goals.

UW-RF led 1-0 after one and 6-0 after two. Lou Paulson scored the first goal of the game at 19:05 of the first period with Nicole Magnuson and Lindsay Carlson assisting. The Falcons scored three goals in just under three minutes of the second period. Lindsay O'Keefe blocked a shot at the blue line and picked up the loose puck and scored on a breakaway at 7:57 while the Falcons were skating short handed. At 9:32 Kelly Hurley scored with an assist to Leah Baron. At 10:23 Magnuson scored with assists to Paulson and Carlson. The Falcons added two more goals in about a minute later in the period. At 17:35 Magnuson scored again with an assist to Carlson and Carlson scored at 18:56 with assists to Magnuson and Paulson.

See HOCKEY, B4



Photo by Mike Foley

Freshman forward Kelly Hurley goes five hole on the Lake Forest goaltender to net her second goal of the season during a five-goal second period Nov. 22 at Hunt Arena.

Men's hockey team outlasts Gustavus to remain unbeaten

Freeman to remain with goalie-go-round in NCHA play

Mike Foley
Sports Editor

The UW-River Falls men's hockey jumped to a fast start and held off Gustavus Adolphus at Hunt Arena Tuesday night to remain unbeaten.

In the first period, Matt Elsen scored a power-play goal at 6:02 off an assist from Jim Murphy. A little later, at 7:34, Jamie Steinert netted the Falcons' second goal from Tyler Kostiuik and Jess Johnson.

"We were really controlling play up to that point," Falcon head coach Steve Freeman said. "We had a lot of jump in our legs. We got control of the puck and got a lot of turnovers in the offensive zone. At times we're a real dominant team, but what we have to work on is our consistency."

Gustavus cut the lead in half less than a minute later at 8:32, but in the final minute of the period, Johnson scored a goal to put the Falcons up by two again. Assists went to Kostiuik and Nate Hansen.

Late in the second period, the

Gusties knotted the game with two quick goals within 1:04.

"They got a goal and we sat back on our heels a little bit," Freeman said. "Then they got another one when a guy came off the bench and we didn't pick him up. They had us thinking too much. We weren't playing our game and just watching them play."

Six seconds before the period ended, Aaron Degerness put the game winner past the Gustie goaltender unassisted.

"We always talk about pounding right to the buzzer no matter what," Freeman said. "We gave them an extra shift at the end of the period and it turned out to be the right move for us. They were playing so well in the offensive zone and they moved the puck real nice. Deger had a lot of patience and he beat the goaltender."

After the offense got the lead at the end of the second, the goaltender showed his patience to ice the game. Falcon goalie Dan Meneghin raised his record to 5-0.

UW-RF put 33 shots on goal while the Gusties sent 28 shots on Meneghin. The sophomore goalie will still split time with first-year Falcon Andy Scanlon as the team begins league play.

"I think Andy has earned the opportunity to play," Freeman said. "He played very well every chance he has gotten. He'll continue to play and we have confidence in him. Dan has experience from playing last season and we have room for both of them."

UW-RF (8-0-1) now prepares for two NCHA foes this weekend - UW-Stevens Point (6-3-1) and UW-Eau Claire (9-1).

"These are games that really count," Freeman said. "We're playing for two points every night. We have lofty goals this year. We want to be in the top couple in the NCHA for sure, and that starts this weekend."

The Falcons face the Pointers on Dec. 5 and the Blugolds on Dec. 6. Action starts at 7 p.m. both nights at Hunt Arena.



Falcons tip off season with new faces, offense



Photo by Mike Foley

Falcon junior forward Erin Effle skies over her opponent to control the opening tip of the UW-RF women's basketball season at Karges Center Nov. 21. Last year Effle led the team in scoring with 1.89 points per game and rebounding with seven per game.

Sports Information UW-River Falls

The Falcon women's basketball team is anxious to start its 2003-04 season because several key players are returning, and the Falcons want to get back to the winning ways they've experienced in previous seasons.

"We have a lot of new faces this year," Falcon coach Cindy Hovet said. "We will play a different style this year. We have players who can help on the inside and outside which will make us more balanced. We want to play up-tempo and pressure teams defensively. And our depth is better."

Guard Darcy Olsen and forward Erin Effle will be two of the team's leaders this year. Both earned honorable mention to the All-WIAC team last year as sophomores.

Effle was the team's top rebounder for the second straight year averaging seven per game. Effle also led the Falcons in scoring with a 12.8 average. She scored in double figures in 18 of the team's 25 games and started the season scoring in double digits in the team's first nine contests. She had double digits in rebounds in six games. Effle led the Falcons in field goals made (116) and was second in free throws made (49). She tied for the team lead in offensive rebounds (48) and was the

top defensive rebounder (113). She had a career-high 14 three-pointers during the year. Effle was third in blocked shots (12) and fourth in steals (32).

Olsen is the team's point guard and will look to run the Falcon offense. Last year she led the Falcons in free throw percentage (.848) and assist-to-turnover ratio (.89). She set career highs in points (25), rebounds (9), assists (8) and steals (6) during the 2003.

Her 10.1 scoring average was second on the team. She averaged more than 35 minutes a game last year, a team high.

The return of a healthy Amber Sickels to the lineup will be a big plus for the Falcons. She played and started in only nine games last year before an injury kept her out of the lineup the rest of the season. She was averaging 9.4 points and 3.8 rebounds a game before the injury.

Chantele Melgaard stepped in and

played in every game and started 16 for the Falcons last year. She averaged 7.2 points and 4.8 rebounds a game. She averaged 28 minutes a game and will be looked upon for the same type of minutes and performance this year.

Miranda Biteler played in 15 games for the Falcons last year with almost four points and two rebounds per outing. In a five game stretch she scored 49 points, had 20 rebounds, 11 assists and nine steals.

Concetta Smith is the only senior on the roster. Her consistent strength on defense and rebounding should prove beneficial for the Falcons.

With one senior and only four juniors on the roster, the Falcons are a young team.

Three sophomores and 11 freshmen make up the rest of the team.

"We're looking for leadership from our returning players," Hovet said. "Our freshmen should be good players and I'm excited to get to see them in games."

2003-04 WIAC Preseason Predictions

(By the WIAC
Sports Information Directors)

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



Photo by Mike Foley

Miranda Biteler runs a gauntlet teammate highfives as she is introduced as a Falcon starter in the season opener Nov. 21 at Karges Center. Last year Biteler played in 15 games for UW-RF.

Swim teams compete against WIAC

Sports Information UW-River Falls

The UW-River Falls men's and women's swimming teams competed in the WIAC Relays at UW-La Crosse Nov. 22.

The Falcon men placed sixth with 40 points and the women placed sixth with 26 points. Stevens Point won the men's title with 144 points followed by La Crosse 138, Oshkosh 76, Eau Claire 60 and Whitewater 56. The La Crosse women placed first with 160 points followed by Stevens Point 116, Eau Claire 98, Oshkosh 64 and Whitewater 58.

For the men, the 200 free relay team placed third. Falcons in the event were Ryan Smaagard, Ryan Hawke, Jon Jarvis and Brandon VanVleet. They finished in 1:31.14.

For the women, the 400 medley team of Abby Olson, Rachel Clark, Laura Schultz and Kelly Deters placed fifth in 4:28.37. The 200 free relay team of Deters, Clark, Lucy Williams and Schultz also laced fifth in 1:49.06.

The Falcons will next compete in the UW-Oshkosh Titan Invitational Dec. 5-6.

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EAU CLAIRE

UW-Eau Claire returns 12 letterwinners, including three starters from a club that completed the conference slate without a loss, claimed the league tournament title and finished third in the NCAA Division III Tournament. Fourth-year head coach Tonja Englund, the reigning NCAA Division III National Coach of the Year, hopes to continue that success during the 2003-04 campaign.

Senior forward/center Becca Spaeth headlines the returnees after earning All-WIAC First Team recognition last year. She averaged 12.5 points and 6.5 rebounds per game with a team-best 38 blocks and ranked sixth in the conference with a 51.4 field goal percentage. Joining Spaeth on the front line is senior Brooke Wozniak-Schmidt, an All-WIAC Defensive Team selection a year ago. Wozniak-Schmidt led the league with 10.3 rebounds per contest and added 6.8 points per game. She also set the school single-season record for rebounds with 350.

The lone returning starter in the backcourt is junior guard Katie Murphy. A three-year starter, Murphy has started 59 of 60 games in her career. She led the league with a 46.0 three-point field goal percentage a year ago, while placing fourth with 3.21 assists per game and seventh with 2.29 steals per contest.

Also returning are seniors Toya Banks and Laura Tamm, juniors Joanna Leafblad and Emilee Planert and sophomores Rachel Becke, Megan Hanson, Kelly Liner and Jill Van Dysek. This group will give the Bluegolds depth and provide leadership from last season's NCAA Tournament run.

Notable new faces in the program this year are Augustana (South Dakota) transfer Jessica Dickey, a junior, and freshmen Amanda Eisold, Ashley Fall and Liz Krieg.

LA CROSSE

UW-La Crosse returns 11 letterwinners and three starters from last year, along with seven newcomers for head coach Lois Heeren.

The club returns a strong nucleus at guard, including seniors Amanda Cushman, Leah Marx and Lindsey Wilder. Cushman has started 54 games in her three-year career and finished third in the WIAC with 2.42 steals per game and ninth with 2.77 assists last season. Marx has played in all 50 games since transferring from Carthage and averaged 4.1 points and 2.0 rebounds per contest a season ago. Wilder played in all 26 games last season with 19 starts and contributed 4.1 points and 3.0 rebounds per game.

Depth should be strong at the guard position as five letterwinners return. Juniors Yasmin Johnson, Jana Merchlewitz, Jaclyn Powell and Katie Krueger, along with sophomore Shawna Koss will be back. Johnson has started 42 of 51 games in her two-year career, including 24 of 26 games a year ago when she averaged 6.9 points and 2.3 rebounds. Merchlewitz averaged 3.5 points and 1.3 rebounds last year, while Powell was at 2.0 points and 1.9 assists per game. Krueger played in 12 games, while Koss participated in 10 contests before missing the remainder of the season with an injury.

UW-La Crosse will miss Karen Berg (graduated) and Amy Greil (studying overseas) in the frontcourt, but three letterwinners do return in 2003-04. Junior Leah LeFebvre and sophomores Shuron Devine and Leslie Matson all saw action a year. Devine played in 11 games, while Matson played in 16 games, but missed the last 10 with an injury and averaged 7.0 points and 3.0 rebounds per contest.

Sophomore transfer Erica Lundberg, along with freshmen Abby Johnson, Karrie Lamers, Nicole Palmer, Katy Searing, Emily Skaj and Brooke Whitcher will join the UW-La Crosse roster this year.

OSHKOSH

Every year there is a hole to fill here, a question mark there, but one thing that remains constant for those associated with the UW-Oshkosh women's basketball program is their expectation of another high-powered season.

UW-Oshkosh has been a pillar of success, both at the conference and national levels, since its inaugural 1971-72 season. The Titans have captured one NCAA Division III championship, claimed nine WIAC titles, made 10 NCAA Division III Tournament appearances, posted 16 20-win seasons and been victorious in 603 of their 796 games played.

Under the guidance of eighth-year head coach Pam Ruder (160-34 record), UW-Oshkosh looks to build upon its history of success this season. UW-Oshkosh's WIAC ranking last season marked the 14th straight year that it had placed in the top three of the nine-team league derby.

Topping the list of eight returning veterans for the Titans is senior forward Kay Mikolajczak, who gained All-WIAC First Team accolades last season after averaging 13.4 points and a team-leading 7.6 rebounds per contest. Mikolajczak, who has started 40 games for UW-Oshkosh over the past two seasons, paced the WIAC in steals last year by averaging 2.74 per game. She also ranked third in the WIAC in blocked shots at 1.41 per game, fifth in free throw percentage at 82.8 and sixth in field goal percentage at 51.6.

The Titans also return four other players who averaged 14-plus minutes on the hardwood last season in senior guard Alison Cesnovar, junior forward Abby Holler, senior guard Michele Rosicky and junior guard Laurie Turtenwald.

PLATTEVILLE

UW-Platteville recorded its first winning season in a decade a year ago, and the Pioneers will attempt to fly even higher with three returning all-conference players.

Forward Tiff Flesch earned All-WIAC First Team honors despite missing the last seven games with a knee injury. She averaged 13.3 points and 8.6 rebounds per game last year. Fellow seniors Katie Friss (7.8 points per game) and Angie Sisson (11.4 points per game) were honorable mention picks and will anchor the backcourt. Junior Shannon Boatman transferred from Clarke (Iowa) and had an immediate impact at center, averaging 9.0 points and 6.7 rebounds per contest, while shooting 55.2 percent from the floor.

Six talented sophomores return for head coach Dennis Dunbar, including point guard Emily Adrian (2.3 points per game), who started 13 games, and forward Rachel Korth (4.2 points per game), who started six times. Forwards Stacy Carlson, Michelle Hardyman and Holly Kaiser and guard Abby Lalko also saw considerable action as freshmen.

WIAC Hoops

P R E V I E W

By WIAC Sports Information Directors

MADISON, Wis., — University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, which last won a conference title during the 1986-87 season, is favored to win the 2004 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) women's basketball championship, according to the league's sports information directors.

The Pointers, who have compiled a 72-14 record over the last three seasons and have won more national championships (two) than league titles (one), received six of nine first-place votes in the conference

poll.

UW-Eau Claire, which advanced to the Final Four of the NCAA Division III Tournament a year ago and has won three of the last four league crowns, obtained the remaining three first-place votes in the league survey and is expected to finish second.

UW-Oshkosh is picked to finish third in the conference race. The Titans have advanced to the championship game of the WIAC Tournament in four of the five seasons the league has held the event.

STOUT

A little tweak here, a little tweak there, combined with a strong group of returners who have seen a great deal of success should key UW-Stout for another run at the top conference spot this year under head coach Mark Thomas, who enters his 17th season.

UW-Stout, which averaged a conference-high 79.5 points a year ago, returns seniors Laura Verdegan, Sara Kahl, Jessie Herrman and Bonnie Thor, along with juniors Erin Churchill, Lindsey Erichsen and Jackie Ellsworth and sophomores Steffanie Nemitz and Molly Hendricks to lead the squad's fast paced attack.

Verdegan, an All-WIAC First Team and All-Defensive Team pick who is also a track All-American in the long jump and triple jump, averaged 10.7 points and a team-high 6.3 rebounds a year ago, while leading the league with a 56.7 field goal percentage. Kahl averaged 9.9 points and 4.3 rebounds per contest, while Herrman seems to be fully recovered from a season-ending knee injury two years ago and brings a point guard mentality to a wing guard spot.

Churchill ranked third in the conference with 3.48 assists per game and chipped in 7.1 points and 4.4 rebounds last season. Erichsen is a two-time All-WIAC Honorable Mention pick and led the team in scoring with 11.7 points per contest and added 5.3 rebounds a year ago. Ellsworth has battled injuries over the past three years, missing parts or all of two seasons due to injury, but looks to be ready at a guard spot.

Nemitz and Hendricks added quality minutes a year ago, with Nemitz hauling in 4.0 rebounds and averaging 6.3 points. A large group of first-year players will figure into the line-up that generally sees 15 or more players into a game.

SUPERIOR

UW-Superior hopes to change their fortunes from last season with several quality returnees, plus a strong recruiting class for eighth-year head coach Sandy Eilertsen.

Leading the returning players are juniors Lindsey Anderson, Kati Galovich and Stephanie Janigo. Anderson started 23 of 24 games for the Yellowjackets a year ago and ranked 10th in the league with 12.5 points per game and shot 39.6 percent from the field and 30.1 percent from three-point territory.

Galovich was the only player on the club to start all 24 contests last season. She ranked sixth in the league with 2.88 assists per contest and chipped in 7.4 points per game and a team-high .700 free throw percentage. Janigo ranked second on the team in both scoring and rebounding with 9.7 points and 5.8 rebounds per game while starting 23 games.

Sophomore Molly Ray was third on the club with 8.1 points per game in 21 starts and senior Jodie Johnson chipped in 5.1 points per game. Junior Abby Glawe participated in 18 contests last year and sophomore Lane Lyons saw action in 23 games. Senior Kelly Krieg and junior Kalyn Semmerling will add depth to the Yellowjacket squad this year.

The Yellowjackets will have four transfers on the roster this season, including Kristina Higgins of St. Scholastica (Minn.), twin sisters Shannon and Shawna Johannes (Rainy River Community College) and Katie Moench (Northland). New freshmen faces include freshmen Michelle Adams, Melissa Dreger and Diana Schoenborn, while Taylor Duffy returns after missing last season due to injury.

WHITEWATER

Head coach Keri Carollo begins her second season at UW-Whitewater, with her first full year of recruiting and preparation under her belt. With just one senior and as many as a dozen first-year players making up most of the roster, Carollo hopes the new faces on the squad learn quickly and she can begin building her team.

Junior forwards Nya Geschke, Jamie Carollo (no relation to Keri), Sara Immel and Julie Nommensen, as well as guard Leah Thyne will make up the nucleus of the 2003-04 club. Geschke ranked fourth in the league with 14.0 points per game and a 52.7 field goal percentage, while placing eighth with an 80.0 free throw percentage. Carollo tallied nine starts and ranked second on the team with 5.4 rebounds per contest.

Immel started 14 games last year and ranked second on the team with 49 assists and added 3.0 points per contest, while Nommensen played in 11 games before an injury ended her season.

Thyne returns as the team's backcourt leader after starting all but one game last season. She ranked seventh in the conference with an 81.7 free throw percentage, while placing eighth with 2.84 assists per game and was third on the club with 8.7 points per contest.

Senior forward Liz Klusman will provide depth and experience to the squad after playing in 21 games and contributing 3.5 points per contest a year ago. Amy Morris represents the sophomore class and chipped in 8.2 points per game during the 2002-03 campaign.

Tvrdik, Brune named All-Americans

Sports Information
UW-River Falls

Falcon volleyball players Melissa Tvrdik and Krystle Brune have been named 2003 AVCA All-Americans.

Tvrdik, a middle hitter, was named to the first team and Brune, an outside hitter, was named to the third team. The teams are picked by the AVCA Div. III All-America committee comprised of coaches from across the nation. The awards will be presented on Dec. 4 at the NCAA Div. III women's National Championship banquet at the Ontario, Calif., Convention Center. The banquet is held in conjunction with the Div. III national championships, which is being played this year at the University of La Verne.

This is just one of many post-season awards that Tvrdik has won. Earlier this year Tvrdik was named

to the AVCA All-Midwest region team, to the first All-WIAC unit, she was named the WIAC's Player of the Year and named the WIAC volleyball Scholar-Athlete.

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

Tvrdik is one of UW-RF's top career players. She is currently third in career kills (1,191), fifth in career kill attempts (2,648), second in career kill percentage (.325) and second in career block assists (329). UWRF is 112-41 during her four-year career. UW-RF has won two WIAC titles (2002, 2003) and competed in the NCAA Div. III tournament in 2000 and 2003. She has had double digits in kills in 68 of 111 career matches played. She had dou-

ble digit kills and double digit digs in seven career matches.

This season she was the UW-RF Player of the Week four times and was the WIAC Player of the Week once. She led team in kill percentage (.347), solo blocks (19), block assists (120) and total blocks (139). She had a career high 14 digs against Nebraska-Wesleyan (Oct. 10) and Whitewater (Sept. 20). Tvrdik had double digit kills in 30 of 39 matches and had double digit kills and digs in six matches.

In 2002, she was named the team's Most Valuable Offensive Player and was named to the All-WIAC first team. She was named to the AVCA All-Midwest Region team and then was named to the AVCA second All-American team. She was named the UW-RF Player of the Week four times. Tvrdik led team in kill percentage (.345), solo blocks (17),

block assists (116), and total blocks (133). She had her career high kill match (21) vs. Trinity on Oct. 26, 2002 and had double digit kills in 24 of 39 matches. She had double digit kills and digs once.

In 2001, she was named the team's Most Valuable Player and was given honorable mention to the All-WIAC squad. She was named the UWRF Player of the Week three times. She led the Falcons in kill percentage (.261), solo blocks (14), block assists (97) and total blocks (111). She had double digit kills in 14 of 33 matches.

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

Tvrdik is the second women's volleyball student-athlete in school history to receive the WIAC's top scholastic honor, joining Melissa

See VOLLEYBALL, B4

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SCOREBOARD

Men's Hockey

NCHA Standings

	W	L	T
St. Norbert (10-0-1)	0	0	0
River Falls (8-0-1)	0	0	0
Lake Forest (8-0-1)	0	0	0
Eau Claire (9-1-0)	0	0	0
Stout (9-2-0)	0	0	0
Superior (6-3-0)	0	0	0
Stevens Point (6-3-1)	0	0	0
St. Scholastica (3-4-2)	0	0	0

Nov. 25 results	
Gustavus	1 2 0 - 3
River Falls	3 1 0 - 4

1st period	
06:02 RF Elsen (3) (Murphy) (pp)	
07:34 RF Steinert (2) (Kostiuk, Johnson)	
08:32 GUS Meyer (1) (Detlefsen)	
19:25 RF Johnson (3) (Kostiuk, Hansen)	
2nd period	
15:18 GUS Jensen (1) (Havameier)	
16:22 GUS Buskowiak (2) (Merchant, Awajane)	
19:54 RF Degerness (6) (Murphy, Hansen)	
3rd period	
No scoring	

Nov. 22 results	
River Falls	2 0 1 - 3
Hamline	0 0 1 - 1

1st period	
09:05 RF Murphy (Elsen, Jurek)	
14:42 RF Moe (Novak)	
2nd period	
No scoring	
3rd period	
01:01 HU Gustafson (Weum, Letourneau)	
19:59 RF Murphy (Elsen) (pp)	

Nov. 21 results	
River Falls	0 0 0 - 1
Bethel	1 0 0 - 1

1st period	
17:12 BE Saintey (unassisted) (pp)	
2nd period	
No scoring	
3rd period	
05:01 RF Schlipp (3) (unassisted)	
Overtime	
No Scoring	

Women's Hockey

NCHA Standings

	W	L	T
Superior (8-0-1)	4	0	0
Stevens Point (4-1-1)	2	0	0
River Falls (5-4-0)	2	2	0

Lake Forest (2-7-1)	0	4	0
Eau Claire (2-3-2)	0	2	0

Nov. 22 results	
Lake Forest	0 0 0 - 0
River Falls	1 5 3 - 9

1st period	
19:05 RF Paulson (2) (Magnuson, Carlson)	
2nd period	
07:57 RF O'Keefe (4) (unassisted) (sh)	
09:32 RF Hurley (2) (Baron)	
10:23 RF Magnuson (8) (Paulson, Carlson)	
17:35 RF Magnuson (9) (Carlson)	
18:56 RF Carlson (3) (Magnuson)	
3rd period	
03:13 RF Hensch (3) (Hurley) (pp)	
03:56 RF O'Keefe (5) (Hurley)	
05:55 RF Goodwin (2) (pp)	

Nov. 21 results	
Lake Forest	0 1 0 - 1
River Falls	3 2 0 - 5

1st period	
05:25 RF Goodwin (1) (Nierenhausen, Schaber)	
06:45 RF Magnuson (6) (Carlson)	
19:57 RF Magnuson (7) (Carlson)	
2nd period	
05:16 RF O'Keefe (3) (Carlson, Paulson) (pp)	
09:34 RF Carlson (2) (Baron, O'Keefe)	
10:48 LF McGrath (2) (Guillermo, Greco) (pp)	
3rd period	
No scoring	

Men's Basketball

WIAC Standings

	W	L
Stevens Point (4-0)	1	0
Stout (6-1)	1	0
Oshkosh (3-1)	1	0
Eau Claire (3-3)	1	0
Whitewater (5-0)	0	0
La Crosse (2-3)	0	1
Platteville (2-3)	0	1
River Falls (2-3)	0	1
Superior (2-3)	0	1

Dec. 3 results	
River Falls	16 22 - 38
Stevens Point	27 29 - 56

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Helfrey 9-1-1-3, Becker 0-5-4-2, Kukla 0-0-0, Halter 8-3-0-0, Melzer 7-6-2-0, Holt 2-1-0-0, Pivec 0-0-0-1, Kossoris 5-1-1-0, Lam 3-0-0-0, Hoeg 2-3-1-0, James 0-0-0-0, Wacholz 0-0-0-0, Coffman 2-0-0-0.	

Nov. 29 results	
River Falls	31 38 - 69
St. Cloud	34 38 - 72

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Helfrey 10-2-5-2, Becker 17-7-5-0, Halter 0-2-0, Melzer 32-8-1-0, Holt 3-1-0-0, Pivec 0-0-2-0, Kossoris 0-1-0-0, Hoeg 5-5-3-1, James 0-0-0-1, Coffman 2-0-0-0.	

Nov. 25 results	
River Falls	42 38 - 80
Macalester	33 44 - 77

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Helfrey 5-2-1-0, Becker 7-4-1-2, Kukla 2-1-2-0, Halter 9-5-3-0, Melzer 33-8-2-0, Holt 3-1-0, Pivec 2-2-1-2, Kossoris 7-2-0-2, Lam 6-0-0-1, Hall 0-1-0-1, Hoeg 6-7-3-2, James 0-0-1-0, Coffman 0-0-0-0.	

Nov. 22 results	
River Falls	60 42 - 102
Puget Sound	50 54 - 104

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Helfrey 6-5-5-0, Becker 14-7-4-2, Kukla 10-1-5-1, Halter 5-6-2-0, Melzer 37-14-1-1, Holt 3-4-0-2, Pivec 2-0-0-0, Kossoris 0-1-0-0, Lam 4-0-0-0, Hoeg 16-6-0-0, Coffman 0-0-0-0.	

Nov. 21 results	
River Falls	41 33 - 74
Pacific Lutheran	34 29 - 63

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Helfrey 9-1-4-1, Becker 14-7-2-5, Kukla 4-4-3-1, Halter 14-3-1-0, Melzer 17-8-3-1, Holt 3-4-0-2, Pivec 2-0-0-0, Kossoris 0-0-0-0, Lam 4-2-0-0, Hoeg 0-1-1-0, Wacholz 3-0-0-0, Coffman 4-1-0-1.	

Women's Basketball

WIAC Standings

	W	L
Stevens Point (5-0)	1	0
Stout (5-0)	1	0
Oshkosh (5-0)	1	0
Eau Claire (5-1)	1	0
Whitewater (3-1)	0	1
River Falls (3-1)	0	1
Superior (3-2)	0	1
La Crosse (3-3)	0	1
Platteville (3-3)	0	1

Dec. 2 results	
River Falls	14 36 - 50
Stevens Point	57 37 - 94

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Melgaard 2-1-0-0, Effie 4-0-0-1, Rodgers 2-	

3-1-0, Biteler 3-1-0-0, Olsen 3-3-0-0, Astedt 3-5-2-3, Rasmussen 3-2-0-3, Bartsch 2-0-0-1, Sickels 9-2-1-1, Harbarts 2-5-0-1, Smith 0-0-0-0, Crews 3-3-1-0, Cordes 0-2-0-0, Biebighauser 11-5-0-1, Crandall 3-0-0-0.	
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Nov. 25 results	
River Falls	37 35 - 72
Bethel	29 38 - 67

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Biteler 4-1-0-1, Olsen 12-2-0-1, Reimann 10-4-2-4, Melgaard 6-4-4-3, Effie 18-10-0-2, Preiner 0-2-1-0, Sickels 12-2-1-2, Kochever 8-5-0-1, Lindman 2-3-0-0.	

Nov. 22 results	
Northwestern	35 24 - 59
River Falls	31 39 - 70

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Biteler 5-3-1-0, Olsen 16-0-3-2, Reimann 2-8-0-3, Melgaard 1-2-2-0, Effie 27-11-4-1, Astedt 0-1-0-1, Preiner 5-1-1-1, Strom 2-0-0-0, Sickels 16-3-0-2, Kochever 6-6-0-0, Crews 2-0-0-1, Lindman 2-3-1-0.	

Nov. 21 results	
St. Scholastica	32 33 - 65
River Falls	35 39 - 74

Scoring (Pts.-Rebs.-Asst.-Steals)	
Biteler 1-3-2-0, Olsen 12-4-0-2, Reimann 14-17-6-1, Melgaard 3-1-1-0, Effie 11-6-2-1, Astedt 0-1-0-1, Preiner 5-1-1-1, Strom 2-0-0-0, Sickels 16-3-0-2, Kochever 6-6-0-0, Crews 2-0-0-1, Lindman 2-3-1-0.	

Swimming

Women

Nov. 22 results	
WIAC Relays	
Team results: 6th out of 6	

FalconTop-Five Finishers (event-time)	
400 Medley, 4:28.37	
200 Free, 1:49.06	

Men

Nov. 22 results	
WIAC Relays	
Team results: 6th out of 6	

FalconTop-Five Finishers (event-time)	
200 Free, 1:31.14	
200 Medley, 1:45.98	
300 Breaststroke, 3:23.49	
800 Free, 7:46.59	
850 Free, 8:37.93	

SHOWCASE HOME GAME

Basketball



UW-RF vs UW-Oshkosh

Saturday at 5 and 7 p.m.
at Karges Center

The men's and women's basketball teams host Oshkosh in the new WIAC weekend double-header format. The men will open their home season at 7 p.m. against a team that advanced deep into the NCAA tournament last year. The women play at 5 p.m. against a nationally ranked team.

VARSITY SPORTS WEEK

Friday, Dec. 5

Swimming	at Titan Invite	TBD
Women's Hockey	at Eau Claire	7 p.m.
Men's Hockey	vs. Stevens Point	7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 6

Swimming	at Titan Invite	TBD
Women's Hockey	at Eau Claire	7 p.m.
Women's Basketball	vs. Oshkosh	5 p.m.
Men's Hockey	vs. Eau Claire	7 p.m.
Men's Basketball	vs. Oshkosh	7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Women's Basketball	at La Crosse	7 p.m.
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Wednesday, Dec. 10

Men's Basketball	at La Crosse	7 p.m.
Women's Basketball	vs. Gustavus	7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 11

Women's Basketball	at Macalester	7:30 p.m.
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TOP PERFORMERS

Rich Melzer
Men's BasketballJess Johnson
Men's Hockey

Melzer was named WIAC Player of the Week after averaging 32.5 points and eight rebounds over a two game stretch. In a win over Macalester, he had 33 points and eight rebounds and in a loss at St. Cloud he poured in 32 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

Johnson picked up a goal and an assist Tuesday in the team's 4-3 win against Gustavus Adolphus. His goal came with less than a minute left in the first period and gave the Falcons a 3-1 lead.

VOLLEYBALL
from B3

Mattson who won the award in 2000. Mattson also was named the league's Most Valuable Player that same season. The WIAC Scholar-Athlete award is presented to the most outstanding senior from each conference sport during the year who exhibits the greatest combination of performance and achievements in academics, athletics and leadership.

Brune has several season and career records for the Falcons. Single season records include: fourth in season kills (503 in 2003) and first in kills attempts (1,456 in 2003). She is first in career games played (531), first in career kills (1,707) and first in career kills attempts (4,874), seventh in career kill percentage (.231) and seventh in career block assists (219).

In 2003 Brune led the Falcons with 503 kills and finished with a .242 hitting percentage. She had

143 digs, 14 solo blocks and 67 block assists. This year she finished in double digits in kills in 27 of the team's 41 matches. She had double digit digs and kills in two matches. She had a season high 24 kills against Bethel and had double digit kills in 15 straight matches.

Brune was named to the first All-WIAC team for three straight seasons. She was the team's Player of the Week three times in 2003.

Tvrdek and Brune join four other Falcons who have been named to the AVCA All-America teams. Cara Gustafson was named in 1995 and 1996, Jen Frodl in 1996, Melissa Mateson in 1999 and 2000 and Karen ZumMallen in 2002.

UW-RF finished the 2003 season with a 35-6 overall record. The Falcons tied for first in the WIAC regular season standings with a 7-1 record. It was the second year in a row that the Falcons have tied for the No. 1 spot in the WIAC. The Falcons advanced to the NCAA Div. III Tournament and won one match before being eliminated.

HOCKEY
from B1

The Falcons added three goals in under a three minute span in the third. Paulson scored her second of the game at 3:13 with the Falcons on a power-play. Jodi Hensch and Kristen Hurley assisted. At 3:56 O'Keefe scored her second of the game with assists to Kelly Hurley and Hensch. Rachel Goodwin ended the scoring with an unassisted power-play goal at 5:55.

The Falcons finished 2-4 on the power play and held the Foresters scoreless on four power plays.

Falcon goalie Marlene Yaeger made 20 saves to get the win and her first shutout of the season. The Falcons had a season high 52 shots on goal.

On Friday, Magnuson had two goals while Carlson scored one and tallied three assists.

The Falcons led 3-0 after the first period and 5-1 after two. UW-RF scored the first two goals of the contest within 1:20 of each other in the first period. Goodman shot the puck past the Forester goalie at 5:25 with assists going to Emily Nierenhausen and Allison Schaber. At 6:45, Magnuson scored off assists from Carlson and Paulson. Magnuson scored again off a slap shot with just three seconds left in the first. Carlson got her second assist of the game on the play. In the second period, O'Keefe tallied another Falcon goal at 5:16, with another assist going to Carlson. Carlson put the fifth Falcon goal in the net at 9:34 with assists going to Baron and O'Keefe.

Amber Lindner stopped 14 of 15 Forester shots while the Falcons peppered the net with 35 shots.

UW-RF will play next at UW-Eau Claire on Dec. 5 with action starting at 7:05 p.m.

COLE from B1

was about nine years old - late for most hockey kids. He found a niche as a goaltender and went on to play

minor hockey and junior hockey before going to River Falls.

A rough Falcon, known as Ron "Heavy Check" Beck from Cole's neck of the woods talked then Falcon head coach, George

Gwozdecky, into giving the young goalie a shot.

"I walked into an almost perfect situation," Cole said. "The day I walked in and introduced myself to the coach at the beginning of winter

quarter, the starting goalie was walking out of his office and had come down with mono. So I walked in and go the opportunity to play."

Though much of the Canadian's life revolved around hockey, he also prepared for his life after hockey through the journalism department. He majored in broadcast journalism and learned how to use video camera and editing equipment through his experiences in the classroom.

"Doug was able to relationships between diverse areas that most people couldn't see," said J. Michael Norman, Cole's former journalism professor and academic advisor. "For example, he could see a relationship between hockey and journalism. Most people would just say I'm going to be a hockey broadcaster. But Doug said to himself, maybe I can take my training in television and somehow make it work with my other passion - hockey."

While Cole gives credit to Norman, he wasn't the only professor to have an impact on him. Rick McNamara, an English and mass communications professor, and the late Robert B. Bailey III, a sociology professor, taught him the most about life.

"Most hockey guys are into their own deal, but Doc Bailey made me see the world as bigger," Cole said. "He wanted to help everyone see the world from more than just their box."

While Bailey showed Cole a bigger world, McNamara showed Cole how to be a bigger person. He would act as a team advisor and accompanied the team on some of its road trips during the season. He spent time with the players and helped them come into their own.

After finishing his collegiate hockey career in 1985, Cole set out into the world looking for adventure and life experiences. Though he was a semester short of finishing his degree, he decided to pursue his dreams on the rink and put his broadcasting skills on ice.

He bounced around for a few years in European and American hockey leagues until he blew out his knee. That's when he began to fall back on his non-hockey skills he picked up in River Falls. He those video editing skills and applied them to hockey with the Vancouver Canucks.

His job working with hockey video systems helped land him the job he has now with XOS Technologies. Though the job requires a lot of travel, Cole loves it. The time he spends traveling to NHL arenas across the country reflects Cole's philosophy on life as a whole. Sometimes he takes time to share his views with members of the UW-RF men's hockey program.

"Life is about the journey," Cole said. "A couple years ago Steve asked me to talk to the team after a game. I told them that these four years will go by so fast that you won't even get it. It's important that you save things for later - when you get to be 30, 40 years old and you look back."

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Students seek new organizations, campus recognition to support their interests



Photo by Kyle Weaver

Campus Crusade for Christ members lead group in songs of worship at their weekly meeting. Students are encouraged to start organizations to remain active in what they are interested in.

Lucas Pokorny
Staff Writer

While growing up, many students find an interest in sports, comedy, TV and acting, and they grow to love them.

When they go off to college, however, some students find there is no club to support their interests.

Seeking others with similar interests, many students at UW-River Falls take it upon themselves to develop new student organizations, which are increasing in popularity.

Student Organization Coordinator Judy Herhold said the Student Organization Committee (SOC) usually recognizes about five to 10 new organizations a year; they have already recognized five organizations this year.

SOC Co-Chair Lisa Coggins said the SOC has approved a different organization nearly each week.

"We've been very busy this year," SOC Co-Chair Jonathan Levondoski said.

The five newest student organizations on campus had to go through a process of paperwork and a meeting with the SOC.

Starting a student organization is an easy process, said members of the SOC.

However, there are students who think differently.

"The process is weird to anybody who is new," Improvisational Comedy Club President Jeff Molander said. "It's confusing and not defined."

When starting a club, the first thing the spokesperson for the group must do is meet with Herhold. Herhold meets with the spokesperson to see what kind of club they want to start and how many people will be involved. She said clubs must have at least five students, but most have about 12.

The student then writes a letter of intent describing the club and its purpose. The letter must also state who the advisor is and how they can be contacted.

Once the intent letter is written, the students fill out an organization information form, which describes what the club is, what they want to do, and also who the president and the advisor are, Herhold said.

Herhold said the next step in becoming a club is making a constitution, and having the advisor agreeing to his/her responsibilities.

The final step is meeting with the SOC.

At the SOC meeting Coggins said the committee wants to know what makes the organization different, what its goals are and how the University and/or community will be affected.

The committee then votes on whether the club should be recognized.

"As long as they got all the paper work done and have goals of what they hope to accomplish, they will be approved," Levondoski said.

Coggins said some groups apply to be a club that previously existed, but are unaware of it because it has been

inactive. When this happens Coggins suggests updating the paper work. Other times students apply to be a club that is already active, in which case Coggins encourages them to join.

In some cases, a new organization is similar to existing ones but have enough differences to justify its existence.

Coggins said SOC activated a religious group called Extreme Life, when there was already other religious groups.

"They had their own unique aspect," Coggins said.

Students start clubs for many different reasons.

Molander said he started the Improvisational Comedy Club because he was in improvisational comedy during high school. When he came to college he missed doing improv so he started a club.

There are many benefits associated with being a student organization, including access to funding, meeting space, and Leadership Center supplies such as paper and poster making materials.

The process of becoming a club can take a week or more, depending on how fast the students get the paper work done and communicate with the SOC, Coggins said.

It only took the Shaolin Kempo Karate club a week to get recognized. They became recognized quickly because they communicated with the SOC and filled out all the paper work immediately, Coggins said.

Because they forgot to fill out some paperwork, the Improvisational Comedy Club took longer to be recognized.

Athletic clubs are slightly different than regular student organizations, Levondoski said. Because the University doesn't have enough funding for sports clubs, the SOC can only help fund travel. Coggins said it's also hard for sports clubs to find a place to practice because varsity sports get first priority.

HOROSCOPES

By psychic Rachel Gaynor who is still trying to clean up the crystal ball so it is easier to predict the future

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

There is nothing wrong with having nothing to say unless you insist upon saying it. Keep quiet for a bit, you just might learn something.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)

Cascade Avenue is pretty dangerous especially since stoplights aren't warranted. Get reflector gear and run really fast or you might get hit by cars whizzing past.

ARIES (March 21-April 20)

You find yourself not liking the people that you are forced to spend time with. Just put a grin on your face and bear it. Then talk about them behind their backs later. It will make you feel better making other people dislike them too.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

Chaos, panic and disorder are three words that describe your life right now. Hyperventilating is scary, just keep paper bags nearby. Be careful so you don't get a paper cut on your lip.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

It is recommended that each person gets 30 minutes of physical activity a day to keep their bones strong. Running up the stairs in any building counts, just don't take them so fast that you get winded. Just remember, the elevator never gets tired and pushing a button is easier than running.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

Work is stressing you out right now. Quit while you are ahead but make sure that you get the last word in with your boss about how right you always are.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)

Taking things that don't belong to you is not good whether it was a candy bar or a jacket. Karma will catch up with you, so watch out.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

Sleep is a meaningless word to you, your bed has become a place to pile your junk. Take some over the-counter-cough syrup and get a good night's rest.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Cell phones are very handy. Just remember to shut them off when you are in public situations because some people find it bothering that you talk loudly when they are around. Your phone might get broken.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Knives are a useful for some people that know how to use them. But you don't, so stay away from them or you will get cut or lose an eye.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Life has given you many obstacles to beat this week. Just remember that patience is a virtue and if that fails, locking yourself in your bedroom and screaming really loudly into your pillow works too.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

The Atkins Diet seems to be working very well for many Americans. The big problem with it is that comfort foods like bread and sugar are cut out. So if you are going to cheat, make it big and just pig out. Besides, your roommates' cupboard is full of yummy things to eat.

Just The Facts!

5 minutes of

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Smoke

=

1 Cigarette

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KISS CIGARETTES GOODBYE



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KISS CIGARETTES GOODBYE



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Music fills the air

Holiday Concert
Dec. 7 and 8
Abbott Concert Hall, KFA
Free

The UW-RF Choirs and the St. Croix Valley Community Orchestra. The UW-RF Concert Choir has earned recognition as one of the top collegiate choirs in the Midwest. The choir has received critical acclaim for its enthusiastic musicality and rich vocal sound. An auditioned mixed ensemble made up of music and non-music majors, they perform standard choral literature. The concerts will be at 3 and 8 p.m. on Dec. 7 and at 8 p.m. on Dec. 8. Free tickets are available by e-mailing the music department at music@uwrf.edu. Other musical events include JAZZAX Saxophone Quartet on Dec. 9 at 8 p.m., a Convocation Student Recital at 3:30 p.m. and Symphony Band Concert at 8 p.m. on Dec. 11 in the Abbott Concert Hall.



2003-2004 UW-RF Concert Choir, directed by Dr. J.W. Park

EVENTS

Book Club
Lion's Paw Book Club will be discussing *Spring Moon* on Dec. 10 from 3-4 p.m. in the Davee library breezeway.

Play Audition
Hearth Cricket Theatre Co. of River Falls and the Steamboat Inn of Prescott will hold auditions for "Caught in the Net", on Dec. 14 from 1-5 pm. Call 715-480-8222 for more information.

Senior Reading
All students are welcome to attend a senior reading on Dec. 5 at 3:30 in the library breezeway. If you are interested in reading, contact Molly Magestro.

J-Term Louisiana Trip
There are two open spots for the Habitat for Humanity trip to build a house in Louisiana. Contact Amanda Frank at 651-983-9265 for more information.

Thanksgiving needs facelift

As I made the four-hour trek back home last weekend, I began contemplating the Thanksgiving holiday. With the gray mix of cold and mud, what did I have to be thankful about this time of year? That the day after had great sales? That I could eat myself silly with my rather obnoxious family?

Something must have gone terribly wrong between the Pilgrim era and today. Maybe Thanksgiving needs to revert to its original intentions and concentrate more on history and tradition.

I decided to do a little research about Thanksgiving to see how far we've wandered from the original. So I turned to that reputable source, the History Channel. Here's what I learned.

The first pilgrims didn't use forks, only spoons, knives and fingers. Though I first grimaced, I was comforted by the fact they did use large cloth napkins. For the sake of history then, no forks at Thanksgiving next year.

In Plymouth, a person's social

standing determined what he or she ate. The best food was placed next to the most important people. People didn't graze the entire table and sample everything like today. They just ate what was closest to them. I think I could handle that too. Put me next to the stuffing and pecan pie and I'll be set.

Pilgrims didn't eat in courses as we do today. All of the

different types of foods were placed on the table at the same time and people ate in any order they chose. So that means I can eat dessert first? I second that.

Pilgrims probably didn't have pies or anything sweet at the harvest feast. After gasping in horror, I realized that without sugar or ovens, pies were impossible. Maybe I could live without pie and just eat more of everything else. Then again, maybe not.

The first Thanksgiving was declared on June 29, 1676. The celebration lasted three days. Hold on. Anyone who has tried baking in June knows its way too hot for that much cooking. Also, I barely made it through six hours with my relatives. I can't imagine three days with them.

Moving Thanksgiving to June wouldn't be the worst thing in the

world. It would give everyone a longer Christmas shopping season and I wouldn't have to plan my trip home around the prediction of ice storms.

However, maybe it's better not to mess with tradition, no matter how far from the truth it may be. Thanksgiving was meant to be a feast of thanks for abundance and family, which I believe still holds true in modern times.

I think I'll step back from the issue, but maybe some of you still have concerns about Thanksgiving. Feel free to contact your United Council representatives. I'm sure they wouldn't mind sponsoring an initiative for a more traditional celebration. Maybe we can even rename it "Religiously-Persecuted Peoples' Day."



KARYN NELSON

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Hudson Cinema

THE LAST SAMURAI (R)
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Weekdays 4:00 Evenings 7:00, 9:50

ELF (PG)
(12:40, 2:50)
Weekdays 5:00 Evenings 7:30, 9:35

THE MISSING (R)
(1:00)
Weekdays 4:20 Evenings 7:00, 9:45

CAT AND THE HAT (PG)
(12:30, 2:00)
Weekdays 4:00 Evenings 7:15, 9:25

BAD SANTA (R)
(1:00, 3:00)
Weekdays 5:00 Evenings 7:40, 9:45

Show times in () play Fri, Sat, & Sun Only

PLAY DATES 12/5-12/11

THE HAUNTED MANSION (PG)
(12:30, 2:40)
Weekdays 4:50 Evenings 6:50, 8:50

BROTHER BEAR (G)
(12:00, 2:10)
Weekdays 4:10

GOTHIKA (R)
Evenings 7:30, 9:30

MASTER AND COMMANDER (PG-13)
(1:10)
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