

Hockey wins home opener,
flies over the golden eagles

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Holidays aren't deemed as
important anymore

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Local candidates answer
questions about the issues

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Halloween havoc



Molly Montag / The Student Voice

Kelsey and Kobe Laws, ages 8 and 19 months, of River Falls, strolled through May Hall in search of food, fun, and festivities, dressed up as a bride and Super-Kobe. UW-River Falls students decorated their residence halls and handed out candy to the children from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday night. Grimm Hall featured a haunted house and Hathorn Hall offered a carnival full of games for the children to enjoy and partake in.

Eliminating alcohol may be in the future for four sororities

■ Sororities under the Panhellenic Council will vote on whether to give up alcohol

Matthew Perenchio
Viewpoints Editor

Through the years, the images of college life and partying have practically become synonymous in many people's view. And while numerous attempts have been made to thwart this connection, probably no group has suffered more from this association than Greek organizations.

In an attempt to rid the impression that Greek clubs are irresponsible when it comes to alcohol, the UW-River Falls Panhellenic Council, the governing body of sororities — or Greek female organizations — is placing a resolution before its members that would make all sororities on campus alcohol free, or dry. Currently, there are four sororities at UW-River Falls under the Panhellenic Council: Alpha Omicron Pi (AOP), Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Mu and Sigma Sigma Sigma; Delta Theta Sigma is a student organization.

"This will help with the way Greeks are looked at, like (in) maturity," said Panhellenic Council President Leah Palmer. "We are trying to take more responsibility for us and our actions."

Under a current Panhellenic law, sorority members at UW-RF cannot consume alcohol under any circumstance while wearing their Greek letters that affiliate them with their club. Because of this, many official social gatherings between fraternities — Greek male organizations — and sororities are held off Greek facilities. And even when an event occurs off-site in which alcohol is present, only a third-party vendor can serve drinks.

If the new resolution were to be

passed, sororities would no longer be allowed to have alcohol on their facilities or have social gatherings at a fraternity that is not alcohol-free. The only fraternity at UW-RF that currently is dry is Theta Chi. However, if a sorority member were of legal drinking age and not wearing her Greek letters, she could still go to a fraternity and drink. The stipulation is only for "official" social functions at a "wet" fraternity — like a party.

"We are not hurting anyone's individualism or their right to associate," said Kaye Schendel, the Panhellenic Council's faculty adviser. "It's about promoting a responsible life ... and about allowing Greeks to have a positive image

"We are not hurting anyone's individualism or their right to associate. It's about promoting a responsible life"

—Kaye Schendel,
Panhellenic Council
faculty adviser

(and) not the 'Animal House' image."

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), the overseer of all college and university Panhellenic Councils, has not required sororities to adopt this resolution that would make them dry, but the organization has endorsed it. "The NPC hasn't done anything yet, but I can see in the next couple of years they would pass something like this," said Palmer, who is also a member of AOP. "We thought we might as well take care of this now."

Schendel supported the proposed resolution. "We decided ... to be pre-active than reactive," she said. "Rather than be forced into something, we wanted to make an educated decision; it's the right thing to do."

Although the resolution was origi-

nally intended to be voted on Oct. 26, according to Palmer, it will be tabled until the Nov. 16 meeting because of "too much misinformation going around." While only individual sorority members have voiced support or opposition, none of the four organizations as a whole hold an official position on the resolution.

In voting, the Panhellenic Council consists of nine members, including two delegates from each sorority. In order to avoid personal tensions the voting may cause, each sorority's members will vote for or against the proposal at their respective sororities and have their delegates vote the way the sorority as a whole decided.

While sorority members are divided on the issue, the fraternities are also unsure of what their role will be if the resolution does get passed. If there won't be any socials allowed at wet fraternities, the Interfraternity Council (IFC), the governing organization for Greek male clubs, will have to make some decisions.

"It all depends on who you talk to," said IFC President Shawn Eckerman. "Some don't like it (the resolution), and others see it as okay. Personally, I don't really see it as a good thing."

If the resolution does get passed, though, Eckerman does not foresee any changes from the IFC.

"Most of our socials are not right at the houses to begin with, so it'll really be nothing different," he said. "Right now, though, from what I've heard, what they (the Panhellenic Council) need to get is more information out and really discuss what they're trying to do."

Until the resolution is voted upon, Palmer said she will endorse the proposal as much as she can.

"As president, I don't vote, but I am promoting it," she said. "As a sorority member of AOP, I'm 100 percent behind it."

Schendel, too, said she is in favor of the idea of sororities going dry.

"The purpose of the resolution is talking about the health and safety of our members," she said. "A lot of decisions are going to have to be made. But it is everyone's best interest that we have in mind."

Mock presidential debate looks at issues relevant to students

Paul J. Cruz
Staff Writer

For UW-River Falls students not yet sure which party will receive their vote at Tuesday's presidential election, the North Hall Auditorium would have been the perfect place to be Wednesday evening.

During a 90-minute span beginning at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium, the student presidential debate, sponsored by Student Senate, was held for the intended benefit of any interested UW-RF student.

An estimated crowd of 75 people attended the debate. "I thought it was really successful," said Paige Steele, co-coordinator of the event. "I thought it was really important to provide an opportunity like this to the students."

"The ones that did come, I think, learned a lot. I was actually surprised at how many people showed up."

The debate featured a panel of four students, one representative from each of the four major political parties and their respective candidates, and a mediator.

Laura Berstrand (Al Gore, Democratic), Bob Ebert (Ralph Nader, Green), David Rawlings (Libertarian, Harry Brown) and Hannah Vick (George W. Bush, Republican) were the student representatives, while Dr. David Briggs, a history professor at UW-RF, served as the mediator.

After each representative provided a 2-minute opening statement, the platform was opened to questions composed by members of the audience. Each representative received two minutes during which to answer each question on behalf of her or his party's candidate.

The topics discussed during the debate are as follows, in chronological order:

- the possibility of this year's president elect being able to appoint two to three justices to the U.S. Supreme Court;
- pertinent educational issues con-

cerning post-secondary students;

- school accountability;
- separation of church and state;
- the legal drinking age;
- the choice of the federal government to revoke state highway funding should a state choose not to comply with the lowering of the blood alcohol content level to .08 for drunk driving offenses;
- the relevance of U.S. military involvement if China invaded Taiwan;
- issues relating to Iraq and Saddam Hussein;
- oil/energy policies;
- tax plans (specifically those that would benefit non-wealthy college students);
- budget surplus;
- health care;
- violence in the media (i.e., television and video games);

See "Debates" on A8

Why vote for ...

Harry Brown (Libertarian Party): "We're the party of freedom. We believe the individual knows what is right for her or him. We believe you know what is best on how to live your life. We trust the voter, we trust the individual." — *David Rawlings, UW-RF student representative*

George W. Bush (Republican): There is division in the country right now. We need a moral leader to bring people together and get solutions. We want a leader who will work for us and be upright." — *Hannah Vick, UW-RF student representative*

Al Gore (Democratic): "If you want Roe v. Wade to stay intact, it is essential to vote for Al Gore. Also, a vote for Al Gore is a vote for education." — *Laura Berstrand, UW-RF student representative*

Ralph Nader (Green): "You will find no higher moral example than Ralph Nader. The Green Party is slowly changing the political landscape across the country." — *Bob Ebert, UW-RF student representative*

Gay couple speaks to students, share coming out experiences



Molly Montag / The Student Voice

Joe Bertolino and Bil Leipold entertained the crowd Thursday night in the North Hall Auditorium. They talked about what it's like to be gay, and how they handled realizing they were gay.

Jessica Perry
Chief Copy Editor

Fudgepacker, faggot, fairy, flamer, dyke, muffdiver, queer and leather-dyke-daddy were words used by the audience when asked to describe gays Thursday night at the presentation "When the Gays move into Mr. Roger's Neighborhood."

However, when asked to describe someone they knew who was gay, the audience responded with words such as poetic, caring, loving, compassionate, sweet and hardworking.

Presenter Bil Leipold explained the differences between the two lists of words, which described homosexuals in general, and homosexuals that people know.

According to Leipold, the first list reduces the entire gay, lesbian, bisexual gender to sex and to what people do behind closed doors. The second list had positive connotations because the audience was talking about people they knew: mothers, brothers, sisters, roommates and friends.

"We start to look at those people in terms of why we are connected to them. It isn't because of what they do behind closed doors," Leipold said. "It's what they have to offer us as human beings and the connections that we have with them."

"When the Gays move into Mr. Roger's Neighborhood" was a presentation designed to better inform the audience of the issues homosexuals deal with everyday. Joe Bertolino and Bil Leipold used a combination of audience interaction and their own lives and experiences to present the topic of homosexuality.

Leipold and Bertolino did not expect everyone to agree with their views or lifestyle, but what they did expect was a safe environment in which people could share their thoughts and views.

"Regardless if we agree or disagree with each other's point of view or with each other's lifestyles, the reality is, is that we want everyone in this room to treat each other with dignity and respect," Bertolino said.

Hailing from New York, Bertolino and Leipold have been together as a couple for seven years and have been presenting this program together for four-and-a-half years. This was their second trip to UW River Falls.

In terms of understanding the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender issue, Leipold admitted that nobody, not even themselves, are an expert in the area. They are learning every day, just like everyone else.

"We expect people to have misunderstandings; we expect people to have some ignorances," Leipold said. "Because we are part of those people who are going to have those issues too."

At the beginning of the program, Leipold read out loud a statement of understanding, part of which read, "I have permission to struggle with these issues (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) and be upfront and honest about my feelings."

Leipold told the audience that they were going to be completely blunt and honest.

"I don't think the University of Wisconsin-River Falls has an issue with being blunt either as there was an editorial in last week's newspaper on the issues of gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender issues," Leipold said, referring to a letter to the editor that was printed.

The last part of the statement of understanding said that "I am who I am and I do not feel guilty about what I know or what I believe, but I do have to take responsibility for what I can do now."

According to Leipold, there are three things people can do about issues concerning the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender issue. They can try to learn as much as they can, struggle to change their false and inaccurate beliefs and struggle to provide their own oppressive attitudes.

Leipold and Bertolino set some rules for their program. The first rule was "we don't know everything."

See "Gays" on A 8

BRIEFS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UW-River Falls Cycling Club is open to anyone of any ability level who enjoys biking. Road, BMX and mountain bikers are welcome. The club goes on rides together and has members who mountain bike and BMX race. If you always wanted to race or are just looking for people to ride with call Shannon at 426-9557 or Becky at 426-4868.

UW-River Falls Bushwackers is a student-run, outdoor-related organization. Some of the activities the club participates in are camping, rock climbing, biking, hiking, ultimate Frisbee, paddling and backpacking, to name a few. No experience is necessary to join and some equipment is available to members. Club dues are \$5 per semester. Bushwackers meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday nights in the Presidents' Room of the Student Center. For further information or questions, call 426-0902.

"Stuff: You Are What You Own," an original, student-written comic piece is on its final run this weekend. The satirical play will take place Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Davis Theatre of the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building. Ticket prices are \$7 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors. For reservations, call 425-3114 or (800)-228-5423.

Lion's Paw Book Club, led by Lisa White of the Academic Success Center, will meet Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the second floor breezeway of Chalmer Davee Library. The book to be discussed is "The Farming of Bones" by Edwidge Danticat.

To commemorate **Veterans' Day** the University is holding a ceremony on Nov. 10 from 11 a.m.-noon in front of North Hall. Contact Tory Sletten at Extension 3529 for further information.

EVENTS

UW-River Falls Career Services is sponsoring a number of informative workshops through Dec. 13. Schedule for next week is as follows:

Monday: "Job Search Strategies" will be held in the St. Croix Room from 1 to 2 p.m. "Now That You Found a Job, How Do You Keep It?" will be held in the Kinnickinnic Room from 4 to 5 p.m.

Tuesday: "Cover Letter Writing" will take place from 11 a.m. to noon in the Kinnickinnic Room.

Thursday, Nov. 9: "Writing Effective Resumes" will take place from 6 to 7 p.m. in the St. Croix Room.

Textbook Services will be holding a discontinued textbook sale now through Nov. 17. Textbooks are available in all subject areas, with prices ranging from 25 cents to several dollars a copy. If students wish to purchase books they have checked out, they can bring them to the textbook sale and receive a 20 to 40 percent discount.

Let's talk about "stuff." Join us at the Journey House tonight for discussion following the performance of the UW-River Falls student-written satirical play "Stuff: You Are What You Own." The play begins at 8 p.m. at Davis Theater of the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building. After the performance, walk over to the Journey House and join us for coffee and conversation. Discussion will center on issues and concerns raised by the play. Questions? Call 425-2391.

Block and Bridle Royal, a showmanship contest open to all UW-River Falls students with an interest in livestock, will be held Saturday at 9 a.m. at Lab Farm 1. The contest is geared toward teaching students about fitting and showing livestock. Questions? Contact James Good at 426-9731 or Emily Muellenbach at 426-9502.

UW-River Falls Jazz Ensemble, directed by David Milne, will be Thursday, Nov. 9, at 8 p.m. in Abbott Concert Hall of Kleinpell Fine Arts. The concert will feature guest saxophonist Bill Sears.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Panhellenic Council is sponsoring a \$100 scholarship for one semester at UW-River Falls. Eligible applicants include any woman in a sorority of sophomore, junior or senior standing. She must have at least one full semester of Greek life at the time of application. Applications may be picked up in sorority boxes or from the Panhellenic representatives and are due by Tuesday, Nov. 14. Applications can be turned in to Kaye Schendel in the Leadership Center. For further information, feel free to contact Kaye Schendel at 425-4911.

Mark A. Pursley Memorial Foundation is pleased to announce \$500 scholarships for the academic year 2000-01. Money will be awarded to college juniors and seniors majoring in psychology, sociology and social work. Students must be in good academic standing. Applications are available in the Financial Assistance Office and will be received until Nov. 15.

National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance will award \$2 million in grants to student and faculty inventors. The Alliance provides grants to colleges and universities for the creation of student invention teams, courses, projects, networking opportunities and resources for faculty and student innovators. It funds teams whose work is likely to lead to the licensing of new products or technologies. For more detailed information, as well as an application packet, may be obtained from the NCIIA website or by e-mailing the Alliance at info@nciia.org. The deadline for applications is Dec. 15.

Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services, Inc. is offering scholarships ranging from \$250 to \$1,000 to students actively involved in a Lutheran church. Students must have completed their sophomore year and must carry a minimum 3.0 grade point average. Application deadlines are Mar. 1 and Mar. 15, depending on the scholarship. For further information, contact Thomas Heuer, Coordinator Outreach Programs and Services at 1-800-369-4636, ext. 416.

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship Excellence in Education Foundation will award scholarships to math, natural science and engineering students on the basis of academic merit. Applications can be picked up at the Financial Assistance Office, 122 South Hall. Application deadline is Feb. 1.

MEETINGS

Lutheran Student Fellowship will be meeting this year at 8 p.m. Tuesday nights in Luther Memorial Basement. The topic will be different Christian denominations and their beliefs. For other information, contact Carrie Hanson at (715) 247-5968.

The Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Regents Room of the Student Center.

College Democrats will no longer meet on a regular basis due to the election, but if students wish to participate UP TO Election Day, contact Daniel Single at daniel.j.singel@uwrf.edu

College Republicans will meet every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the St. Croix Room in the Student Center.

Anyone who has a brief meeting or event to be published in the Student Voice should submit it in writing to 213 South Hall by noon Monday.

Wireless technology an expensive endeavor

■ Laptops, while deemed beneficial by students and faculty, could also cause problems in the classroom

Melissa Bregani
Co-News Editor

Computers. Over the past few years, they have become indispensable in the lives of most college students.

This increasing dependence on technology has driven the state of Massachusetts to propose a new policy. If passed, the \$123 million plan would make it mandatory for every student attending state universities to own laptop computers. While the policy has yet to be approved by legislators, the pilot program, to be launched in 2002, would provide 2,400 students with laptop vouchers, provide 5,000 students with subsidized loans and purchase a total of 10,000 computers. The goal of this program, according to an article in Boston University's *The Daily Free Press*, is to "provide high-tech skills to higher education and also give the poor access to technology."

With such a cutting-edge program being proposed on the East Coast, many students may be wondering if change is on the horizon for UW-River Falls, as well.

The answer, for now, is no. According to Gary Smith, director of Information Technology Services, the tremendous amount of funding remains a roadblock.

"It would cost an estimated \$12 million to provide laptops to all 6,000 students," Smith said.

"Other things like software and wireless network connections would have to be in place for (the laptops) to work effectively."

He feels that it would be quite difficult to get Wisconsin taxpayers to fund such an expensive program.

Equipping 6,000 laptops with wireless Internet access would cost the University another \$1 million, a cost they simply cannot afford, Smith said.

"Every year we would have to update the systems; the scope is huge," he said. "There is no money in the government budget for an increase."

There is also no way to build an expense such as this into students' tuition.

"The University could arrange for some discounts, or in some cases, subsidizes," Smith said, "but ownership would be an issue. Would they be rented or owned?"

It is this aspect of the proposal that leads Smith to believe there would not be a great deal of support for a program such as this implemented campus wide.

"There is no lack of computer services on campus, and the urgency of mandating computers seems to be decreasing," he said. "Most students have their own or have access to one."

In the library alone, there are currently seven different computer labs where students may access the Internet, write e-mail or work on papers.

There are also computer labs in the Leadership Center, all of the residence halls, and a combined Windows/Macintosh lab in the Wyman Education Building houses 24 computers.

With all this access to technology on campus, what do students and professors think of students having their own laptop computers to use in the classroom?

While there is a consensus that laptops as a whole would be beneficial, there is also some

debate.

Junior Jessica Roesler is one student who likes the idea of students having laptops.

"Students would have access to the Internet all the time," Roesler said. "They would be able to do more research and keep in touch with professors easier."

For broadcast journalism professor Sandra Ellis, computers in the classroom, while beneficial in some respects, can also bring about a number of problems.

"Computers are ubiquitous in today's society. Anything that contributes to student familiarity, comfort and skill with their use seems practical to me," Ellis said. "However, there are always difficulties when teaching classes where students are using computers."

Ellis explained that she has noticed, in using technology in her classroom, that there are some students who use computers to write e-mail when the class is supposed to be working on assignments, taking notes or working on projects.

Senior Rebecca Knutson agreed with Ellis, saying that it's good to keep up with technology, but that there is enough computer access in the labs.

"I think it would be distracting to use computers while in class," Knutson said. "If you really needed to use a computer, you could go to the lab afterwards."

Cost was also an issue Knutson was concerned about.

"If students have to pay (for the laptops), it's not fair," she said.

"It's hard enough for students to get into college without having to pay additional costs for computers."

However, as Smith stated, UW-RF does not have to worry about an issue like this anytime soon, because there are no plans to implement a project like the one proposed in Massachusetts on campus.

The School of Business and Economics has discussed the possibility of instituting a similar program in their department, Smith said, but no final decisions have been made.

There has also been discussion of a possible laptop rental program on campus; however, Smith explained that the limiting factor would be getting the initial funding to purchase laptops to rent out. Managing such an effort would also be difficult.

UW-Madison has begun a pilot program in their Graphic Communication, Graduate Psychology and Telecommunications programs recently, but it is still too early to know if they will be successful.

Closer to home, Smith feels UW-RF does need an infrastructure for wireless network and Internet access.

"Palm Pilots and cell phones are a lot cheaper, and most students have one of those," he said. "They'd be able to connect wirelessly. I see that as the direction (of technology)."



Scott Wente / The Student Voice

Many students on campus take advantage of the computer labs to work on papers, perform research, or simply catch up on e-mail.

Physicists showcase their potential energy

■ Area conference of physics teachers a meeting of inventive minds

Jeff Starck
Staff Writer

Teachers new, old and aspiring throughout the state of Wisconsin, flocked to the UW-River Falls campus for the annual Wisconsin Association of Physics Teachers (WAPT) conference on Friday, Oct. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 28.

UW-River Falls Physics Professor Earl Blodgett, vice president of WAPT, organized the two day conference.

"The conference ran fine," Blodgett said. "The talks and workshops were excellent and we had a great turnout."

Teachers and students from UW-River Falls, UW-LaCrosse, UW-Whitewater, UW-Eau Claire and Edgewood college were just a few of the universities represented at the conference, along with a number of high school physics teachers. In all, over 100 participants were registered for the event.

The educational conference featured talks on papers and other physics related items, workshops that have classroom applications and student poster presentations. The poster presentations were set up to encourage students to present their research in a less intimidating environment.

Participating River Falls students were: Matthew Haase, "Stabilization of Inverted Liquids"; Aaron Parr, "Driving the Crooke's Radiometer Backwards"; James Madsen, "Astronomy in the Ice: Introducing the Science of AMANDA to Secondary Schools"; Emily Lombard, "Energy and Cascade Reconstruction in Ice Cube"; and Dwight Luhman, "The Mechanical Properties of Polyethylene".

The workshops were three hour sessions where both high school teachers and university professors passed on their knowledge in ways

that can be used in classrooms at all levels. They varied from thought provoking ones like "A Penny For Your Thoughts," by Mark Lattery of UW-Oshkosh to more of a teaching aspect like "Solid State Ideas for High School Physics," by Mike Lyman of West High School in Madison.

"The purpose of my workshop was to feature a lab setup, collection of data, analyze results and discuss results, accuracy and errors," Lyman said.

Lyman's workshop was not only practical to teaching and demonstrating physics, but also one of the more appealing to the stomach. They tested the breaking point of different foods and candy as well as inedible objects.

"The gummy worms didn't work out so well," laughed Lyman. "The students use these applications from the classroom and apply it to real life situations, like building bridges or measuring tension in wires between poles."

After a morning of workshops, Blodgett welcomed everyone to the conference and introduced Gorden Hedahl, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Students are living in the 'whatever age,'" Hedahl said. "Students are overwhelmed with information and data and don't know what to do about it. We need to focus and help the students connect and understand all of this."

Hedahl also said "it was important to share, explore, discuss and examine our failures and successes."

Alan Scott from UW-Stout had a talk titled "Encouraging Students to Think Critically About Unusual Claims" that addressed this issue as well. He presented several different items on the market today that aren't as beneficial as marketing and the packaging of the product say they are. Basic science reasoning reveals that these products aren't what they are cracked up to be.

"You need to challenge students to test things that they

see," Scott said.

A banquet in the evening brought all participants back together for dinner and presentation of WAPT awards to be followed by a guest speaker. Despite hosting the event, none of the River Falls physics professors received an award. But considering Blodgett and John Shepherd won the award for Excellence in Teaching Physics at the University Level last year, and Curt Larson and Neal Prochnow have won it in the past, little was left to award such a decorated staff.

Guest speaker Dr. James Valles of Brown University spoke on the topic "Learning About Life in High Magnetic Fields." While simulating weightlessness on Earth using magnetic fields, frog embryos were floated and observed. It was discovered that cell division was disturbed and half the embryos spawned healthy frogs while the other half were severely mutated.

"Dr. Valles's talk showed how he was willing to cross the disciplines and into unknown territory," said Blodgett. "There are little niches between the boundaries of each subject that we know nothing about."

A business meeting concluded the

conference Saturday after a morning of more workshops and talks. Blodgett was named the new president of WAPT.

"The conference was fun and good exposure for the University, but I'm glad that we host it only once every ten years," Blodgett said.

With the conference completed, the River Falls Physics department will continue to try recruiting new physics students to the dwindling field. With physics student enrollment dropping nationally, mailings to all high schools in Wisconsin and Minnesota, more mention by Admissions and a new scholarship fund for incoming physics students, hope is high that students will choose UW-River Falls to launch their physics career.

"We have about 65-70 majors now and a good number in Calculus-based Physics now that are interested," Blodgett said. "Hopefully with that, our scholarship and the Dual Degree program (Physics and Engineering degree split between UW-RF and either UW-Madison or U of Minnesota), enrollment will increase."



Molly Montag / The Student Voice

Junior Terry Schwaller and Tomah High School Physics teacher Larry Scheckel test the breaking point of gummy worms in a workshop held during the WAPT conference on Friday.

'Who is'



Molly Montag / The Student Voice
This stoneware sculpture, designed by Senior Ben Gavin, is on display in Gallery 101.

Alcohol Compliance Task Force busts 15 establishments for contributing to minors

■ Twenty percent of area bars not checking ID

Erik Astin
Asst Off-Beat Editor

On Friday, Oct. 20, officers from around Pierce County set the Alcohol Compliance Task Force in motion. Establishments around the county that are licensed to sell alcohol were randomly visited by officers in and out of uniform, along with underage youths to check their policies on selling alcoholic beverages to people under the legal drinking age. In all, 72 businesses were checked throughout Pierce County, with 15 failing the task force tests. Hager City and the City of River Falls, lead all jurisdictions with three violations apiece. Elmwood, the Village of Spring Valley and Ellsworth each had two establishments fail the compliance checks. The Village of Maiden Rock, and Ellsworth Township rounded out the list with one failure each. Sheriff Jim Hines of the Pierce County Sheriff's Department felt the first round of compliance checks was fairly successful. "We checked 72 establishments in Pierce County and had 15 failures," Hines said. "That's around 20

percent for failing and that's not too bad. However, I would like to see that number go down. Ideally I would hope to see county wide, total compliance from all of the places that we check." The compliance checks were set up to have underage youths attempt to purchase alcohol in on and off-sale situations, which include bars, convenient stores and restaurants. Chief Roger D. Leque of the River Falls Police Department was very clear on the use of the underage individuals in this set of checks. "In order for a violation to occur, the individual had to actually purchase and carry out the alcohol in off-sale situations," Leque said. "In the on-sale or bar establishments, there just needed to be a purchase. However, there was no alcohol consumption involved with the underage individuals. Also, no juveniles were used in the process. They were all ages 17 to 20, so there were no minors present." According to a press release from the River Falls Police Department there will only be minor penalties for this first round of checks. Currently the task force is in the process of making formal notification for all 72 licensed establish-

ments involved. Also, a letter of congratulations is being sent out to each establishment that passed the checks. Conversely, a letter of warning is being sent out to each establishment that failed the compliance checks, which in River Falls includes The West Wind, The Waters Edge and Holiday. Along with a letter to each place of business, notification of these failures is being sent to the government entity responsible for issuing the license. Chief Leque states that with each violation the penalties may become stiffer. "In the first round of checks, they get notified along with the government entity where they get their licenses," Leque said. "If there is a second, or third failure, the consequences will increase and there may be some fines or actions against the establishment. Each department and government agency will deal in their jurisdiction as they see fit." The goal of this compliance task force is to increase awareness, and help stop underage drinking by

going to the source of alcohol. "We want to get licensed establishments to increase awareness," Leque said. "We expected some violations, but they need to understand the responsibility they have and take a close look, and if necessary review training, policy and rules in their establishment for the future." Nolan A. Prohaska, a UW-RF student and bartender at Bo's and Mine for the last year is very clear on his methods of who he will serve. "Anyone who looks under 25, we are told to card," Prohaska said. "I always card unfamiliar faces. Also, if I see a fake I.D. I will ask to see it up close. If there is a problem, I will ask them to leave and keep the I.D. if necessary. If someone does not have an I.D. on them, I will also ask them to leave the bar." This is one of the initial goals of the task force. According to the press release, they intend to hold licensed establishments and their employees accountable for violations regarding sales to underage individuals. However, it is also a goal to work with all of these establishments to prevent future sales to underage individuals. For further information please contact Sgt. Janis Bock, Task Force Coordinator at 715-425-0909. You may also contact the Pierce County Sheriff's Department or contact Prescott, River Falls, Elmwood, Ellsworth or Spring Valley police departments.

"We want to get licensed establishments to increase awareness."
- Roger Leque, River Falls
Chief of Police

STUDENT SENATE NEWS

'Get Out The Vote' dominates Senate

Paul J. Cruz
Staff Writer

During a 27-minute meeting of the UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate Tuesday, in-house business composed the vast majority of the discussion. No guest speaker was featured and no open forum was held, and only one guest appeared in the audience. The discussion of the Student Senate members centered largely around one topic: the Senate's Get Out The Vote efforts. "I wish we would have had more business (to discuss)," Student Senate President Amy Jurgens said. "It's kind of hard right now because we're focused on GOTV." On Monday, Student Senate representatives will be busy contacting UW-RF students for the purpose of reminding them of the importance of voting during Tuesday's presidential election. Those Student Senate representatives will begin contacting students by phone at approximately 4 p.m. Their early start is key because, as one Student Senate member pointed out, the NFL's Green Bay Packers and Minnesota Vikings will be battling in a football contest that evening and, quite possibly, not many students will be in their rooms. "I am really excited about all the efforts the senators have been putting forth to help me (with GOTV)," Legislative Affairs Director said. "Also, none of this would be possible without all of the volunteers." The next meeting of the Student Association Student Senate will begin at 7 p.m., Tuesday, in the Regents Room of the Hagestad Student Center.

■ Posting job qualifications online places limits on fields able to use technological advances

John Goss
Staff Writer

Graduating is exciting, relieving, a new beginning and can be confusing when thinking of the most effective way to spread the word about your talents. The Internet is becoming more and more popular and accessible and is a convenient way to communicate with others. But is the Internet the best way to send out resumes or is the traditional means the better way? What do employers have to say about the use of the Internet versus traditional means such as mailing and faxing? What do they say are the advantages and disadvantages of using the Internet? When asked these questions, employers had a lot to say about some of the advantages and disadvantages of using the Internet versus traditional means to send a resume to potential employers. Deciding whether to use the Internet or traditional means to get a resume out depends on the field you are in, according to John Carlson, a certified public accountant for a tech support company in Scottsdale, AZ. "Using the Internet to send resumes is better for more comput-

er-oriented companies because they spend more time on the computer," Carlson said. Kyle Saewert, a business management graduate from North Dakota State University, liked this because it allowed the companies to specify what qualifications were needed. "I was able to fill in a resume off a link on the company's home page," Saewert said. When sending a resume out, it is important to look at the individual's situation and career field and decide whether the Internet or traditional means would be the most effective in spreading the word about your skills, according to Saewert. According to UW-RF Career Services Coordinator Carmen Croonquist, the Internet is used more by those in professional careers. "So far, we are not seeing a lot of blue collar jobs on the Internet," Croonquist said. Croonquist also pointed out that employers are able to check their e-mail on the road, having access to any e-mailed resume. Sharon Seymour, human resources manager for the Maguire Agency, an insurance company, thinks that those in the insurance field are an example of a career field not using the Internet very much. "People in insurance are slow to pick up on the Internet," Seymour said. "I look at places like Monster.com and Jobs.com, but there are not very many resumes for those in the insurance field." It is important to know in your field whether using the Internet is a good way to send out resumes. Another issue to consider is whether the company is local or national,

according to Deb Martensen, who works in the human resources department for McNeil Environmental Inc. "The Internet is better suited for a national company," she said, adding that if a small company is looking for someone, they do not need applicants from out of town. Rather, advertising in the local paper makes more sense for a small local company. Disadvantages of using the Internet versus traditional means center around the personal touch

"Resumes seem to lose some quality when they are printed. Some scan well, others don't."
- Jimmie Gauldon, Staff Manager, 3M

easy to sugarcoat things on the Internet." Another disadvantage of using the Internet, according to Jimmie Gauldon, the staffing manager for the sales department at 3M, is a loss of appearance quality on resumes. "Resumes seem to lose some quality when they are printed. Some scan well, others don't" Gauldon said, referring to the readability of resumes once they are printed out. "We do not get to see how they would have the resume up themselves," Gauldon stated that seeing how a person sets up their resume could be a good indication of their skills and personality. Despite the disadvantages of using the Internet, the advantages revolve mainly around speed. "Speed is a plus," Jimmie Gauldon said. "You're looking at an electronic copy." He believes it is easier to read an electronic because (the electronic copy) helps speed up the process of looking through resumes. "I get 5 to 10 resumes a day over the Internet," Martensen said, "It is easier to communicate over the web. I can respond to an applicant 30 minutes after receiving their resume."

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Clausing, Harsdorf debate issues as Election Day draws near

Kris Jensen
Staff Writer

With the race for Wisconsin State Senate fast approaching, candidates Sheila Harsdorf and Alice Clausing have differing views on a number of issues.

A majority of students currently enrolled at UW-RF will be entering the work force sometime during the next four years. Why should students vote for you to represent them as they enter the job market?

Clausing: "I supported an increase for technology and equipment so that when you enter the work force, you are prepared for any job. I also supported an increase in salaries for the faculty so UW-River Falls can attract and retain the best faculty. The budget I supported also included additional funds for library facilities so you have all the resources you need to get a good education."

Harsdorf: "As students enter the job market of the 21st century they will encounter far greater technological advances than generations past. In addition to technological advances, there are also significant changes in the global economy. As state senator, I will fight to ensure our education system addresses these changes and prepares students for the jobs of the future. In addition, as a state senator I will fight for lower taxes and a more efficient government so people entering the job market are not overwhelmed by the burdens of government."

Do you support a voucher system to fund private education? Why or why not?

Harsdorf: "As a State Representative I supported the Milwaukee School Choice Program. The Superintendent of the Milwaukee Public School System along with many parents urged the Legislature to approve the use of vouchers as a means to address the critical needs of the children in that city. While I am open to discussing further innovations to improve the quality of our education, it would be essential to address the issues involved with vouchers such as

transportation needs before moving forward with an expansion of vouchers."

Clausing: "No, I do not support vouchers. The State Constitution created public schools to give all children equal educational opportunities. The voucher system draws resources away from the public schools and weakens the public school system. If there is a problem in a particular area, as in the Milwaukee Public School System, they must be improved, not weakened."

If the Supreme Court ruled that abortion was an issue to be decided at the state level, would you vote to legalize or outlaw abortion in Wisconsin? Why?

Clausing: "No, I support Roe vs. Wade because I believe that family planning is a matter that should be decided between a woman, her partner, her doctor and her clergy if she chooses."

Harsdorf: "I am pro-life. I oppose abortions except in the cases of rape, incest or if the life of the mother is at risk. I believe it is important that we encourage the prevention of unwanted pregnancies and provide alternatives to abortion, such as adoption."

Would you support legalized conceal and carry laws for handguns in Wisconsin? Why or why not?

Harsdorf: "While I would consider supporting a legalized conceal and carry law, I would first look at the experience of other states having conceal carry laws. It is critical that there be adequate protections included in the legislation to ensure proper training and that only law-abiding citizens are allowed to carry."

Clausing: "I have been endorsed by the National Rifle Association and have been an ardent supporter of our Second Amendment rights. However, at this time I don't feel that many sportsmen and woman and the general public supports concealed carry."

You and your opponent have said that campaign finance reform is an important issue. Why is this



Alice Clausing

an important issue, and, if elected, what would you propose to do about it?

Clausing: "I am the Chair of the Senate Committee on Campaign Finance Reform, and I was the Senate author of comprehensive campaign finance reform legislation that gave no advantage to either side. It increased public funding, put a cap on spending and decreased the influence of special interests. I was also the author of the issue ads bill that would have eliminated the advertising on Minneapolis television. I have always applied for and accepted public funding, and do not take Political Action Committee (PAC) contributions. I plan to reintroduce a bill and keep working on this important issue. I hope that all voters support the advisory referendum on the ballot on campaign finance reform so my colleagues in the Senate will be convinced to join me in passing comprehensive campaign finance reform in the next session of the Legislature."

Harsdorf: "Campaign finance reform is crucial to ensure our system of government is upheld, with the highest standards and levels of integrity. I support full and immediate disclosure of all campaign contributions. In addition, I believe candidates should work to raise the majority of their contributions from within the district they wish to represent. The voters of a respective district should choose their representation and it should be done without the undue, excessive influence of outside special interest groups."



Sheila Harsdorf

In what ways do you foresee the sprawl of the Twin Cities metro area affecting western Wisconsin in the near future? What, if anything, would you propose to do about sprawl issues?

Harsdorf: "The continuing issue of sprawl from the Twin Cities is of great concern to me. We must ensure that land use and development decisions are made at the local level with input from community members. In order to minimize urban sprawl, I believe we must maintain full implementation of use value assessment which taxes farmland on its' actual use and not its' potential use. Without Use-Value we will see more farmland sold for development and the loss of more green space."

Clausing: "Urban sprawl is one of the biggest issues in the 10th Senate District. The state budget, which I supported, included a plan called Smart Growth that helps communities plan and develop land use that will best conserve our resources, help communities decide how they want their communities developed, and put zoning and ordinances in place to protect our communities from undesirable forms of economic development."

Critics of referendum votes on school construction claim that projects are pushed through because they are brought up until opponents give in. Do you support limiting the number of times new school construction can be brought up on referendum?

Clausing: "Decisions about

schools should be made by local communities."

Harsdorf: "I would support certain limitations to the number of times new school construction projects could be brought up on referendum. We have an obligation to taxpayers to ensure effective and efficient use of tax dollars. School board members and other locally elected officials have the responsibility to make the case to the taxpayers to support new building costs and be accountable for their actions."

In your opinion, what is the biggest problem in Wisconsin's public education system? What, specifically, would you do to improve it?

Harsdorf: "Wisconsin's public schools are some of the best in the nation. Yet, as in other states, our schools must constantly balance their financial resources between in-classroom expenditures and administrative expenses and salaries. The state must continue to fund 2/3 the cost of education and to work towards further innovations to address the needs of our students."

Clausing: "School aids are not fairly distributed and taxpayers often pay more but get less. We need equity in school funding so all students get a good education. The problem is especially evident in our area. When the third tier was added to the school funding formula by the Republicans, it sent \$5.1 million in school aids that our area should have received to the rich Milwaukee suburbs. I did not support this measure and will work to undo it so our schools receive their fair share of funding. We must also do everything we can to promote teaching so we can continue to have a well-qualified teaching staff in Wisconsin."

Considering the dramatic rise in fuel prices over the last year, do you consider public transportation a viable substitute for private vehicle operation? Would you support the use of tax money and incentives to increase public transportation and limit individual driving?

Clausing: "Some parts of the state

are more conducive to mass transit, and in those areas we should provide the public with mass transportation options. In rural areas, it is harder to have a mass transportation system that can accommodate everyone. To help those areas, we should provide incentives for the automotive industry to develop more fuel-efficient vehicles. We should also encourage carpooling programs wherever they are possible."

Harsdorf: "While I have always supported the use of alternative and more efficient forms of transportation to conserve energy and to protect Wisconsin's pristine environment, the diversion of tax dollars to increased public transportation and limitations on individual driving would have unfair consequences on rural areas such as those found in Western Wisconsin. We must work to address the transportation needs of all residents, not merely those in the highly urbanized Southern portion of the state."

In your opinion does the death penalty save lives and deter crime? Would you support the adoption of the death penalty in Wisconsin?

Harsdorf: "I do believe we must enforce sentences handed down for violent criminals and that is why I supported and voted for truth-in-sentencing. Instead of the death penalty, I believe that we must ensure that when a life sentence is handed down a life sentence is served."

Clausing: "As you may know, Illinois recently suspended the death penalty because innocent people have been wrongfully convicted. This is the best reason not to adopt the death penalty in Wisconsin and to allow the state to kill people. There is no evidence that I know of that the death penalty deters crime. To remove people from the society with life imprisonment is often cheaper than the death penalty due to all of the appeals that come with a death penalty conviction. It is also important to consider that mistaken convictions can be overturned in states without the death penalty, which cannot happen when an innocent person is put to death."

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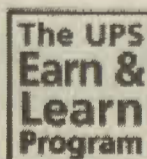
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Swinging back in style



Molly Montag /
The Student Voice

SophomoreChris Shoemaker and his partner demonstrate proper swing dance techniques at the Swing Dance on Tuesday night. The event, sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ (CCC), Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, and Navigators, was held at Brandy's.

Local law enforcement dampers students' Homecoming spirits

■ Crackdown on underage drinking left many students hesitant to enjoy themselves during weekend festivities

Paul Broz
Staff Writer

Homecoming week at UW-River Falls was a success for some and a very frustrating week for many others. From mid-afternoon concerts to late night kegs, the week had its share of memorable moments. Multiple organizations came together to help put together a week filled with penny wars, homecoming coronation, and numerous other campus events.

"I thought homecoming week went very well," said Patrick Wade, event coordinator at the Leadership Center. "This being my first year here, I was very impressed." The Special Events Committee made sure homecoming went off without a hitch. They had maximum membership in their organization this year, according to Jill Gese, a junior majoring in elementary education. She was one of the people who made the Special Events Committee pull off homecoming so well. "Everything ran very smoothly," Gese said. "We had a very good turn out this year and it was a lot of fun." However, many students were disenchanted and frustrated on what was happening off-campus. "Homecoming sucked. The police department made it boring," said Chuck Washenberger, a sophomore majoring in business management. "This town is taking itself way too seriously." Students across campus were shar-

ing many of the same sentiments. "Everybody was too nervous because of the police to have any fun," said Scott Jones, a junior majoring in business finance. "If the police keep harassing people there isn't going to be many people wanting to come here any more." The police on their part insist that the crack down on underage drinking is for the good of the community. The police department was recently issued a youth alcohol enforcement grant that has aided in nabbing underage drinkers, according to Sgt. Jeff Linehan of the River Falls Police Department. "The law is the law," Linehan said. "We do not under any circumstances want kids under 21 to drink. We value the safety of these young peoples' lives." "The police need to chill out and realize we are not out to destroy the city or cause trouble," said Chris Langin, a sophomore majoring in broad field social studies. "We can all get along with each other and still have a good time."

CAMPUS SECURITY

Student backpacks stolen

Andrea Caudill and Ryan Brinks
Staff Writers

Three backpacks were stolen from UW-RF buildings on Friday, Oct. 20 by an unknown person. The backpacks were left unattended in public places around the campus. The first backpack was stolen at approximately 8:15 a.m. in KFA. The second was stolen at around 9:05 a.m. in North Hall. The final backpack was taken in the Food Science building at 9:35 a.m. All three bags were left in places such as offices or labs, but were not secured or locked up. One backpack was recovered by the River Falls Police Department in a dumpster. A checkbook and a Swiss Army Knife had been taken from it. No suspects have been named. The best idea to prevent this from happening is to always be aware of your backpack's location. "They're just like a purse, don't leave them sitting around," Public Safety Director Priscilla Stevens said. The bags were probably stolen for cash, credit cards, or other valuables left in them, according to Stevens. "Don't keep a lot of money, valuables, or sensitive material in backpacks," Stevens said. If a backpack is discovered missing, contact Campus Security immediately at extension 3133. If bank cards or credit cards were in the bag, call the credit card company immediately and cancel the card, as the thief will often try to use them right away.

In other news

School buses are generally associated with safety, unless of course you're a pedestrian and they don't bother to stop to let you across the street. Just ask Geology Professor William S. Cordua. A week ago Thursday, Oct. 26, in on and off light rain, a River Falls School District bus, driven by LeAnne M. O'Leary, headed down Cascade Avenue among medium to heavy traffic. According to the police report, O'Leary didn't see a man in the crosswalk. Her windshield wipers were working properly. Realizing that the bus wasn't going to stop, Cordua, who was wearing dark clothes, jumped back to avoid contact. In doing so, he re-injured a bad ankle. Though Cordua refused medical attention, O'Leary was given a traffic warning for failure to yield to a pedestrian. Rhett A. Pearson and Nicholas P. Schaffhausen, along with another unidentified person, were accused of overturning and moving three cement sign barrels in upper N Lot. Justin N. Johnson reported his bright yellow Huffy Cabb, a 21-speed mountain-style bike valued at around \$120, stolen. The bike was chained to a signpost and has yet to be recovered. Damage was reported to an emergency phone on the path between N Lot and Hunt Arena. A forged Menard's payroll check to Anna K. Rowe, which was later reported lost, was cashed at Mel's Midtown.

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Camp Roadkill by Jamison Penny



Significance has taken a holiday from holidays

Building their purpose to remember and celebrate, observances have become common dates

They once meant something to us, as we used to count down the days and enamored at the decorations associated with them, but holidays have almost become as important to us as obeying speed limit signs; they're there but disregarded. For many of us today, we fail to make the connection between month and date as we once did, like March 17 or Nov. 11, for example. And even at that, if we are somehow reminded by the radio or a friend, we need to be frequently told again or we'll forget.

It's no secret that holidays don't feel like holidays anymore; how many of you felt the creepy fun of Halloween last week? For some reason, we have been somewhat desensitized from these special days and numbed from the history that created them. Although as children we were in the habit of correlating holidays with either free candy, presents, or a day off from school, at least we looked forward to them; today, they are nonchalantly shrugged off and come only as a nice surprise when they make their annual appearance.

When I was a kid, back in the day when holidays were highlighted on the class calendar, I would dress in green on St. Patrick's Day (March 17) and went to see a presentation by the American Legion on Veterans Day (Nov. 11), learning why we celebrated important days like this. However, kids today, as well as some adults, think St. Patrick was an alcoholic and have no idea what war Veterans Day originated from. Calendars nowadays have more information on moon cycles than observances, but that doesn't matter because we scribble up our daily planners with our busy lives anyway. Holidays were given special days or dates because their makeup and history had significance; they exist because we are supposed to remember them. But as time rolls on, history is stretched, and we become disassociated

with the accounts and stories that made these dates great — they're not as important as they once were. Can anyone name President's Day or Columbus Day?

But not all holidays have been totally forgotten as we still have Easter and Christmas alive and well, and I'm sure most of us can name

around July 4. Unfortunately, we have grown tolerant of these demoralizing acts on holidays and have developed to hate them because of it.

In spite of this, companies cannot take the full blame as our values have changed over time. Granted, we will probably never be able to skin and make hasenpfeffer out of the Easter Bunny or knock off Santa Claus and have Rudolph as venison — because they "bring good things," but we have already "killed" once-important holidays. Flag Day (June 14) has long been gone, May Day (May 1) is hardly associated with the month of May anymore, and Earth Day (April 22) and Arbor Day (April 28) died with the 1980s.

And although some holidays have gone beyond any hope of salvaging, many are approaching that mark. Labor Day and Memorial Day are now an excuse for a day off work, many can't make it far enough through a relationship to acknowledge Valentine's Day, and Thanksgiving has become more of a reason to get together with family for hunting or because you

haven't seen them in a while. But sadly, most of us can call the partying date of Cinco de Mayo, and, hey — don't anyone ever forget Super Bowl Sunday. It's almost a disgrace to the history of the United States when a rodent in Punxsutawney, Pa., gets more attention on Groundhog Day than the observed date of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

For whatever the reason the neglect for holidays is, it needs to be stopped; these days and dates would not have been nationally set aside to be observed if they were meaningless. We all lead busy lives, but are they too busy to recognize key events or circumstances that made our country or history? Celebrate the art of commemorating the importance of the past, and send the memories on into the future.

MATTHEW PERENCHIO



"I used to think that my disregard for holidays was because I was getting older, but then I realized that this feeling was being passed down."

Dec. 25 as Christmas while a decent share can say that Easter is observed on the first Sunday after the paschal full moon. However, it may be ironic to note that the word "holiday" is derived from the term "holy day," and I think that may constitute as a large portion to the desensitization we have received.

I used to think that my disregard for holidays was because I was getting older, but then I realized that this feeling was being passed down. Businesses and corporations have relentlessly pounded us over the years with their products, using holidays as a masking device to sell products. We have gotten used to seeing Christmas merchandise on display by the beginning of October, and we have hummed at the push for fireworks and flags

Letters to the editor are encouraged and should be dropped off in room 213 South Hall by noon on Monday

Private organizations should decide own rules

As I've been sifting through the major national newspapers lately, I've been searching for new subjects that weren't about the presidential election.

Hidden in the corner of the last page of the national news section, I found one.

The story was about a group of young men who were taken to court because of their moral views and had to wait while the U.S. Supreme Court decided if they would be allowed to maintain their own standards or must accept those proposed by society.

I am, of course, talking about the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), whose practice is to require boys who join the scouts to take an oath to maintain certain moral and ethical standards.

Over the last decade, the BSA have been under attack because they do not allow homosexuals to be Scout Leaders. Gay rights activists insist that the practice of disallowing homosexual leadership constitutes discrimination of homosexuals.

There have been movements to try to stop the BSA from having access to public buildings such as schools for holding meetings, unless they agree to accept homosexual leadership.

Contributors to the United Way are up in arms because the charity has refused to break its ties with the scouts or take a definitive stance. Supporters of both sides are getting angrier every day.

The point many people are missing about this issue, however, is that it isn't about whether homosexuality is right or wrong. In fact, homosexuality isn't really a relevant consideration in this case.

The issue at hand is whether or not citizens of "the free world" are really going to have any freedoms at all. Whether the freedom of association or the right to organize privately and peacefully will only apply to groups that meet government approved standards. The issue is whether "big brother" is going to step in to mediate every time an individual or group decides it doesn't like something another individual or group has done.

Homosexuality isn't on trial. Whether you

personally believe it is right or wrong doesn't matter in this case. Nobody's saying that homosexuality should be outlawed.

That is because freedom-loving Americans understand that allowing the government's direct persecution of a particular person or group for their views would be a travesty of justice. It would uproot us from democracy and transplant us in monarchy.

People are failing to see that it is that exact same desire for freedom that will be squelched if the scouts are forced to aban-

On their web site, the BSA says, "(We) have selected ... leaders using the highest standards because strong leaders and positive role models are so important to the healthy development of youth."

What they are saying is that they want their leaders to be people who will influence young men to grow up to fulfill their scout oaths and be moral, upstanding citizens. If the BSA views homosexuality as a bad example for children, they must be allowed to preserve that opinion in the same way that tolerance educators are allowed to teach that homosexuality is normal.

The scouts were founded more than 90 years ago on the premise of teaching boys "moral and ethical values through an outdoor program that challenges them and teaches them respect for nature, one another, and themselves." If an individual joins a group with such precedence, they do so knowing and accepting what the group is and why they exist. To join, to take an oath, and then to try to tear the group and its core values apart is treasonous.

The fact that homosexuals are not barred from boy scouts shows the intent to include anyone who wants to join. The fact that homosexual leadership is not allowed is rational, when you consider that boy scouts are alone with their scout leaders in the woods for days at a time.

I am not trying to draw a connection between homosexuality and pedophilia. Boy scouts encompass boys of all ages, including teens and men up to age 20.

A 19-year-old man would not be allowed to lead a group of girl scouts alone on a trip. Even if the man was of good character, the situation would not be allowed to avoid any possible incident. This is not a presumption of guilt of the man but a prevention of guilt by avoiding the circumstance.

In the same way, a gay young man should not be trusted with a group of equally impressionable boys. It's not about hate, or lack of tolerance. It's an issue of safety for the scouts.

KRISTOPHER JENSEN



"The point many people are missing about this issue ... is that it isn't about whether homosexuality is right or wrong. In fact, homosexuality isn't really a relevant consideration in this case."

don't their moral standards to please someone with an opposing view.

That is why the U.S. Supreme Court reaffirmed the BSA's standing as a private organization with the right to set its own membership and leadership standards in June of this year.

The BSA said they "realize that not every individual nor organization prescribes to the same beliefs that the BSA does" but they hope that others can be respectful of their beliefs.

The boy scouts aren't trying to crusade against homosexuality. In fact, they aren't even trying to block homosexuals from being in scouts. They just want to be able to run their organization the way they see fit, which is to select leaders they feel match the moral and ethical standards the scouts have come to represent.

EDITORIAL

Winter offers unique once-a-year chances

As the daylight has grown shorter and temperatures have begun to dip, the blustery and chilled weather of a Wisconsin winter is just around the corner. Turning up the heat, swapping your shorts and t-shirts for your winter wardrobe, and warming up your vehicle before leaving are just a few of the acts that will need to take place as our outdoors will be transformed into a white and frigid atmosphere.

But for those that will miss seeing the ground in more than one shade or being able to walk downtown without having to wear mittens, there is still a chance to get one last look at nature before it is frosted over. Temperatures haven't been reduced to too drastic numbers to where a stroll across campus or a hike in the woods isn't out of possibility. Enjoy scenery and the moderate temperatures before the opportunity is gone.

As many of us get cabin fever around January and February, however, don't forget that there are ample chances to enjoy the winter. Aside from the popular sport of snowmobiling across the county, Afton Alps over in Minnesota offers skiing for those

that wish to hit the slopes, and ice skating has become more prevalent as Hunt Arena opens its doors to the public periodically over the winter.

And while the scenery may be considered depressing by some, we are very fortunate to have the countryside practically all around us, and winter brings out many hidden qualities in nature that are not seen during warmer seasons. So that walk in the woods or drive on the backroads can still be appreciated for its aesthetic value. And the white, blanketed hill and icicle-draped trees are a prime calling for picture takers.

But perhaps more eventful, winter holds one of the best holidays: Christmas. Such a wonderful opportunity to get

together with friends and family, Christmas is quickly followed by New Year's, and our celebration is taken into the next year.

So while many students may look at winter as a bleak and restrictive season, don't forget that it is only what you make of it. Winter is a great opportunity to meet new people and only experience things that summer, spring, and fall don't permit. Winter is a once-a-year wonderland.

"As many of us get cabin fever around January and February, however, don't forget that there are many chances to enjoy the winter."

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A NON-PROFIT PUBLICATION

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

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

Opinions expressed in editorials and columns are not necessarily those of the student population, faculty, staff, or administration.

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Letters to the Editor

Diversity teaches, provides information about each other

As a multicultural advisor on this campus, I am concerned with recent letters from Kristopher Jensen and Patrick Coughlin which seem to indicate misinformation and a confusion about the goals of diversity education. Kristopher fears he's being left off the diversity bandwagon ("Where are the special programs for me?" I would like to see more scholarships out there for Scandinavian journalism students...instead of Gay Pride Week, we could have Heterosexual Happiness Days...). Patrick fears that the reason for presentations like the Bertolino production in the "Bridges" series "is to promote homosexuality as an 'alternate' lifestyle..." In the body of his text, he makes a particularly strong statement about his presumptions regarding the anatomical dimensions of homosexual contact.

Diversity education is about having access to accurate information. It's about learning the history, contributions and current events related to populations which have not historically had a "voice" in American culture. It's primarily about preparing yourself for the pluralistic workplace of the 21st century by becoming a critical (thorough) thinker who has the ability to understand a variety of different perspectives and to work effectively with individuals who are very different from yourself. To understand another's world view does NOT mandate that you change your own.

Let's take Kristopher's notion about scholarships and the importance of accurate information. Less than 1 percent of federal funding have "race or ethnicity" as an indicator for eligibility. These scholarships are based on financial need. In fact, some of them are designated "minority/disadvantaged," which means that they can be utilized by poor caucasian folks as well. That leaves 99 percent of federal financial aid available for everyone. And as you know from your own applications for financial aid, financial assistance is based on need. However, what about private scholarships? A private donor can designate whatever qualifier they want. So perhaps this is where all the financial aid for "minority" students is coming

from? Again, less than .5 percent (one-half percent). The other 99.5 percent is designated with qualifiers like musical or academic ability (including journalism), where your father works (3M? Kolpack?), or what county you reside in when not in school. An abundance of programs and scholarships for "diverse" students is a myth. Diversity education can provide us with FACTS from which to make INFORMED opinions.

Kristopher should also realize that everyday is heterosexual pride day. That's how it is when an institution is considered the "norm" in a society. Just be "different" from the "norm" and you find out that you are NOT allowed pride, which brings me to Patrick's concern.

Patrick appears to focus on the notion of sexual activity as the defining aspect of gay diversity, although I doubt that he would characterize heterosexuals as a group on the basis of one single activity of life. Attraction is an important aspect of life which relates to every other, but there are also other dimensions to human beings, such as character, integrity, ethics, humor, honesty, etc. He thinks there is a gay agenda of "conversion" despite current research on the biological basis of sexual orientation, which may preclude choice. Most importantly, as was evident at the GSA Vigil for Matthew Shephard, young gay men and women are STILL being murdered TODAY, just as are people of color, for no other reason than for a single diverse characteristic.

Diversity education asks you to search out accurate information, make considered and informed opinions, and to examine your own opinions, which may be even stronger after you've examined other interpretations or positions. Diversity education seeks to build stronger communities by encouraging expression of opinion, including Patrick and Kristopher's. They and the *Student Voice* have provided an opportunity for us all to reflect and reexamine our own positions and share them with our UW-River Falls community.

Linda M. Alvarez,
Multicultural Services

Concept of diversity needs to be studied before discussion

I am writing in response to the recent letters to the editor regarding the issue on homosexuality and Diversity. First of all, I want to make it clear — I don't hate heterosexuals! I love heterosexuals — they make us. I have many friends that are heterosexual.

These past weeks, I have read the letters and been asked what my opinion was. And here it is. I think that the people using the *Student Voice* to rouse up the student population are wrong. I'm not against students writing letters or columns about diversity and homosexuality. But here is a hint for those who are going to write a letter concerning the similar issues, please proofread and possibly get a couple of opinions before you submit it. When I read letters like that, all I can think is how ignorant the writer is and how foolish it is that someone can use the Bible as a defense. There is no reference to homosexuality in the Bible anywhere, but if you don't believe me, READ IT! Don't go to some web site or go with what you overheard from someone more ignorant than yourself.

I also want to make it clear that diversity involves everyone on this campus. Diversity includes everyone and there is no way of getting away from it. There are Muslims, pagans, Buddhists, and Christians on this campus. There are African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Latino Americans on this campus as well as others (sorry if I left anyone out). Homosexuals are part of

the general population on this planet. No matter where you go, there will be someone different from you.

The word "diverse" means (according to "Merriam-Webster Dictionary") one, "Differing from one another," and two, "Composed of distinct or unlike elements or qualities." There are many misconceptions about homosexuals, and to assure you they don't recruit or convert heterosexuals, and they don't preach on uses of the rectum.

Patrick Coughlin, I do not hate you either. When you try to say, homosexuality should not be considered a diversity issue, you attack my position on Student Senate and my person. I work with diversity seven days a week, with my fraternity, with Student Senate, and with this campus and other campuses. Before you go and write another letter to the Editor — DO SOME RESEARCH! You supposedly know some homosexuals, talk to them. Do they know what you wrote? Do they still consider you a friend? I know if one of my friends did that, I would not hesitate ending that friendship forever.

So, to those who think Homosexuals are not different from heterosexuals - Great! Write a letter to your senator telling them to support same sex marriages!

Any Question? I will be happy and gay to answer them.

Eric Dodge, Diversity Issues
Director of UW-RF Student
Association Student Senate

MN Senate race more quirky than past campaigns

Nominees Grams, Dayton, and Gibson have personally made the race a soap opera

The 2000 Minnesota Senate race, between Republican incumbent Rod Grams, Democratic candidate Mark Dayton, and Independent candidate James Gibson, has become one of quirks, contradictions and drugs. It is a drama or mini-series in the making, unfolding right before the voters' eyes.

The debates were not as enjoyable to watch as the presidential debates. I laughed out loud to a few choice one-liners between Bush and Gore, as well as Gore's face, which, in the first debate, looked like he forgot to use Maybellene (not that I am an expert). Or maybe Ralph Nader beat him with a watermelon, venting his anger on not being admitted into the first debate.

Grams, regarding his soft money collecting, boasts Dayton-Hudson Corp. as his No. 1 contributor. So, in essence, Mark Dayton is giving money to Rod Grams, his opponent.

According to a *Star Tribune* analysis, Grams raised \$20,500 in PAC donations and from top executives of Target Corp., formerly Dayton-Hudson Corp. Democratic candidate Mark Dayton, an heir to Dayton-Hudson, as of entering the Senate race, has sold most of his stock, and an estimate at the beginning of the year showed Dayton had amassed \$15 million from Dayton-Hudson, according to the *Star Tribune*.

Grams and Dayton, both divorced with children, are in favor of either slashing or abolishing completely the Marriage Penalty Tax.

The Marriage Penalty Tax is incurred when the total taxes owed by two unmarried people are less than if they were married and filed jointly. According to the web site of the United States House of Representatives, the size of the tax is determined by their incomes, number of dependents, and itemized deductions, and if married couples' incomes are split more evenly than a 70-to-30 ratio, then the unified couple suffers a penalty.

Regarding tax cuts, both Dayton and Grams have promised some form of tax

relief. Grams has vowed to provide across-the-board cuts to all taxpayers, while Dayton's plan concentrates most of the budget surplus to middle-class taxpayers. Gibson feels differently.

He has bluntly stated that tax relief during a period of great prosperity is asinine. "Emerging budget surpluses should be used to repay the national debt and to properly fund the federal retirement programs," Gibson is quoted as saying on his official "James Gibson for U.S. Senate" web site.

BEN SCHMITT



"The 2000 Minnesota race...is a drama or mini-series in the making, unfolding right before the voters' eyes."

Grams favors abolishing the income tax in favor of a national sales tax. Dayton is fighting for doubling Grams' \$500 per child tax credit. "Boosting tax credits for child care, making college tuition tax-deductible, and making health insurance premiums fully deductible," are Dayton's other economic priorities.

Grams said he is for protecting the environment. He also is a strong advocate of snowmobilers' rights and having motorized boats allowed in more parts of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, according to a profile written on Grams in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.

I don't buy into the notion whatsoever that cars and motorized vehicles were the worst inventions ever, like Al Gore, and I am in favor of snowmobilers' rights. But with credibility comes consistency; just be careful, Rod.

Dayton and Grams, although I am not 100 percent certain, don't support the

legalization of hard drugs. Grams stated "I will never give up trying to help him overcome the addictions and problems that have plagued him during his life," with regards to his 22-year-old son, Morgan, who is in the grips of drug use. He has made it clear he disapproves of his son's lifestyle and wants to help him change his life around, and I am sure Dayton would do the same. But what is this I hear about Gibson wanting to legalize every drug under the sun? He's also a ballroom dancer, by the way (kind of a funny thing to picture, eh?).

Morgan, adding color to his father's backdrop, was arrested in New Mexico on Oct. 23.

Police in Las Cruces, N.M. chased the refugee Grams out of a hotel after following reports of a stolen car. Grams jumped out of a third-floor window and state police eventually caught up with him at a canal opening.

He and another man, 18-year-old Mark Anderson, were arrested at the motel and charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle and possession of more than \$2,500 worth of stolen property, including cash, antique coins, silver bars, and a shotgun, which were all found in the vehicle, according to the *Pioneer Press*.

Morgan, while listening to the radio one morning, came on during the commercial break with a quasi-obiterated voice, telling me why I should vote for his father. I planned on doing so anyway, but his reasons went along the lines of "Yeah, dude...vote for my dad, or something...that way, I'll be able to mess around with 15-year-old girls and smoke my stash...he won't be on my back because he'll be in Washington.....peace out."

I figured the commercial was a joke until I heard those magic words of "Paid for by the Re-elect Rod Grams Committee."

It was then I realized this election had terrific qualities. I had already made up my mind long before I tuned in to the U.S. Senate seat race for whom I was going to vote. However, I have yet to decide on an Academy Award for best actor.

Nature naturally creates us who we are, adds diversity

Reading the Oct. 20 *Student Voice*, I came upon a letter that said "nature has a bias against homosexuality." In that statement, I am able to envision an element of what Western man has long coveted: a greater power than nature. And the power clearly favors gays, lesbians, and bisexual people. You see, formerly I had thought these people were

born out of the same natural processes that are in effect when other humans come into this world. But I guess that must not be so. Otherwise, if the letter writer's statement is correct, nature would be contradicting itself if it were biased against them while simultaneously bringing them to life through biological processes. So it must be, then, that

"homosexuals" are only here on Earth through some mysterious power that wants them here more than nature can withstand.

Mark Johnson, UW-River Falls
Counselor

Panhellenic Council alcohol-free proposal is best for campus, despite misconception

I am writing in response to Matt McConico's column last week. I would like to correct some misinformation that Mr. McConico had printed regarding the Panhellenic Council and the alcohol resolution we have on the table.

Mr. McConico's assumption that we are passing the resolution "because [we] can" is completely off base. The Panhellenic Council is dedicated to providing its member sororities with the best kind of government. Included in that notion is the fact that the Panhellenic Council is a democracy, not a dictatorship as this reason of Matt's implies. Mr. McConico needs to remember that the Panhellenic Council is made up of delegates from each of the four sororities, who vote with their chapter's best interest in mind. We are not an independent organization that lords over the sororities. Coincidentally, I would like to point out that we are not selfish. Our policies are meant to benefit all of our Greek sisters.

Secondly, I would like to correct Mr. McConico when he says that if a group does not like a Panhellenic policy, that group may opt to "drop" out of the umbrella organization. Leaving the Panhellenic Council is not an option on our campus. If a group wants to be recognized by both the university and their national headquarters, they must participate in the local Panhellenic Council. A group may choose to leave the National Panhellenic Conference, but that is a major decision, with far-reaching implications that don't need to be discussed here.

Finally, I question Mr.

McConico's motives in writing this and last week's column on the Panhellenic Council and our resolution. He is not a Greek and thus doesn't not fully understand the inner structures and politics of Greek life. His columns have angered and hurt both my sisters and me, and his uninformed opinions have done nothing positive for us. In fact, they have only spread confusion and frustration in our community. The next time Mr. McConico wants to voice his opinion for the entire student body to read, I suggest he do some homework first. This means accepting offered resources, gathering multiple sources, and spending a considerable amount of time learning facts.

Leah Palmer, Panhellenic
Council President

Abroad study is work too

Two weeks ago, the *Student Voice* ran a picture of 26 students currently studying in Europe on the Semester Abroad Program. The caption "European Vacation" above the photograph belies the true nature of the program. One of Webster's Dictionary's definitions for vacation is "a period of rest from work and study."

Semester Abroad is anything but a period of rest from work and study. The students in the picture spent a week together in Paris. Since then, each of them has been pursuing an independent research project somewhere in Europe. Each is studying a different topic: the fate of French Jews during World War II; potato breeding in Ireland; contemporary German photography; avalanche research in the Swiss Alps; and the list goes on and on. The students spent all last spring preparing this research and learning how to be informed, capable, and culturally sensitive European travelers.

In two weeks, the group will meet again in Barcelona; after that, most of them will be free to travel, although some will continue their research. As soon as the students return, each will finish writing and will submit a 60 to 80 page research paper.

We appreciate the fact that the *Student Voice* ran the picture of the Semester Abroad group. It is important, however, that the campus community understand that Semester Abroad is a rigorous academic program, not a European vacation.

David Heberlein, Co-Director
of Semester Abroad
Sandra Soares, Former
Director of Semester Abroad

Students are very important in elections

Welcome to the Election Year! If there's a way to misrepresent a candidate's position, someone will find a way to do it. I am now the victim of cyberspace misrepresentation. This e-mail implied that I don't listen to students because they don't vote.

As a mom with three kids in college, it's ludicrous to say I don't listen to students! I have also held "open meetings" on campus for the specific purpose of hearing your concerns and issues.

During a recent presentation at a class on campus, I was asked why student issues are not high on the "political radar." In efforts to give as honest infor-

mation as possible, I said that students are a difficult group to work with because you are here one year and gone the next. In addition, students have a history of not voting.

I also said that if you want to see how significant the student vote can be, look at Jesse Ventura! At UM-St. Cloud, every student eligible to vote did so! And they got him elected!

This proves you have the ability to exercise political clout but you have to vote. Vote either in your home district or on campus, but VOTE!

I have worked with students to help ensure that any tuition increase is matched by the same

increase in financial aid. As vice-chair of the Assembly's College and University Committee, we approved the tuition freeze for this year. I continue to work to ensure that our reciprocity agreement remains in place and that our schools are able to hire the best teachers possible.

You are more than capable of reviewing the material from all candidates and making your own decisions. The important thing is that you vote!

Kitty Rhoades, State
Representative, 30th Assembly
District

Debates / views of the presidential candidates

Continued from A1

and the importance of college students voting.

The two topics which invoked the most heated discussion at the debate were the candidates' stands on health care for all Americans and tax plans affecting college students.

Regarding the first issue, according to the student representatives, Brown believes no one is inherently entitled to health care benefits; Bush aims to institute a policy that would benefit those not eligible for Medicaid and desires to lower health care costs for those working

for small businesses; Gore wants to offer adequate health care to all individuals; and Nader agrees everyone needs health care and the federal government should play a role in providing that care.

Regarding the latter issue, Brown believes all federal income taxes should be abolished; Bush will aim to lower taxes for everyone, including the college student; Gore desires to make the first two years of one's college tuition tax free and for one's remaining years wants to designate \$10,000 of tuition tax deductible; and Nader believes in

progressive taxes, which is the less someone makes, the less they pay.

Following the question-and-answer debate, each representative gave a closing statement.

Kathy Juenemann, a senior English major, was pleased with the presentations given during the course of the debate.

"I liked hearing the issues in student's voices," she said. "They knew how to answer (the questions) and represent (their candidates). It didn't have the political gloss."

Gays / living together in today's society

Continued from A 1

The basis of this rule was Leipold and Bertolino have a narrow view because they are two white, gay men.

"We can't talk to you about what it means to be straight or to be a lesbian. We can't tell you what it's like to be bisexual because we're not. We can't tell you what it's like to be a person of color because we're not," Bertolino said. "And we understand that. We understand that limitation and so we're very upfront with that."

Bertolino admitted they were limited to what they could share

because of these limitations. However, what they could share with the audience was their experiences, their thoughts, their perspectives and their research.

The next part of the program was focused on stereotypes. Members of the audience were asked to identify where their stereotypes come from. The audience identified their stereotypes come from the media, parents, friends, peers, church, religion, personal experiences, educators, region, culture, politics, government, art, other people's experiences and employment.

According to Leipold, people can choose most of the things on the list of stereotypes by the time they reach college. They are able to choose where they go to school, where they work, what religion they want to take part in, what friends they have, what region they want to live in and what political party they want to belong to.

"Our values have a large impact on terms of what we believe, and our stereotypes come straight from our values," Leipold said.

The next part of the program was the personal stories of how Leipold and Bertolino admitted to themselves that they were gay and how they dealt with "coming out of the closet."

"The reality is that the coming-out process is an individual process and people go through that at their own rate and I think it is important for us to respect that," Bertolino said.

Leipold grew up in a small town, and came from a Catholic family, where church played an important part in how he was raised. After high school he decided to go to a small state college in southern Pennsylvania, which reflected his parents' values. College turned out to be the point in his life at which he realized he was gay.

"When I went there I thought like every other freshman I was going to have the exact same experience," Leipold said. "College to me was about three things: having a good time, getting laid and drinking as much as possible."

Within the first few months of school he met Victoria. Three weeks later they became engaged. After Christmas he came back to school early to work on a theater production. When the rehearsal was finished a bunch of them were going out to a party, but they invited a guy named Kevin along. Leipold refused to go because Kevin was gay.

However, they started hanging out more and more, and before he knew it he was dating Victoria by day and Kevin by night.

Eventually he confided in a close friend he thought he was gay.

"I had two reactions. The first one was 'wow this was great and I'm relieved that I finally admitted it and the weight of the world is off my shoulders,'" Leipold said. "And in the second breath all of a sudden I thought 'what will my family think; this isn't a cool school to come out at; what was going to happen to me?'"

The next morning he told the same thing to his roommate. His roommate said that it was okay, they were in this together and they'd deal with it. Leipold made him promise not to tell anyone. However, that night there was a hall

council meeting and during the question and answer period at the end of the meeting, his roommate asked the question, "I have a faggot for a roommate, what do I do?"

When Leipold returned to the dorm that night, his room had been ransacked. His roommate had let everyone in the dorm into his room to destroy it. Later they ended up starting his door on fire, with him in the room.

Bertolino also grew up in a small town in a Catholic household.

"I grew up straight, I lived straight," Bertolino said.

After college, Bertolino went through a period of time where he went from dating to just not dating, but he figured that it was just a phase.

Then he ended up going to California for a conference. He had met a woman there and when she offered for him to come back to her place, he turned her down, packed his bags and headed back to Pennsylvania. It was on the plane ride home he realized he was gay.

"I can't explain it, but it was like this weight came off my shoulders," Bertolino said.

On that 6-hour plane ride, not only did Bertolino admit to himself he was gay, but he decided he was going to be out.

"I decided in that short time period that I needed to be out and I needed to be myself," Bertolino said. "People would either love me or they wouldn't."

The first person Bertolino told was his best friend Susan. Her response was, "tell me something I don't already know. I've been waiting for you to tell me this for 10 years."

Bertolino also decided he needed to come out on the campus where he was working.

"If I'm afraid to be who I am to my students, what message am I sending?" Bertolino said.

Although both Bertolino and Leipold's families needed time to adjust to the idea that they were gay, they have shown their acceptance in their own ways.

During the question and answer period at the end of the program, Leipold expressed their views on gay and lesbian parents raising children.

They felt it came down to good parenting and children should have parents who love them, regardless of the parents sexual orientation. They stressed that children being raised by gay or lesbian parents have no increased likelihood of becoming gays or lesbians, because after all straight families had raised them both.

Dawn Gallinger, adviser of the Diversity Awareness Committee who helped put on the event, was impressed with the quality of the questions asked by the audience.

"It was great to see students here that care," said Kelly Manthei, co-chair of the diversity awareness committee.

What the program came down to was individuals making decisions on the way they were going to live their lives. Leipold and Bertolino did not expect everyone to agree with their lifestyle or to even accept it.

"We not asking for special rights," Leipold said. "We're asking for equal human rights."

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Alice Clausening

STATE SENATOR

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-Gary Thibodeau
*Former UW-River Falls Chancellor
Pierce County Herald 10-20-99*

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Of course we can contend

It's probably pretty safe to say that almost any logically-thinking person who knows anything about sports, from anywhere but Wisconsin, would have a notion to bet that a Div. II school could beat a Div. III school. Well, not to say that UM-Crookston is your typical Div. II school, but you have to

RYAN BRINKS

expect they could do better than lose by nine goals, as in their recent mauling by the Falcons. Think about it. Then think about it a little more closely. What's their enrollment? How about 2,775. What are we doing in Div. III when they're pucking with the big boys of Div. II?

You can look at football and volleyball the same way. When the WIAC takes the field in the annual Border Battles scheduled for

November 10 and 11, only Stout will be out-enrolled by its opponent, UM-Duluth. And last year, the WIAC carried four of the seven games, promoting the idea that athletic scholarships don't even level the playing field. Only Stout is currently nationally ranked, among two MIAC schools that we're supposedly too good to play, at least in football. Meanwhile two NSIC teams received votes.

The only non-Div. I schools around that even rival the WIAC are UNI, St. Cloud State, Mankato, NDSU, Duluth, UND, Winona State, and SDSU. In fact, only UNI and St. Cloud State have higher enrollments than Oshkosh. So what's the problem? They're all Div. II, and oh wait, the WIAC is exclusively Div. III. When the other Div. III schools come into play, like the MIAC's St. Thomas, only Superior is lower in enrollment.

Theoretically, we *should* be contending with the tough Div. II ball clubs, and we *should* be consistently manhandling our handicapped Div. III rivals. The WIAC is a Div. II-caliber conference that is allowed to run Chevy 350s against the 2.9 litre powerhouses of Division III.

In my mind, it's puzzling why the NCAA or the WIAC itself doesn't try to do something about it. Minnesota's state schools are all Div. II. So are those of Iowa and the Dakotas.

Money? I don't buy it. Even the miniscule state schools of barren South Dakota can afford to pay athletes for their talents.

Competition? A Div. II WIAC may struggle with teams from the larger North Central Conference, in terms of their present skill level.

But we out-average the size of the NSIC, and we play them anyway. When you bring in the difference that athletic scholarships would make, there's nothing to say that we couldn't contend with the North Central. In football, volleyball, hockey, baseball, softball, everything.

Ryan Brinks is a sophomore majoring in journalism.

Freshmen skaters set tone at home

Troy Mallat
Sports Editor

Playing in their first ever game at Hunt Arena, the Falcons' highly touted freshmen class played more like veterans, scoring five goals in the team's 10-1 victory over UM-Crookston Friday night.

Three Falcon freshman scored their first career collegiate goals. Matt Elsen scored on a power play 1:36 into the second period to make the score 5-0. Evan

Stensrud added another power-play goal in the third period to make the score 8-1, and Rob Novak scored twice in the game.

Forward Jamie Steinert recorded his second goal of the season to finish out the freshmen scoring.

"There was a lot of excitement - a lot of smiles. Everybody's happy when they score their first collegiate goals," head coach Steve Freeman said. "The scene at the arena was fun and exciting. Hockey is finally back at Hunt (Arena) for another season."

The crowd of 536 saw the Falcons completely dominate their opponents for the second straight week, outshooting the Golden Eagles 57-18 in the game.

However, in this game, the Falcons were able to get the puck in the net.

"We were more opportunistic than last week," Freeman said. "Our first week was just a matter of getting comfortable. It's a transitional period, implementing new players into new positions and a new style of play."

That new style of play involves getting pressure on the goaltender, no matter the time or what line is on the ice. Or in that case, what two lines are on the ice.

In the middle of the Falcons' first shift change of the game, forward Shane Fukushima scored his second goal of the

See "Hockey" on page B2

THIS WEEKEND

VS.

What: Stout (2-0, 0-0 in the NCHA) at River Falls (2-0-1, 0-0) Nov. 3 at 7:05 p.m. at Hunt Arena. The game will be broadcasted on 88.7 WRFW

Last week: Stout swept MSOE and UM-Crookston with scores of 6-1 and 5-3 while the Falcons crushed UM-Crookston 10-1.

What to watch: The scoreboard. After a slow start against Marian two weekends ago, the Falcon offensive experiment seemed to click against the Golden Eagles, scoring 10 goals for the first time since 1990.



Molly Montag / The Student Voice

Joy Nicholson sets up to return a hit last weekend. Nicholson's defense has been a large contribution to the Falcons all year.



Scott Wente / The Student Voice

Freshman forward Rob Novak handles the puck during the Falcons' 10-1 victory over UM-Crookston Friday night at Hunt Arena. Novak scored twice in the win, his first goals at the collegiate level.

Falcons a scream at Trick-or-Treat Invite

Ryan Brinks
Assistant Sports Editor

The eager Falcon volleyballers came into the Halloween season dressed to play, and they were definitely treated to a pleasant weekend as they performed a perfect sweep, four 3-0 games, in the UW-River Falls Trick-or-Treat Classic.

Leading the Falcons to victories over Concordia-Moorhead, Hamline, Bethel and Stout were All-Tourney selections Melissa Mattson, Krystle Brune and Holly Olson, and they were hot from the very start.

"We just seemed to be one step ahead of them all," head coach Patti Ford said. "We were playing some peak volleyball."

Generating a quick 7-0 run at the onset, the Falcons jumped ahead of the Cobbers of Concordia and, after game pace slowed a little, went on to finish game one handily, 15-4.

In game two, however, the Cobbers got the early start, slipping to a 4-1 edge, but they couldn't hold it. A steady Falcon effort soon turned the tables, and before Concordia scored their fifth point, it was 9-4 Falcons. Needless to say, it was merely a matter of time before UW-RF wrapped up the 15-7 win.

Game three, though much more evenly matched, saw the Cobbers go head-to-head with the Falcons and even gain an 11-7 advantage before River Falls came up with eight unanswered to take the match, 15-11.

Krystle Brune and Holly Olson combined for five service aces, and Melissa Mattson performed unbelievably accurate as she-let with 19 kills and a .545 percentage, among her best of the season.

Moving on to Hamline Friday night, the Falcons put the depth of their roster to work in fending off the attempts of the Pipers. Taking an easy 15-3 first game, the Falcons slowed a little in the following 15-8 win. But despite a swift 8-0 opening run on the Pipers in game three, Hamline came storming back in a contest that would tie as the Falcons' closest all weekend, a victory of 15-12 proportions.

On the use of subs against Hamline, "It's going to be beneficial - not only from the starters' standpoint,

Tough going for runners at WIACs

Paul J. Cruz
Sports Correspondent

For UW-River Falls cross country squads, the going was nothing but tough Saturday at the 2000 WIAC Championships hosted by UW-Whitewater.

The Falcon women finished seventh, ahead of only UW-Superior and last-place UW-Platteville, while the UW-RF men occupied the cellar with a ninth-place finish in the team standings.

UW-Oshkosh ran its way to team titles on both the women's and men's sides.

Felice Birmingham paced the women's squad, covering the 5,000-meter course in 19-minutes, 28.4 seconds, to place 27th in a field of 103 competitors.

Candace Kroells (37th, 19:42.5) was the next Falcon to cross the finish line, followed by Lisa Traxler (49th, 19:58.8), Brenna Hogan (70th, 20:50.9) and Lisa Barnes (71st, 20:56.4) to round out the team's top five.

Tyler Odden finished 64th out of 105 competitors to pace the men, as he toured the 8,000-meter course in 27:22.

Following Odden in the Falcons' top five were Erik Hanson (82nd, 28:15.8), Jim Felling (83rd, 28:26.7), Pat Lorentz (89th, 28:47.8) and Chris Henning (90th, 28:49.9).

UW-RF will return to action Nov. 11 when it competes in an NCAA Division III Regional Championships meet hosted by UW-Eau Claire.

Falcons win in WIAC Quarterfinals

Tuesday night at the Karges Center, the #2 Falcons knocked out the #7 Bugolds in three swings: 15-11, 16-14 and 15-13, eliminating Eau Claire from the WIAC Tourney. The Falcons advance to a Semifinal bout with #3 Oshkosh, 5 p.m. this Friday at Whitewater and a Championship or Third-Place Match Saturday.

because they get a little more rest - but in case we sub someone else in, they've got more experience too," Ford said.

Mattson bested her already lofty hitting percentage with a 15-kill, .560 effort that led Melissa Tyrdik (7 kills, .462), Jennifer Braun (7 kills, .333), Stacy Hinz (4 kills, .429) and Krystle Brune (4 kills, .333) to the forefront of the Falcon attack.

Saturday, Bethel was ready for an all-out brawl, and they came out swinging. After mounting a 3-0 lead in which the Falcons had trouble killing in bounds, the Royals lost their balance and felt the wrath of a UW-RF 10-1 run that soon extended to the 15-6 game one victory for the Falcons.

In game two, the Royals stuck with the Falcons all the way to 12 before succumbing to the loss, 15-12. And game three displayed a Royal team stumbling on their heels all game as the Falcons put a quick end to the match at 15-3.

Sara McKee and Olson highlighted kill efficiency in back-up roles as Andrea Ellsworth, Joy Nicholson and Leigh Saxton continued to lead the team defensively.

In the final match of the tourney, the Falcons matched up with a Stout squad that had previously forced the Falcons into five games. This time was a little different.

Similar to Bethel, the Blue Devils dropped the first 15-7 and came back to stalemate the Falcons to 11 before the tourney hosts put them to bed 15-12.

See "Volleyball" on page B2

Football rolls to fourth straight WIAC win

Troy Mallat
Sports Editor

Head coach John O'Grady knows UW-Whitewater well. He was once recruited by them as a player and roomed with now-Warhawk offensive coordinator Stan Zweifel during his days as a student-athlete at UW-River Falls.

Whitewater is his favorite rivalry because of this familiarity, and on Saturday O'Grady got the better end of that rivalry, beating the Warhawks 30-20 in front of 351 spectators at Ramer Field.

"I've always enjoyed playing against Whitewater - coaching and playing- so I was happy (with the outcome)," O'Grady said of the win.

That outcome was a major result of the Falcon defense limiting the Warhawk offense to 124 yards in the first half. The aggressive nine-man front of the Falcons took Whitewater out of their running game, which averaged 212.4 yards a game. The Warhawks gained just 33 yards on the ground in the first half en route to falling behind 21-6.

Instead, Whitewater was to the air, something they don't like to do.

Quarterback Randy Borgardt went 12-of-26 for 229 yards and a touchdown.

"I think early their throwing was a result of (Zweifel) knowing that this team is very tough to run against," O'Grady said. "We're always going to outnumber people. We're going to have one more person in the box than they can block. It's very frustrating to try to establish the run against our defense."

Free safety Brian Katlack was that extra person in the box, and he snuffed out most of the run game, leading the team with 14 tackles.

Offensively, the wishbone was up to its old tricks of moving the ball with consistency. The offense gained 478 total yards, 392 on the ground. They also confused Whitewater's pursuing defense led by strong safety Jake Wolter.

After falling behind 6-0, the Falcons answered with a 6-yard end around by Scott Kusilek with 4:29 remaining in the first quarter that fooled the over-zealous Wolter. The play hasn't been used since the team's loss to

UW-Stout.

"I learned a lesson from Stout," O'Grady said. "You don't call that play in crisis, you call it as a standard part of your offense. I knew (Wolter) would pursue, and that is one way to try to slow him down."

The drive was the result of a snap over the head of punter Kyle Haug that gave the Falcons the ball at the Warhawk 20-yard line.

The Falcons used Wolter's aggressiveness against him for the team's second touchdown, a 32-yard touchdown pass from Cory Mueller to Nick Scribner.

The play was used because Wolter was creeping up to defend the triple option.

"We put that play in on the sideline," O'Grady said of the play where no one was within 15 yards of Scribner. "I usually hate doing that kind of thing because it reminds me of playing street ball. We didn't even know what to call it in the huddle."

Scribner would add a 4-yard touchdown run for a 21-6 lead at the half.

See "Football" on page B2

THIS WEEKEND

at

What: River Falls (5-3, 4-2 in the WIAC) at Platteville (2-6, 1-5) at 1 p.m. on Nov. 4. The game will be broadcasted on 88.7 WRFW.

Last week: The Pioneers dropped a 14-7 decision to UW-Stevens Point for the Pioneers first win of the season. The Falcons won their fourth straight WIAC game with a 30-20 win over UW-Whitewater.

What to watch: The tale of extremes. While the Falcons play almost exclusively on the ground, the Pioneers like to air it out. They have thrown 391 times this season, 73 times more than any other team. However, Platteville has taken a step backwards after surprising the league last year. The main reason is a defense that allows 274 yards on the ground per game.

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Poetry reading in like Flynn

Jessica Perry
Chief Copy Editor

More than fifty people turned out in the Davee Library Breezeway Wednesday, Oct. 27, for the Student Reading Series to hear award-winning poet Nick Flynn.

Flynn was one of several poets / artists on the rise that the Student Reading Series plans to bring to UW-River Falls, according to senior Stephanie Johnson.

Over a half-hour, Flynn captivated the audience with the 18 poems he chose to read, most of which were taken from his recently published book "Some Ether," and "Ultraviolet," a book he is currently working on.

One of his poems titled, "God Only Knows What I'd Be Without You" dealt with a common subject known to students at UW-RF — alcohol. This poem originated when Flynn was traveling from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to Chicago, and consisted of a list of words to describe alcohol and the people who drink it.

"I loved it," said English professor Jennifer Brantley. "I thought the poetry with our obsession with alcohol and how many words we have for it was interesting."

Flynn's poetry had a great impact on those who were present for the reading.

"The way he uses everyday words and puts them together has a mystical effect," said senior Wendy Fjorden. "I thought it was amazing. I was impressed with everything he's done. He definitely gives me inspiration to write."

Fifth-year senior Alicia Muelling agreed with Fjorden, describing Flynn's poetry as awesome, inspiring and overwhelming.

One poem that caught the attention of Johnson was "Cartoon Physics, Part 1". In the poem, Flynn writes that children "Shouldn't know/ that the universe is ever-expanding, / inexorable pushing into the vacuum...whole/ solar systems collapsing, all of it/ acted out in silence. At 10 we are still learning/ the rules of cartoon animation/... that if a man runs off the edge of a cliff/ he will not fall/ until he notices his mistake."

"I like the psychology in the poem, the juxtaposition of what children learn at a young age and the way we understand our surroundings as products of our formal or informal experience," Johnson said. "I think the poem speaks to an invincibility that we learn to believe in as children. In reality, the universe is beyond our present impressions and knowledge."

Besides being a poet, Flynn is a member of Columbia University's Writing Project in which Flynn trains teachers and teaches writing to young people.

"I appreciate the fact that Flynn is a teacher of poetry/creative writing to both children and adults," Johnson said. "His occupation definitely speaks to me as a future educator. I believe that his experiences teaching writing accentuate his poetic ability."

His current book "Some Ether" came out this year and won pre-publication awards in 1999. He was the winner of a "Discovery," The Nation Award and PEN and the Joyce Osterweil Award for Poetry.

Flynn's poems and essays have been published in the magazines *Paris Review* and *Ploughshares*. He has been the recipient of a fellowship and grants for his poetry and for a series of video documentaries.

Flynn, who lives in Brooklyn, NY, has been writing his entire life. According to Flynn, he started focusing on poetry in his late 20s.

"Poetry moved more and could make associate leaps that fiction writing could not," Flynn said.

For those who are interested in writing poetry Flynn's advice is to emerge yourself in it.

"See what's out there and balance your time with both old and new poetry and figure out what the connections are between them," Flynn said.

On Thursday, Nov. 16, the Student Reading Series will be bringing poet, teacher and artist Natalie Goldberg to UW-RF. The reading is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. in the Breezeway of the Chalmer Davee Library.

The next student reading will be Friday, Nov. 17, at 3:30 p.m. in the Breezeway. Four student readers will be presenting their poetry, short stories, and/or non-fiction.

If anyone is interested in reading at this event, spots are still open. Contact Jennifer Brantley in the English department or Stephanie Johnson at springlemon@hotmail.com.

Purely 'eXperimental' music

Matt Rayburn
Staff Writer

Think of the spacey sounds of David Bowie and the sonic buzzed instrumentals of Radiohead, with touches of your favorite computer sounds. Add computer music composer and performer Warren Burt, and you have a contraption of futuristic, intermedia music that appeals to all senses.

On Friday, Oct. 27 at the Nobles eXperimental interMedia Studio in East St. Paul, Burt used his laptop computer and performed "Antipodean Collection: A Laptop Symphony." Burt, a bearded, "mad professor" type from Australia, performed seven compositions to a crowd of 20 that included seven original works he composed from his experiences in Australia and New Zealand.

"Each piece is an inquiry into certain ideas and issues that fascinate me," Burt said.

Part of Metropolitan State University's "Strange Attractors V" series that is the University's 5th International Festival of Experimental Intermedia Art, the performance also featured one composition with David Means, festival producer, director of the Nobles eXperimental interMedia Group and assistant professor at Metropolitan State University who coordinates the Media and Fine Arts Department Program. Means described the study of intermedia art and his students' work as art that uses several forms of media and imagination.

"We use a mixture of materials from music, dance, creative writing and the visual arts," Means said. "It's edgy work that deals with concerns and formal questions that have a political and social context."

Using different computer software named "SoftStep," "Vaz Modular" and "AudioMulch," Burt began his performance with a composition entitled "Milk Bottle" (for Annea Lockwood). Sounding like a candy machine from "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," Burt described the sounds as simply the noises created by two glass milk bottles gently hitting one another.



"Visualize, feel the part of yourself that is most sensitive. Now visualize my finger touching that part of your body."

-Warren Burt

tickling the ivory.

"The secret is to get other people to pay you for something you want to do," Burt said. "That's called art."

The last composition he performed, "Ten-Windy Oscillators," was a 10-minute masterpiece featuring a windstorm he recorded. Sounding like freight trains plowing down the tracks, Burt said it was an aggressive composition.

"This is not a gentle piece," Burt said.

After the hour-long set by Burt, the last composition of the night was entitled "Fire in the Lake," and featured Burt and Means together. This piece included an I-Ching algorithm, which is a program that randomly selects different sounds, and a digital wind controller, which is a clarinet synthesizer that makes different sounds by the amount of air blown into it.

"Burt" continued on page B4

Non-commercial and 'stuff'



Molly Montag / The Student Voice

Cordell Wesselink (left), Carrie Nelson and Becca Anderson perform in "Stuff" on Wednesday evening.

Sara Masson
Staff Writer

The sound of laughter and clapping could be heard echoing through the halls of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building on the evening of Thursday, Oct. 26.

A troupe of 16 actors filled the Blanche Davis Theatre with wit, humor, and a good message. The group opened their run of "Stuff: You are what you own" to a half-full theatre on Oct. 26.

The feeling in the air of the theatre was one of anticipation. The buzz running through the mostly student audience could have been heard a mile away. No one sitting in the auditorium seats knew what to expect from the show that was about to take

place before them.

"I really didn't know anything about the show before hand; I went into it not knowing at all what to expect," said Amy Ward, a junior, who attended the show that Thursday evening.

The laughter began as soon as the lights dimmed. At 7:02 p.m. the audience was greeted by a solitary actor popping up in the middle of the stage, from somewhere below, succeeding in grabbing the attention of every person watching the show.

Using skits, the talented cast kept that attention for the next two hours and sent out a message of non-commercialism.

These "Saturday Night Live-esque" skits included a multitude of engagingly funny elements. The

"Stuff" continued on page B4



Derek Anderson, Senior
"Someone whose IQ is lower than room temperature."



Joel Sederstrom, Junior
"The first one that signed up and go from there."

You are the judge of a stupidity contest. What characteristic do you look for in the grand champion?



Kari Ekenstedt, Senior
"Their crowning achievement was making the cheerleading squad."



Niki Beckman, Senior
"Someone who is dumber than a box of rocks."

'Blair' sucks – put that in your 'book'

movie review

Matt Perenchio
Viewpoints Editor

In a time when the film industry is leaving horror movie fans in the dark, Halloween becomes a very important time for those with a macabre interest. Because just about every creature, plague, and psycho profile has been done, horror buffs are finding it harder to get a chill; so when a good, scary flick hits the theaters, a sequel is already in the making. Following last year's blockbuster, surprise success "The Blair Witch Project," the much-anticipated "The Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2" opened in theaters on Fri., Oct. 27.

As "The Blair Witch Project" was the little-movie-that-could, opening an entirely new chapter in horror films, its sequel unfortunately suffered the well-known sophomore jinx—a fate that has happened too often after a good movie. With plenty of potential and more money (\$10 million compared to \$22,000) to make this movie scarier and more spine-tingling than the first, the producers and writers of Blair Witch 2 couldn't create or enhance the magic that the original had; special effects were less than tolerant, and the characters' backgrounds were nearly irrelevant. In all honesty, there hasn't been this bad of a sequel since Freddy hung up his claws and Jason took off the hockey mask. The only scary thing about his movie was that it made it past the box office.

The whole premise of the series was to take a local legend (a dead witch that supposedly haunts the woods of the small town of Burkittsville, Md.) and make it as real as possible. The first one did this exceptionally well as most of us were left blankly looking at our friends and waiting through the credits to see the words "any similarity between the characters portrayed in the movie and persons living or dead is purely coincidental;" some of us even went so far as to look up Burkittsville on a map. And that is the whole theme behind Blair Witch 2. Along with the remarkable marketing techniques after the first movie, a group of college students who watched the "The Blair Witch Project" wonder if it was real and go out to try to find evidence of the accounts of the original movie.

However, most of "The Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2" doesn't take place in the woods like the first

one, and this is where the title is terribly misleading; there is no Book of Shadows, and there is no witch. The students merely isolate themselves for a day and wind up going nuts—an old plot. And the pieces to the three-part puzzle only fit at the end if you methodically pound them into one another; the pointless and useless beginning doesn't even get a puzzle piece.

On numerous occasions throughout Blair Witch 2, there were ample opportunities to quicken the heart-beat of the audience, but the eeriness was never followed through. Instead, most of the acting and lines were rushed, causing the movie to look as if it had been done for a high school class. The way scenes bounced around almost required the viewer to have been either high or liquored up in order to follow the plot; this effect made the prolonged party scene the only realistic aspect of the movie.

All the actors and actresses in Blair Witch 2 had little if no previous acting experience. Although the original proved that a resume didn't need to be long, the hodgepodge of characters was not portrayed well enough to work together. And with the satire of making fun of horror flicks from the "Scream" series and the concept of mass paranoia because of the setting borrowed from "The Haunting," Blair Witch 2 was nothing more than eclectic film based on previous hits with too much pop-culture thrown in.

It should be noted that Blair Witch 2 was not directed by Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sánchez II, the duo that produced the first movie. But look for them next year around this time as they come back and try to recapture the hope of the series with Blair Witch 3. The official title is still unknown, but the basis for the movie will take place before "The Blair Witch Project" as a prequel, looking at the history that led up to the Blair Witch Legend.

"The Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2" is beyond a waste of money to go and see, but it is an excellent example of how money-hungry tycoons try for one more milking and why some things should simply be left alone. Wait for this one to come to television because the only thing worth going to see it at the theaters or renting it will be the previews.



Blair Witch 2: Book of Shadows

Hazy thoughts on clean living

Constant overstimulation numbs me, but I wouldn't want it any other way.

—Maynard

Isn't it irony that I'm writing a column on clean living and I don't have (and probably never have had) a clear thought? Well, let me start by saying that anyone who has the personal willpower to stay away from drugs (women are included in this category), smoking and alcohol is a better person than I.

You may ask me why I include women as a drug. If you are asking this question, you yourself are probably a woman. The similarities are uncanny: you spend a lot of money on them, they make you do things you wouldn't otherwise do and once they've ravaged your body and mind, you need some sort of treatment. But I digress. That was last week. I'm better now.

What's the infatuation with intoxication? You go downtown, have a couple (twelve). You hang all over girls that don't even like you ("dude, she was diggin' my sh*t hardcore!"). You throw up in a parking spot on Main Street. You wake up with a headache, and your mouth tastes like instead of smoking the ciggys, you decided to eat them. And what happens then? Rinse, repeat.

River Falls in particular has no incentive to promote clean living. A college town with 10 "drinking establishments" within three blocks of each other. We should be rockin' all night and partyin' every day! But we don't because, well,

it's not very couth.

We have to make something of ourselves, we need to put on a suit and tie and happy face to satisfy the people who are in charge of us. We need to bring home good grades to impress mum and pa, so they can tell the other parents about what a sterling young chap they've raised. We need to compile an impressive resume so that we can hand a piece of paper that says how commendable we are to someone in business attire. We need

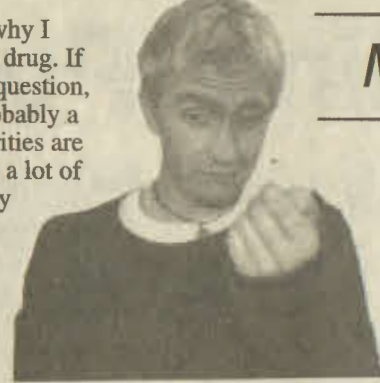
people missed the 'having a life' train a long time ago). And there's a definite difference between enjoying a beer or two with your golf buddies and getting sh*t-faced with 21-year-olds on a Wednesday night. C'mon, mid-week drinking is a right reserved for college people!

I haven't been incredibly direct in this column, kinda winding back and forth (like every other week), pretending like I didn't have to sleep with someone to get this

position (that was a joke). And after saying all this stuff about how you should have fun, I can't help but wonder if I've wasted all this time in the pursuit of something that might not actually exist. Will I be one of

MAX DATE

"..instead of smoking the ciggys, you decided to eat them. And what happens then? Rinse, repeat."



to become the leaders so that we can ostracize someone who we could've been like. Whoa, dude, that was a big thought. For a minute there, I almost forgot that I'm supposed to be stupid.

Don't misinterpret what I'm trying to say. We shouldn't quit our day jobs, throw away our shoes and live like some damn hippies. But to all of the purists and people over 30: is there really a problem with acting like you don't have a care in the world every now and then? I realize that there are external factors, like having kids or having a stick shoved up your a**.

And my feelings are kind of a catch 22, because I make fun of anyone downtown who isn't college-aged (but hey, most of those

those people who scolds young 'uns for trying to pass the time? Have I just been trying to avoid my life? I'd like to think not, but I think the true test for all of us is when our kids are in the 18-21 range. How are you gonna explain college to your kids? Are you gonna tell your kids you were a barfly? How about that trip to the doctor because you thought you had the clap? Did you ever think about the future, or were you just waiting for it to catch you with your pants down?

That's a cigarette in the picture, even though it looks like a roach. I didn't inhale it either... e-mail love to max.k.date@uwrf.edu. I get lonely.

Stuff / collection of skits

continued from page B3

stage came alive with people in drag, life-size puppets, trashy talk shows, action figures, crows participation, singing, celebrities, including Rosie O'Donnell, Britney Spears, Richard Simmons, Pamela Anderson Lee, and no other than Waldo, of "Where's Waldo?." Most importantly the show showcased side-splitting humor.

One of the most humorous skits included a "Tickle Me Elmo," a "Karate Barbie," and "Pikachu." These characters were all standing around watching people open Christmas presents and the characters were talking amongst themselves.

"When do we get opened?" asked Pikachu.

"We are collectors items, we just sit here and gain value over time," responded Karate Barbie.

What made this skit such a riot was that "Tickle Me Elmo," played by Carrie Nelson, would laugh hysterically and bounce around at opportune times throughout the sketch. They had the crowd roaring with laughter.

Everyone involved with the show seemed to enjoy it.

"We were very pleased with how the performances went. The audience was very responsive and the shows went very smoothly," said Ken Stofferahn, the director of the show.

The audience seemed to be in agreement with the quality of the performances.

"I thought it (the show) was very good. It was very entertaining and had an important message," said Ward.

When you are sitting around this weekend with nothing to do, do not forget about this extremely praise-worthy show.

"I would definitely tell others to come to the show, because it kept me laughing from the beginning to the end," said Ward.

The show runs through this weekend, Nov. 3 and 4. It begins at 8:00 p.m. both days.

Burt /

continued from page B3

Also included was a processed electrical guitar, which has a softer, mellower sound than the electric guitar. Sounds of an organ, random "pops" and soothing "fizzes" could be heard in this piece.

Margaret Levin, a housing organizer from Minneapolis, enjoyed the performance.

"It was interesting, different," she said. "It was stimulating."

The next installment of the "Strange Attractors V" series will be at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 10, and will feature a performance by Susan Rawcliffe from Los Angeles, Cal., who is a composer and instrument builder. Admission is \$4 for students and seniors, and \$6 for the general public. The Nobles eXperimental interMedia Studio is located at 645 E. Seventh St. in St. Paul, across the street from Metropolitan State University.

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Legend of Bagger Vance (PG-13)
Sat/Sun Matinees 1:10, 4:30
Weekdays 4:30 Evenings 7:00, 9:35

Pay It Forward (PG-13) 2:05
Sat/Sun Matinees 1:10, 4:20
Weekdays 4:20 Evenings 7:00, 9:25

Remember the Titans (PG) 2:00
Sat/Sun Matinees 12:30, 2:40, 4:50
Weekdays 4:50 Evenings 7:15, 9:35

Meet the Parents (PG-13) 1:55
Sat/Sun Matinees 12:30, 2:40, 4:50
Weekdays 4:50 Evenings 7:10, 9:20

Play Dates Nov. 3-9
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Lucky Numbers (R) 1:40
Sat/Sun Matinees 12:40, 2:50, 5:00
Weekdays 5:00 Evenings 7:10, 9:30

Bedazzled (PG-13) 1:35
Sat/Sun Matinees 12:50, 2:40, 4:30
Weekdays 4:30 Evenings 7:05, 9:15

Blair Witch 2 (R) 1:30
Sat/Sun Matinees 12:40, 2:30, 4:40
Weekdays 4:40 Evenings 7:25, 9:20

Little Vampire (PG) 1:35
Sat/Sun Matinees 1:00, 3:00, 5:00
Weekdays 5:00 Evenings 7:00, 9:00

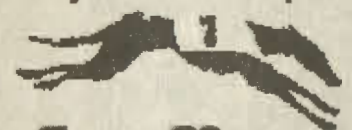
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