

'Local control may be thing of the past'

Ex-superintendent disenchanted with power struggle

by Luanne Sorenson

"I'm dismayed at the direction public education is heading and I feel powerless to stop it, at least in River Falls I was," says Dr. Paul Proescholdt, former superintendent of River Falls Public Schools. He resigned his post in February for what went on record as "personal reasons."

"A Superintendent of Schools in Milwaukee resigned recently," says Proescholdt. "It was found that he could no longer administer his district because he had too many board members wishing to do it for him."

"We find this situation time and again as we talk to superin-

tendents leaving or enjoying tenure," he says. "Certain board members refuse to deal with policy making and want to run the school." Proescholdt cites this as a major problem faced by all superintendents especially when board members do it privately and not at the board table. He admitted that other Board members may not be aware of the subtle pressures.

He cites Whitefish Bay, Neenah, Menomonie, New Richmond and Colfax as school districts facing situations similar to his own.

A survey conducted by the National School Board Associa-

tion concluded that the Boards of Education may not be responsible for school districts in the future, says Proescholdt. "There are too many pressure groups, not the least of which are militant teacher organizations."

The courts are just beginning to get into the operation of school districts, says Proescholdt. "The most shining example is the five to four Supreme Court ruling that says students must be advised of their rights before punishment is administered. This is one of the long line of decisions tying the hands of school administrators."

"With all this happening," says Proescholdt, "I can see school districts being administered by a strong state Department of Education. Local control, whether good or bad, will become a thing of the past."

"When a superintendent gets caught in a crossfire between petty jealousies and ideologies of people sitting on a Board of Education so that they may enjoy whatever power or prestige it brings to them, then one must wonder if local control is good," he says.

Board member John Bradley agrees that the superintendent is caught in a crossfire, but cites

the power struggle as being between teacher groups and the school board. He says, "There is no question that the role of a superintendent in public schools is a very difficult one."

Board member George Kremer feels Proescholdt was not caught in a crossfire on the school board. He cites local school control as the best control since 70 per cent of all property taxes go for school funding.

Proescholdt came to River Falls three years ago. Bradley says one of his first suggestions

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To The Student Voice



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Biology prof. attempts to log UFO sightings

by Dave Ralph

Concern about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO's) has surfaced again in Western Wisconsin as a result of several local sightings.

Many people scoff at UFO's, calling them figments of the imagination, swamp gas, results of trick photography or tall tales.

However, for an increasing number of people the bizarre has suddenly become believable after an experience with a strange flying object.

Jack Bostrack, chairman of the UW-RF biology department, is a member of two voluntary UFO investigative organizations and has been collecting data about the most recent sightings.

According to Bostrack, the latest period of activity began early in March and extended to mid-April with the height of the activity in the first week of April. The Elmwood, Plum City and Ellsworth area was the focal point of the UFO sightings in Bostrack's opinion.

Nancy Theis, of rural Ellsworth, was looking out the window of her house at approximately 12:55 a.m. on April 6 when she noticed an orange and blue light in the sky. Within 10 minutes there were three other such lights.

Theis reported that the original light disappeared but the other three lights remained airborne in a triangular formation for an hour and a half. She added that one light seemed to be bigger than the rest but that she was unable to judge the distance or height of the lights due to darkness.

She said that when the lights left, they began to slowly move away then gradually moved faster and faster until they were out of sight.

Dan Darling, a UW-RF student residing at 119 Prucha Hall, was on the roof of the Ag Science building one April evening looking at stars through a telescope when he saw a bright dot in the southern sky. Darling observed the white dot through the telescope and described it as being a luminous and circular object that came from the south and then turned east at about 8:45 p.m. At 9:30 p.m. Darling observed a similar object but one that was much dimmer.

"I'm positive that neither object was a plane, space junk, satellite or some type of weather balloon. The lights didn't blink and there was a definite shape visible," commented Darling.

On another occasion, Mrs. Carole Forster, of rural Elmwood was driving home late in the evening with her two children in the family car when a UFO almost landed on the road in front of them, according to Bostrack.

Bostrack said that Mrs. Forster reported she had to stop the car and turn around. Both children cried in terror at seeing the strange craft and are still unwilling to discuss the incident with their parents. Bostrack added that the children won't go to bed in the dark and won't leave their bedroom at night unless accompanied by a parent.

Several years ago, Bostrack said that he personally witnessed what might have been a UFO. One day as he, his wife and another couple drove along a highway, they noticed a white light that hovered at treetop level and maintained speed with the car. As suddenly as the light had appeared, it was gone.

"I couldn't say for sure what it was, but I don't think it could be explained through natural phenomena," said Bostrack.

Bostrack has been a member of the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) for five years and now serves as their regional investigator. He is also the state section director for the mutual UFO Network (MUFON) to supervise UFO investigations in Buffalo, Pierce, St. Croix, Dunn, Polk, Barron and Pepin counties.

Until the mid-1960's the United States Air Force took care of UFO investigations, then the UFO investigative organizations were founded. The organizations are staffed by volunteers. When researchers investigate a report, they put their own time and resources into the project.

Bostrack became involved with NICAP and MUFON to gain more exposure to the UFO phenomena. He personally has not decided if he believes the

theory that UFO's originate somewhere in outer space.

Bostrack would like anyone who believes he can accurately account for a sighting to call him and talk to him about it. He is also making an attempt to log sightings made during the past 10 years.

"The sooner sightings are reported, the better it is since memories tend to fade over time," said Bostrack.

Bostrack pointed out there are now more people reporting the UFO's they've seen. He said that people are more open and not afraid of being laughed at when they report a UFO.

"Many people never think of spotting a UFO. Some people wish they could see a UFO, but often people who see UFO's wish they never had. The

psychological effect of seeing a UFO can be very traumatic for some people, especially when they see more than just lights. Such unnatural phenomena can be disturbing since people can't relate to it or explain it," added Bostrack.

There are many problems involved in finding physical evidence to make UFO investigations credible. Most sightings are made at night which hinders observers from making accurate descriptions. Seldom are traces of UFO landings found. A UFO has never been known to crash. It is difficult to keep records of the total number of sightings and rarely are good and authentic photos taken.

Currently the only reliable means of obtaining UFO information is by interviewing witnesses as soon as possible.



Jack Bostrack, UFO investigator
Photo by Andrew Westberg

River Falls center for elderly 'cares'

by Greg Jablonske

The River Falls Care Center offers the elderly a comfortable lifestyle, provides high quality health care and realizes the importance of a happy and pleasant place for friends and relatives to visit.

Fifteen years ago the River Falls Nursing Home Inc. was pledged a \$70,000 land contract by the River Falls Civic and Industrial Development Inc. which led to the establishment of a 42-bed health care facility.

Those 42 beds were increased to 64 licensed beds in 1963. In 1969, with the purchase of Skycrest Motel, the facility expanded to 114 beds.

Today the River Falls Care Center is a modern 172 unit complex at 640 North Main Street that strives to give residents the best care at reasonable rates.

Daily rates are either residential or skilled and are assessed for the amount of care required and vary according to the privacy a resident desires.

The residential rate, which applies to individuals who need almost no health care assistance, is \$13.16 per day.

Skilled care is for individuals who need assistance. The degree of assistance and a resident's source of income determine his rate.

Divisions of skilled care include personal care which costs \$14.18 per day and applies to residents who need personal care and supervision of medications.

The state skilled care rate is \$18.42 and applies to individuals who receive either welfare or medical assistance from the state and the federally funded Medical Assistance Program.

Skilled care for financially independent residents varies in cost according to the degree of care that is required. These degrees are minimum, moderate, or maximum skilled care and cost \$20.50, \$21.09 and \$21.58 per day.

Medical, hospital, dental and drug expenses are not included in daily rates.

"I'm very proud of it," says Administrator Ruth Hilleren, who feels her River Falls Care Center is "excellent."

"All nurses aides are given training by registered nurses. We have qualified social work, occupational therapy and physical therapy consultants," says Hilleren.

Hilleren feels the community has been supportive and beneficial to the care center. "River Falls is a great area to draw from. We send our people to the university for instruction and university students come here to help us out."

Jerome Halvorson, a communicative disorders specialist, from the UW-River Falls, says, "I take students there about eight at a time to observe residents and work with residents in Aphasia."

Halvorson is concerned that a lot of residents have communicative disorders and receive only limited help.

Glenda Zielski, a social worker, says residents are treated well in comparison to other nursing homes.

"I did my field work for school at a county nursing home," explained Zielski, "and I don't think you can even compare the two."

Zielski says, "you always have your complainers." She reasoned that "every doctor has his hypochondriacs; some people have to complain to be happy."

"There are always people who complain" and Hazel Scott says, "they are happy when they complain. But you know, I've never heard any of them say they don't like it here."

Scott came to the River Falls Care Center from Eau Claire Hospital. She wanted to be in River Falls so she could live near her son.

"I walk to my son's house and he brings me back. That's very important to me," says Scott.

"I walk up town to go shopping sometimes," says Scott. "Sometimes I don't make it that far, but the walk is

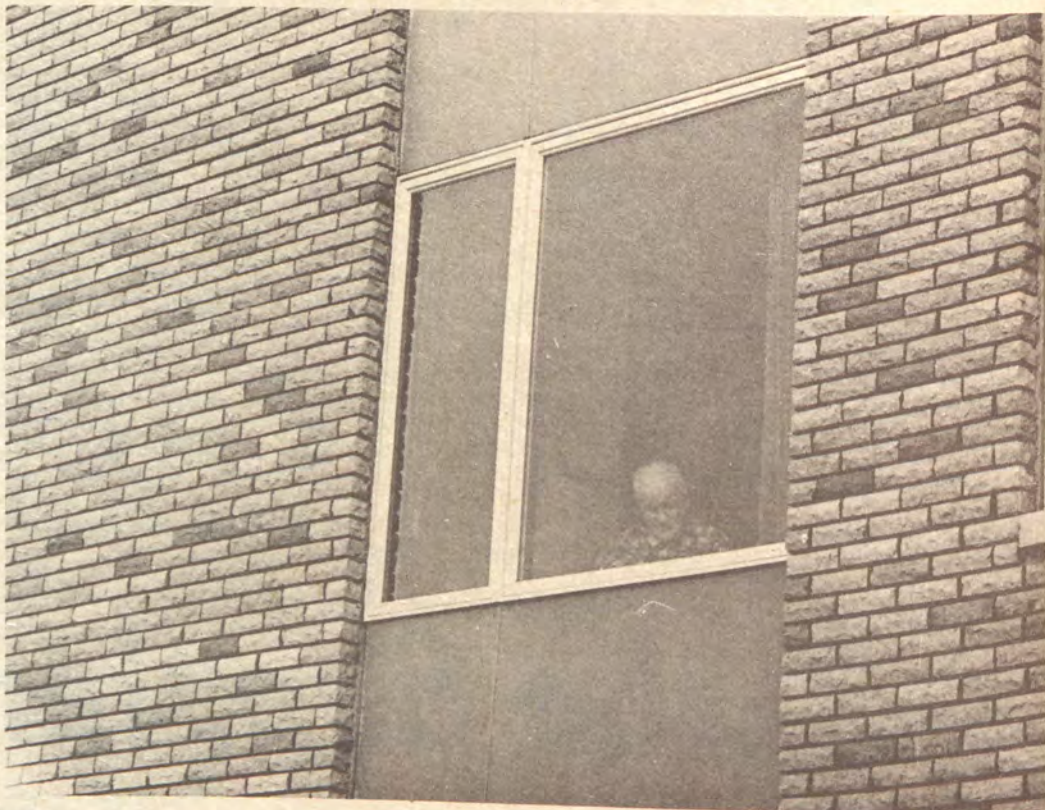


Photo by Greg Erickson

important--that's what the doctors tell me."

Scott delivers mail to residents and is a representative on the Resident Council.

The care center has two separate resident councils; one for the Skycrest residential section and another for the skilled section located on the second floor of the new addition.

Councils meet once a month and talk about problems and what should be done.

Scott says, "We don't have many problems to deal with and everybody looks happy to my notion."

Weltha Carisch is happy at River Falls Care Center but warns prospective residents, "If you want a gay life, I won't go to any nursing home. But if you want good care you should come here."

Carisch is just past 90 and says "the Hillerens run a wonderful home." She said the atmosphere is pleasant and the surroundings are always clean.

"They do everything for you

except breath," was Carisch's blunt way of summing up the quality of health care in the River Falls Care Center.

"Humor is about as scarce as hens teeth," says Carisch. She feels a nursing home isn't the most exciting place and that "a sense of humor is very important but people in a nursing home don't appreciate humor as much as they should."

Carisch is an author, and she is being inspired to write a second book. She says it will include a chapter on "living in nursing homes."

Carisch wrote her first book in 1938 and titled it **What-Not Whittlins**. Her second book will be **What-Not Whittlins II**.

What -Not Whittlins is just what the title implies," explains Carisch. "It is a little of this and a little of that arranged in a hit and miss fashion, as were the objects of what-nots of old." What-nots are articles of furniture used to display personal odds and ends, according to Carisch.

Thomas Noble, a registered sanitarian for the State of

Wisconsin has no complaints about the River Falls Care Center.

"The care is very good there," says Noble, "and they have a fine physical plant."

Noble explained that the care center is a Title-19 skilled nursing facility and to maintain such a rating, stiff federal and state requirements have to be met. He and two nurses inspect care centers throughout Wisconsin twice in each year.

"We go in as a team of three and survey for and then critique deficiencies," explained Noble. "Whatever deficiencies we do find are submitted to the administrator, and that person then has a given period of time to correct them."

"River Falls Care Center has very few problems," said Noble.

Dorothy Gardner, one of the inspector nurses, said she could not give out any information about specific nursing homes' deficiencies.

"All surveys are confidential," said Gardner. She was not free to make generalizations.

Hospital merger awaits financing

by Jeff Klug

The finalization of the merger between River Falls' two hospitals is now only a matter of financing.

A nine member citizens committee has drafted a unanimous recommendation that urges the city to purchase St. Joseph's Hospital and combine the staffs of St. Joseph's and City Hospital under a non-profit, non-city owned organization. The recommendation will be presented to the River Falls City Council after some method of financing has been decided upon.

Chairman of the committee, T.H. Teppen, 725 Union, said that the sisters of St. Joseph have agreed to sell.

"We're considering various methods of bonding," said Teppen. "We could have been finished by now but the interest rates have been too high."

Neither hospital has been doing very well lately. Many empty beds combined with the struggle to keep up with new state regulations resulted in a feasibility study--the results of which were reported last fall.

The study recommended the merger of the two hospitals and proposed that City Hospital be turned into a nursing home. The citizens committee has adopted that recommendation.

With the building of City Hospital in the 1930's, River



When the hospital merger is implemented, City Hospital will become a nursing home. Photo by Craig Smith

Improved summer youth programs planned

by Dean Simpson

Police and school officials plus some concerned members of the community are working together to provide constructive and enjoyable summer activities for River Falls youth.

Some brand new programs are being planned, and other which have existed for a year or more are being improved and expanded.

The Hagestad Student Center Gameroom facilities will be available to young people in the area, either at no cost to them at all, or for a nominal sum to be paid at the beginning of the summer.

The gameroom will be open at least from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights from June 6 through Aug. 23. Those hours may be extended if willing supervisory personnel can be found.

David Reetz, Director of Auxiliary Services at UW-RF, said the gameroom plan is being offered by the university as a community service.

Young people will be able to enjoy free bowling, pool, ping pong and shuffle board. Coin operated pin-ball, air-hockey, foosball, and other games will also be provided.

A River Falls man, Myron F. Morrow, will be opening his own penny-arcade type amusement center on May 1 in back of Lund's Hardware store. Pool, pin-ball and other games will be available.

The new center, which will probably be called "8-Ball," said Morrow, will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. weekdays, and later on weekends. Hours may be extended during the summer months.

Some of the scheduled programs are part of a regular summer activity schedule. But some are in response, to the alarming 211 per cent increase in juvenile delinquency cases in River Falls from 1973 to 1974.

The primary example of this response, and high on the list of priorities of those involved, is the WestCAP Summer Youth Employment Program. But whether or not the program will get off the ground this summer depends on the availability of funds from the state.

The project was stated in a funding request by the River Falls juvenile committee of concerned adults. "This pilot project is designed to meet the needs of 40 students whose academic, social, and / or vocational development is not meeting success for employment readiness that he or she may need for entry level jobs."

The project objectives were defined as follows. 1. To reduce inappropriate in-school behaviors, (failing, absenteeism, etc.) 2. To provide on-going vocational assessment and counseling based on the individual needs, interests, and abilities of those youths planning on attending vocational school after graduation. 3. To provide social counseling to youth who are unable to relate to work training and to educate the youth who are reluctant learners, possible juvenile delinquents, or who have been identified as having behavior problems.

To meet these objectives, weekly group sessions are planned. They will be held for two hours each week for nine weeks during the work training experience. The topics to be discussed include skill awareness, job seeking skills, career planning, goal setting, value success, planning for the future, social delinquency prevention, and motivation skills.

Also, jobs related to the interests and abilities of individuals will be provided. Extensive job development is planned so that real and adequate training opportunities may be provided for the youth selected for the project.

Along with these jobs will be provided job coaching and

supportive services where it is deemed necessary.

Staff and consultants for the project will include the River Falls Vocation Education Coordinator, a career planner, counselors, Job Service office staff, the probation department and the River Falls juvenile officer.

To be eligible for participation in the program, a person must be 16 or 17 at the time of enrollment. The program will consist of 25 hours of work per week at \$2.10 per hour.

The 211 per cent increase in juvenile delinquency figure is computed from the number of juvenile contacts listed in the River Falls Police Department's Annual Report.

According to that report, in 1974, juvenile vandalism offenses were committed four times as frequently as in 1973. Theft rose by two and one half times; disorderly conduct by one and one half times; liquor violations by five times, and drug-related offenses rose four times over 1973.

Eighty-two per cent of the 1974 juvenile contacts were new faces to juvenile officer John Dinkel.

Figures like these are cause enough for concern for some, but they don't tell the whole story. The larger picture provides at least a little perspective.

For instance, the 400 per cent increase in illicit drug crimes sounds high. But in 1973, there was only one juvenile case in this area. Thus, the 400 per cent figure is an accurate statistic, but it is less alarming than it might be when the exact figures are known.

Also, according to Dinkel, a large increase in juvenile liquor violations was expected in 1974. He said law enforcement officials throughout the state had warned that the increase would come with the lowering of the drinking age to 18. Therefore,



River Falls Juvenile Officer John Dinkel.

Photo by Ruth Faanes

the 500 per cent increase in this area, if not comforting, at least has not been a total surprise.

However, Dinkel said he is troubled about the juvenile delinquency situation in River Falls. At times, he said, he gets frustrated, and he feels the cards have been stacked against him.

Often, when told by police that their child has been delinquent, parents refuse to believe it. Other times, he said, the are

simply uninterested or uncooperative.

Some River Falls teachers interviewed agreed that parental disinterest is the major obstacle preventing many young people from being reached who otherwise could be helped. The consensus among them was that schools and law enforcement officials can do almost nothing to help a young person without the support and care of the parents.

Technology at the market

Groceries adopt universal product code

by Luanne Sorenson

Although nationwide grocery checkout by computer may not appear for some time, consumers as well as retailers are concerned about the system now.

According to Joyce Steele, Manager of Communications for Red Owl, Hopkins, MN, three test stores have been set up to gauge effectiveness and consumer response. The stores include Giant Foods in Baltimore, Ralph Foods in Los Angeles and a grocery store chain in Canada.

At the crux of computer check out is the "Universal Product Code," a special symbol being placed on food packages at processing factories across the country. These labels -- a pattern of lines, bars and numbers -- can be "read" at supermarket checkout counters by optical scanning devices.

Using the system, store cashiers simply pass each item over an electronic reader at the time the items are bagged. The machines are connected to a

computer that instantly displays and records the sale and gives the shopper a detailed receipt.

Wallin's Red Owl installed new electronic cash registers on Monday. According to Manager Harold Carlson, the registers have the potential of being converted to computer scanner machines, but he predicts that the store will not convert for some time.

Erickson's River Falls Manager Howard Larson says the store has no plans to convert to computerized registers because the investment is too great for the return.

According to U.S. News and World Report, December 30, 1974, the cost of the systems run \$85,000 to \$125,000 per store. Competition for sale and lease of the equipment is growing intense among a score of electronic and computer manufacturers including National Cash Register, IBM, International Business Machines, Litton, Sperry Rand, Bunker-Ramo and National Semiconductor.

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Most food packages now display the computer pricing codes.
Photo by Kaye Schutte

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To The Student Voice

Financial squeeze hits area; employment sags in Pierce

by Dave Ralph

Economic recession has affected this nation in numerous ways and despite claims or predictions by the federal government and White House that "things will get better soon," things haven't been getting better.

Instead, the economic situation for college students, the average family and virtually everyone is going from bad to worse.

Some people may remember hearing their parents or grandparents say, "If people want to work, they can find a job." For many people across the nation and some in the local area, that old saying isn't true anymore. Due to recession, people have been temporarily laid off or fired and forced to use food stamps or rely on other welfare programs.

Pierce County and the surrounding area has been a tremendous increase in the number of people classified as unemployed. In February 1975 out of a total of 11,900 potential employees there were 740 unemployed or a 6.3 per cent unemployment rate. During the same month last year there was a 3.7 per cent rate of unemployment.

The annual average for unemployment in Pierce County during the past four years has been between a low of 2.3 per cent in 1970 and 3.1 per cent average in 1974.

Paul Tabor, labor market analyst for the West Central Administration District of Unemployment for Wisconsin explained the rate of increase.

"Presently, Pierce County is experiencing a seasonal low in employment. This is usually the worst time of the year to find a job but Pierce County has the lowest rate of unemployment in this district. The increase here due to recession has been felt only recently when compared to the rest of the nation," Tabor said.

Tabor added that these figures are probably an underestimation because they fail to account for residents of Pierce County who have lost jobs in Minnesota.

The West Central District is made up of Eau Claire, Chippewa, Polk, Barron, Pierce, Dunn, St. Croix and Pepin counties. In fact, Pierce County's unemployment rate has been below state and national unemployment levels.

The yearly state unemployment rate average has risen to 7.8 per cent at this time.

Average rates over the past four years were 1970-4.9, 1971-5.9, 1972-5.6, 1973-4.9 and 1974-5.6.

The national level now stands at 9.1 per cent unemployed. Again evidence points to another big increase over the yearly averages of 1970-4.9, 1971-5.9, 1972-5.6, 1973-4.9 and 1974-5.6.

Tabor pointed out that the previous statistics aren't seasonally adjusted but statistics seen on television or in major newspapers usually are seasonally adjusted.

In February of this year the West Central Administration office at Eau Claire paid out nearly \$108,000 in unemployment compensation.

The money to fund the unemployment payments comes directly from a state tax on employers. Some states also provide funding. If tax funds run out, the federal government supports the program with emergency funds. In Wisconsin, the state supplies extended benefits and additional money when necessary.

The federal government also provides insurance for unemployed people until they are able to find jobs.

The near future looks a little brighter in Pierce County, according to Tabor. He sees rising employment due to job openings in construction, farm related occupations, food processing, and lumber industry work that will be available soon.

The district unemployment office in Eau Claire also helps unemployed people find jobs by soliciting job openings from employers on a voluntary basis.

To apply for unemployment persons must go to the main office at 418 Wisconsin St., Eau Claire or phone the office at 836-2901. Other offices are located in county courthouses and there are six area offices in city halls within this district.

Next an applicant must have a job order made up and fill out an application for the area of work skills they're trained in.

In Pierce County, the Job Service Office is at the courthouse in Ellsworth and operated full time by Kathy Kemmerer and Charles Peterson. The county Job Service handles mini-job orders and unemployed applicants but doesn't take unemployment claims. A traveling representative from Eau Claire is at the courthouse on Tuesday mornings to work with unemployment claims.

Throughout Wisconsin there are approximately 100 temporary and full-time unemployment workers who cover circuit schedules from courthouse to courthouse during the week. With a probably cut in the state unemployment service budget for the next fiscal year, the total number of unemployment workers will probably be about 475, according to Tabor.

"Since the program's funds are tax based, when more people become unemployed the employers' tax will go up," Tabor said. "If the recession continues the number of people unemployed will certainly go up and raise the employers' tax."

One method of assistance to the unemployed is food stamps. By purchasing food stamps for a relatively small amount of money, people can increase their purchasing power since food stamps are worth more at stores than the price the unemployed pay for them.

Charles Peterson, supervisor of the finance section for Pierce County's Public Welfare Department reported that in March, 1975 there were 320 families or cases on the food stamp program within the county. The recipients paid out a total of \$15,000 for \$39,000 worth of food stamps.

Peterson said that the number of people receiving food stamps has risen quickly in recent years to match spiraling unemployment. He also said that the percentage of people buying food stamps in Pierce County isn't bad when compared to the rest of the nation but he was unable to provide further statistics.

Another program for aid to unemployed people is the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and direct welfare assistance. Peterson stated that the number of AFDC and welfare cases in the county hasn't changed drastically in the last year. From January, 1974, when there were 125 AFDC and welfare cases the number only increased by 11, to 136 cases in December, 1974.

Currently, there are 145 AFDC or welfare cases in the county but Peterson said that there is a rapid turnover rate.

He attributed the turnover to some people who find jobs or others who move elsewhere in search of employment. On the average, there are 14 applications each month but Peterson said that some are turned down when the department decides the need in a particular case isn't great enough.

Opinion

by Chris Watters

We believe it is about time the citizens of River Falls and Hudson actively support the much needed and sought after public transportation proposal, which has been soundly drawn up by some interested Hudson residents.

St. Croix Area Transit, Inc. (SCAT), a privately formed, non-profit corporation is seeking federal funds to start a regular bus service from River Falls to the Twin Cities by way of Hudson and through Eastern Washington county (see **Student Voice** 3-20-75).

The City of River Falls, through a letter endorsed by the members of the city council, has rightfully chosen to endorse this project should the federal government provide the necessary operating funds.

The Congress is scheduled to study public transportation proposals such as SCAT in mid-June.

Surveys taken locally in Hudson and River Falls by SCAT, a class at UW-RF and one taken by the Hudson Star Observer (Hudson's local paper) indicate that interest in a program such as the proposal by SCAT is of considerable interest to the local residents and college students.

The SCAT survey alone revealed that 47 per cent of those responding would use such a service regularly, and that 52 per cent would use it sometimes if it were operational.

Because River Falls and Hudson are bedroom communities (i.e. a large portion of the population earn their livelihood in the Twin Cities) and because there is a worldwide energy shortage it appears that Congress should readily approve funds for a program such as this. SCAT could save thousands of gallons of gasoline a year for the country.

As you are already aware, the federal government all too often has a tendency to drag its feet in matters of this type. Therefore, it is up to interested citizens in both of these communities to take the necessary action to insure that the SCAT proposal receives the proper consideration.

SCAT is obviously not the only community mass transportation proposal in the nation being considered by Congress. If it were, we are certain that Congress would not have asked for a four month extension on the due date for such proposals, as it has already done.

Secondly, even though SCAT has the backing and endorsement of an established transportation firm such as the Metropolitan Transit Commission, operating in the Twin Cities, this is not enough to guarantee additional consideration for them, because it is possible that other proposals have similar backing.

In order to strengthen the probability of federal funding approval for SCAT the citizens of River Falls and Hudson have two responsibilities.

If surveyors knock on your door or call your home concerning this project answer all the questions to the best of your ability. Well presented and planned surveys help to make Congress aware of public sentiment on matters of this type.

As many citizens are aware, congressmen often read and consider correspondence on matters of this type; therefore, we believe it would behoove every interested citizen to let his or her congressman know what their feelings are about this project.

Many commuters living in River Falls and Hudson have been waiting for a cheaper, more convenient means of transportation to the Twin City area. College students are also interested for economic reasons. The SCAT project will satisfy both of these groups and save precious fuel.

If SCAT is to become a working reality, it is up to the citizens of both communities to back this project 100 per cent.

'Trial' Verdict: Guilty; Laughlin Film 'Absurd'

by Dan Thompson

"The Trial of Billy Jack" is perhaps the most absurd and ludicrous film of 1974. Taking up where "Billy Jack" left off, this sequel carries the viewer down the road of no return to the point of insanity - and beyond.

To be fair, it must be recognized that both "Billy Jack" and "The Trial of Billy Jack" have been tremendous box office hits. However, that old cliché "money isn't everything" could never be more appropriately applied than to the Billy Jack phenomena. The degree to which "The Trial of Billy Jack" has succeeded at the box office (\$23 million after its first three weeks) can only be matched by the degree to which it has failed to make itself believable.

"The Trial of Billy Jack" continues with the "Billy Jack" theme of a Freedom School of unusually motivated and intelligent hippie-type kids struggling to preserve love, honesty, individualism, personal integrity, etc. qualities that it is assumed are lacking in the average American community. But, alas, the Freedom School is located near just such a community, and that community has dedicated itself to the destruction of the school. Thus, we have the film's main conflict - the good values of the Freedom School vs. the bad (prejudice, conservative, narrowmindedness, etc ...) values of the nearby WASP community.

Enter Billy Jack (Tom Laughlin). Having just been released from prison for various well-justified killings in "Billy Jack," he might be expected to tread softly. But no half-Indian, ex-Green Beret can ignore an opportunity to exhibit his karate kicking ability to bash in the head of anyone who gives the Freedom School kids so much as a dirty look.

So far the film sounds pretty much like "Billy Jack." However, in "The Trial of Billy Jack" there is an added reward aimed especially at the violence fans who made Billy Jack's karate battles such a financial bonanza in the previous film. This new dimension is the massacre of helpless civilians - both Vietnamese (My Lai style) and Freedom School students (Kent State style).

Thus, throughout the "Trial" we see Billy Jack protecting the good from the bad. But it is only after the bloody slaughter at the Freedom School, by the police and National Guard, that

the establishment realizes that the students have been right all along - violence is wrong, prejudice is wrong, etc. ...

There is nothing wrong with this attempt to make a statement. Certainly prejudice, violence, etc. are wrong. The real fault of the film lies in its attempt to portray the Freedom School students as all-knowing and the townspeople as all screwed-up. It exploits the generation gap and the credibility gap to the point of being ridiculous. This approach may have appeal, but only if you are on the right side of the gap. To appreciate this film, one would have to be very naive, very young, or (ideally) both.

The character of Billy Jack is another effort that borders on absurdity. Tom Laughlin bears as much resemblance to a half-breed Indian as did Marilyn Monroe to Pocahontas. Furthermore, Billy Jack's Indian side is a hodge-podge of different Hollywood Indian types. In fact, the Indian aspect of Billy Jack is nothing more than another stereo-type of the Noble Red Man and Indian Values. It is not a realistic portrayal of any Indian, past or present.

However, the most damaging trait in Billy Jack's character is the violence, which contradicts the very values of the Freedom School itself. Billy fights fire with fire, and yet he is the hero of a school that preaches only peace and non-violence.

The acting in "The Trial of Billy Jack" does not deserve much mention. It is mediocre at best, but this is to be expected when the main character is supposed to possess that well-known Indian virtue of hiding all emotion. Laughlin's real-life wife, Delores Taylor, portrays Jean Roberts who runs the Freedom School. Jean has a strange relationship with Billy - she loves him and he loves her, but of course he can't show it too openly. Ms. Taylor at least indicates that she has emotions by crying on appropriate occasions. The supporting cast remains inconspicuous throughout the film, although most are especially effective at getting shot down in the big finale.

The worst news is yet to come. Billy Jack is still on the loose. "Born Losers" begat "Billy Jack," "Billy Jack" begat "The Trial of Billy Jack." Obviously this has possibilities. Perhaps the most we dare hope for is that "Trial of Billy Jack" begets "The Death of Billy Jack."

the Supplement

The Supplement will be published at irregular intervals during the academic year by the Department of Journalism at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls as a laboratory exercise for students in reporting, editing, photography and other print-oriented journalism courses. The Supplement is not produced by the Student Voice although some student staff members of the Voice may also work on the Supplement as part of their journalism classwork. The Voice is an independent student-funded newspaper. The Department of Journalism takes full responsibility for the contents of the Supplement. Comments or suggestions may be directed to the Journalism Staff - John Bishop, Mike Norman or Lorin Robinson.

Filmviews

'Orient' praised

by Roberta Gilbertson

As an avid fan of Agatha Christie's murder mysteries, it was with some trepidation that I went to see "Murder On The Orient Express." I could still remember an earlier attempt to film one of Christie's novels, and I shuddered as I recalled Tony Randall's portrayal of one of the most famous of literary detectives, Hercule Poirot. That movie, "The Alphabet Murders," was more of a burlesque than a mystery, and was embarrassingly bad from any standpoint. So in spite of the many favorable reviews of "Murder On The Orient Express," I went expecting the worst. I got a pleasant surprise.

The cast of "Murder On The Orient Express" was impressive in itself, including such stars as Albert Finney, Ingrid Bergman, Lauren Bacall, Richard Widmark, Vanessa Redgrave, Wendy Hiller, Rachel Roberts, Martin Balsam, Michael York, Jacqueline Bisset, and Sean Connery. It is probably because the cast was made up of such talented actors and actresses that the characters in the movie emerged as so much more than the superficial stock types which seem to be inherent in the genre.

Especially pleasing was Albert Finney's portrayal of Poirot, Christie's quaint and somewhat foppish detective, whose comic idiosyncrasies, if exaggerated, could easily have turned the detective into a clown. But Finney manages to achieve a balance between the detective's vanity and shrewdness, and thus Poirot is perceived as clever and amusing, but never ludicrous.

Also noteworthy was Ingrid Bergman's performance as the meek Miss Olson, for which she deservedly won an Oscar. Wendy Hiller as the indomitable Russian princess and Lauren Bacall as the garrulous Mrs. Hubbard were also exceptionally good.

The action of "Murder On The Orient Express" takes place in 1935 aboard the legendary train, the Orient Express, as it rolls across Asia and eastern Europe to the Continent. The director, Sidney Lumet, does an admirable job of establishing the mise-en-scene, and the general effect of the costuming and set decoration is of a milieu as glossy and elegant as an illustration from a vintage edition of *Vogue*. The world portrayed in "Murder On The Orient Express" is one peopled by retired Anglo-Indian colonels, wealthy aristocrats, and loyal servants. It is a world which perhaps only existed in the imagination, but it is certainly the kind of world one expects to find in Christie's stories, and is probably one of the reasons they are so enjoyable.

The plot is one of Christie's most ingenious. There is an abundance of clues, and red herrings of course, to intrigue and baffle any arm-chair detective. And the ending is so novel that even those who are not confirmed whodunnit addicts are sure to find "Murder On The Orient Express" great entertainment.

'Shampoo' boring

by Rod Stetzer

"Shampoo" is a wash out. It's a disappointing, boring film, which misses its mark.

When a film is co-authored by Robert ("Chinatown") Towne and Warren Beatty, one expects a sparkling script. Instead, it sparkles in parts, and then bogs down.

An example is a scene where Beatty (who also stars in the film), finds out that his old flame (Julie Christie), is seeing a businessman (Jack Warden). Instead of building tension, the scene sags. If Towne and Beatty had cut it, it might have worked. They didn't, and it didn't.

The film tries to show how some people were swallowed up by hypocritical morals in 1968. While it succeeds somewhat, it ultimately fails because of a script that takes too long to make its point.

As mentioned before, some scenes do sparkle. At one point, Warden explains how he "helped" some blind children. It's hilarious, and it's sharp satire.

Another scene which works, is when Beatty tries to get a loan from a banker (nicely played by George Furth). It shows how shallow Beatty's character is.

Unfortunately, those scenes were the exceptions to the rule. One suspects that even if director Hal Ashby had quickened his pace, he still would have been bogged down by the script. As it is, his direction is leisurely, and about average.

One good thing Ashby allows, is letting his actors get everything they can out of their parts. Warden, Christie, and Goldie Hawn all put in good performances.

But it is Beatty who dominates. He exceptionally captures the electricity of his character. It is a masterful performance, one deserving of an Oscar nomination.

"Shampoo" begins on Election day, 1968. Wisely, Beatty uses tapes of CBS and NBC's election coverage. The tapes nicely set the period in the scenes they are used.

But good acting and nostalgia are not enough to save the film. It fails to make its point, because the script takes too long. So the audience loses interest.

The tragedy of "Shampoo" is that it holds promise. But, sadly, it's undelivered promise.

North Hall renovation underway

by Robin Nehring

North Hall is being renovated to accommodate the need for more space by some departments. The second oldest building on the UW-River Falls campus, North Hall may get even heavier use if South Hall is phased out.

Part of a three phase remodeling program which began in 1972, phase II was initiated on April 21. According to General Services Director Jack Agnew, the second phase will be completed by October.

Phase II will involve the conversion of two classrooms to a computer center and a third to provide room for the radio station, presently housed in the basement of North Hall.

The classrooms that are involved in the renovation are the two convocation halls, 100 and 125 and room 307.

Before construction started on April 21, the convocation halls were used mainly for science lecture classes. They are now being leveled off and joined to form the large computer center.

With the enlarged area, all

the computer terminals presently located in the Fine Arts Building, Ag-Science Building and North Hall will be consolidated in the one center.

The third classroom, room 307, is being partitioned off for offices and booths for WRFW, the campus radio station.

By moving the radio station from the basement up to the third floor, all the journalism programs will be joined in one area. The student newspaper, **The Student Voice**, which is advised by the department, remains in the student center

Although the area that the radio station will be using is not much larger than the basement area, Agnew said the space now being used is inadequate.

"They only got in there because it was the only place they could go," said Agnew. He added that the square footage would not be much more in room 307 but that it would be a better setup.

The entire North Hall renovation program is, according to Agnew, to add space and improve some of the safety aspects of the building.



The Spring Street side of North Hall bears most of the construction traffic.
Photo by Sue Hausman

"The building itself is in good shape. The renovation program is not for repair reasons," said Agnew.

The third phase of North Hall's renovation program depends on the completion of the Physical Science Building.

The first phase begun in 1972 was mainly for the purpose of

cont. on p. 7

Industrial park gets no takers in ten years

by Gerry Kummer

To paraphrase someone or other, "What if they gave an industrial park and nobody came?"

Anyone driving past the River Falls industrial park located on the east side of Highway 35 north can't help but notice that the facility is distinguished primarily by its wide open spaces. Only one industry has located on the site since its development 10 years ago and the prospects for additional tenants are not good.

Since its organization in 1950, the River Falls Civic and Industrial Development Corporation has developed commercially zoned properties within River Falls and provided financial assistance to new industries it felt would be beneficial to the community.

Sidd Brandt, secretary of the corporation and an insurance agent in River Falls, said the corporation began as a non-profit organization after the Langwear Corp. fire in the fall of 1949.

"It was a local effort of businessmen to raise enough money to build Langwear a new building and keep them in River Falls," Brandt said. "The corporation bought some land and set up a new building and then sold it back to Langwear Corp."

"Their next project was getting Erickson Industries into River Falls in the mid-fifties. The corporation bought part of the land and gave Erickson Industries financial assistance in starting their operation," Brandt said. Today, Erickson Industries is part of the Vollrath Corp. which is a leading manufacturer of refrigeration units.

In late 1960, the corporation was also instrumental in locating the Hilleron Rest Home in River Falls. The corporation helped Hilleron finance the project. Today it is known as

the River Falls Nursing Home or Care Center and is located on North Main Street.

Jay-Ro Manufacturing Company came to River Falls in 1961. The corporation bought a building to get Jay-Ro to River Falls. The operation of Jay-Ro Manufacturing was later taken over by De Laval which manufactures milk separators.

Instead of continuing the development of several small industrial sites within River Falls, the corporation developed the industrial park in 1966. The corporation bought 48 acres of land east of Highway 35 and north of the city limits for approximately \$57,500.

Bob Moody, president of the corporation, said this was the first attempt by the corporation to settle and to promote land as an industrial park.

United Fabricators and Electronics (Pierce Corp.) from Stillwater was the first industry to settle in the Industrial Park in 1966.

Moody recalls that Pierce Corp. bought about 10 acres in the Park - five acres needed for immediate building and five acres for speculative expansion.

About six acres has been sold to non-industrial businesses. Early Plumbing and Heating, Jensen's Distributing warehouse, Clay's bulk plant and a gas station have purchased lots in the park.

"The corporation is interested in civic development as well as industrial development," Moody said. "The corporation tries to do what is best for the city. We try to keep continuity between business and industry in town."

"When the corporation bought the park, there were businesses already located nearby. It wouldn't be good just to

build up industries around those businesses," Moody added. "Therefore we promote business as well as industry to keep a sort of balance within the community."

There are also about 12 acres of hilly land in the Park not suitable for development by industry if they need a large area of flat land, Moody said. "This is another reason we promote businesses. They can possibly build into the hillside whereas an industry probably can't."

Several years ago, the city of River Falls annexed the industrial park. The city then provided sewer and water to the rest of the undeveloped land in the park.

"It is certainly an advantage for industry interested in coming to River Falls to have land zoned for industry along with sewer and water already installed," Moody said. "Today there is approximately 15 acres left to sell in the Industrial Park."

A unique characteristic of the Industrial Park is that it is privately owned. The land in the Park is owned by stockholders who own stock in the corporation. Many Industrial Parks within city limits are owned by the municipality.

The corporation became a profit making organization in 1959. "However, the stockholders are not in the corporation to make a profit," Moody said. "In the corporation's 25-year history, only \$10 in dividends have been given to the stockholders. The corporation is solely interested in bringing industry to River Falls and keeping the local industry here," Moody added.

Since the acquisition of the Park and the settlement of Pierce Corp. in 1966, no additional industry has settled in the Park. Moody thought that pri-

vate ownership in no way deters development.

"It has always been the policy of the corporation to seek out industries that are financially sound and would employ people from River Falls," Moody said. "We are selective in choosing an industry which is reputable. Certainly a city owning its own industrial park can give an industry a tax break. But if we have to subsidize an industry to bring it here, they can't be too reputable."

"A financially sound industry coming to River Falls can bring people employment. Also a stable industry can offer tax relief to home owners.

"We worry about those 'fly by night' industries. An industry here one day and gone the next is more of a burden on the city than you can actually imagine. The city may have unemployment and welfare costs from those types of industries," Moody said.

Minutes of the corporation's meetings, indicate that several industries have inquired about locating in River Falls. These include the Fibri-Tek Company; Ban, Inc., St. Paul; Charmoll Fashions, Inc.; Robertson Co. and Drapery; Luger Industries; Air-O-Corp; and Winona Industries, Inc.

What ever happened to all these industries?

George Kremer, publisher of the **River Falls Journal**, said that many industries are just out bargain hunting when trying to find a new location. He said, "Many times we invited officials from industries inquiring about relocating in River Falls down for lunch and talked to them and then never see them again."

According to Kremer, one reason no major industry has come into the Park in the past 10-years is the limited amount of

land left in the Park for development.

"De Laval, for instance, wants to expand its operation, but needs 25 acres," Kremer said. "But the Park has only 15 acres available."

"De Laval has already moved part of its operation to North Hudson and owns 25 acres in Hudson's Industrial Park. River Falls could lose De Laval to Hudson if the city up there installs sewer and water into the property," Kremer said.

A De Laval spokesman said that the possible move to Hudson is presently under tentative approval. He said, "We need a change in the present economic situation. Hopefully by this summer the economy should change and a decision on the move can be finalized."

Several years ago, the Robertson Company showed an interest in coming to River Falls. However, it finally relocated in Hudson.

A representative from Robertson's said the reasons for moving to Hudson were that the land there was cheaper, there is better access to the highway and the city provided water and sewer connections.

The Robertson situation took place before the industrial park in River Falls was annexed by the city, so sewer and water were not made available to industry by the city then.

In trying to promote industry in River Falls, Kremer feels the corporation must buy more land adjacent to the Industrial Park. "The corporation has tried to buy land, but has yet to succeed," Kremer said. "There is no sure answer to the problem of why industry hasn't settled here in River Falls for the past 10 years, but the corporation keeps on looking for new industry."

Impact on UW-RF

Decision on athletic equality near

by Jeff Klug

President Gerald Ford is nearing the end of a 60-day period he has had to consider the new guidelines for the Title IX athletic equality program. If passed the bill will go to either the House or Senate for a 30-40 day waiting period. Implementation would take place next fall.

An amendment to the Federal Higher Education Act in 1972, Title IX stipulates that every student must be given a chance to participate in an athletic program. The original guidelines created a good deal of confusion necessitating a revision by Ford.

Don Page, UW-River Falls athletic director, doesn't feel that Title IX will have a great deal of effect on the university's athletic program. However he does feel that the influence of such legislation will aid the women's athletic program.

"I think the timing is such that women are not going to depend on Title IX," Page said. "They (women) have been advancing on their own and probably could make just as much advancement without it, but it might speed things up."

Judy Wilson, a women's coach at UW-RF, is pleased with the help the program has received from the Student Senate. "The Student Senate has been very kind as far as increasing our budget is concerned," Wilson said, "but nothing has been said concerning coaching release time."

Equal coaching release time has been a major problem at most colleges and universities. Basically coaching release time is having the hours spent coaching during a season taken into account during the scheduling of teaching loads for that season.

An example of coaching release time would be if a full teaching load was considered to be 12 hours, a coach might spend six hours per week in the classroom and six hours per week with his or her sport during a particular season. The coach would still be considered

a full-time teacher yet would have more time to handle coaching duties during what, for most coaches, is a very hectic time of the year.

In the off season a coach would return to the classroom for the full 12 hours. Coaching release time is a common practice in many colleges.

"The men's track coach at UW-RF (Warren Kinzel) gets five credits release time while I get only two," Wilson said. "Both of us have indoor and outdoor seasons although he does have a few more students."

"The same situation is true in swimming where the men's coach (Mike Davis) gets five credits release time while the women's coach gets only two," Wilson added. She feels that this is characteristic of the whole program but realizes that when you start talking equal release time you have to consider adding staff members and this is impossible in a tight economy.

A recent report from Chancellor George Field recommended that men have four coaching release time positions, but no recommendation was given for the women. A suggestion was made, however, that the women should get what was necessary.

The state American Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women organization (AAI-AW) has recommended two coaching release positions for the women. Page recognizes that this isn't equal but feels that one must use as a base what the program is doing and what time is put in.

"If we could get that (two positions) as a start it would be great," Page said. "We would be well ahead of what we've had in the last two years."

UW-RF has apparently alleviated the problem of facilities through cooperation.

"The best thing to happen because of Title IX, if anything, is the sharing of facilities," Wilson said. "We've worked out a very fair and equitable schedule."

Area high schools getting into computers

by Julia Dorschner

Dr. David Feinstein and Jerome Caldwell of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Math Department are directly responsible for River Falls, Ellsworth and New Richmond High Schools obtaining access to and use of the University of Minnesota computer. They have made computer terminals available to high school students through the UW-RF computer time sharing program.

Rayno Niemi has also assisted in this program for high school students. Terminals are loaned to high schools to use on their campuses at designated times.

This Computer Enrichment Program also includes loaning computer terminals and other equipment to Cumberland Junior and Senior High, Unity District and Clear Lake High School. Ames Lab School also has use of a terminal.

paid by a grant of \$1800 from the Wisconsin Improvement Program, with matching funds from UW-RF College of Education, College of Arts and Sciences and the computer center.

Schools can use the terminals for math classes or a wide variety of courses including English, Science, Guidance, Social Studies and many other areas.

Students in the schools are first taught how to use the terminals, how to write a program and how to use the terminal as a check on their own math work. Then students are encouraged to explore the program on their own during or after school.

"The program has been extremely successful and has generated excitement," Dr. Feinstein said.

The key to the success of the program is the individualized



Women's athletics on the University level should be given a boost by Title IX. Photo by Judy Johnson

Although the problem of facilities has been eased somewhat that isn't the case when it comes to equipment. Wilson hopes that the Student Senate will allocate special money to solve the problem then cut them back the following year.

"As it is now," said Wilson, "we have one set of uniforms and when one team comes in we rip them off their backs and give them to the next team."

Page believes that UW-RF offers a good program for the 350 men and 200 women who participate despite having the smallest budget in the Wisconsin State University Conference.

"I hope the Student Senate would be able to find additional funds for the women's program," Page said. "Inflation has forced us to seek more money to maintain the same quality we've had in the past."

The UW-RF men's and women's athletic programs will

be merged in the 1975-1976 school year. Page will remain as director of the entire program.

"I fought this move to the end and then succumbed," said Wilson. "I'll certainly give it a chance and see what can be worked out, but I don't want to see the women's program eaten up by the men's program. If we gain and benefit and are able to maintain a women's program with our own philosophy and are able to save money-management-wise and one person can do the job ... then fine," she added.

Asked if she felt the women's program should have its own athletic director, Wilson said, "Women have a right to determine their own destiny."

Many people have wondered whether or not the time is right for implementing Title IX. Page is certain that it is.

"Women have made terrific progress," Page said. "They

have accomplished things in three years that it took men 60 years to do, but we have to work together," he added.

"The future of the women's program is bright," said Wilson. "I am worried on a national level that we will accept too many things and we'll have the same problems the men do," she added.

"We're not big-time athletics at UW-RF, but we have a good educational-athletic program," Wilson concluded.

The effects of Title IX on the UW-RF campus are not any clearer than they are for other institutions at this time. However, it would seem that River Falls has laid the basis for a fine women's program. Continued growth may depend on how the merger of the men's and women's programs works, and whether or not an equitable released time system can be established.

North Hall

cont. from p. 6

modernizing the building. Elevators were put in, new restrooms were built in the west side, the stairwells were enclosed to meet the industrial code and fire doors plus other safety features were added, according to Agnew.

"The third phase, which hinges entirely on the construction of the Physical Science Building, will be completed when the physics and chemistry departments are moved into the new building, and the departments presently housed in South Hall are moved into the vacated space in North Hall," said Agnew.

This will take some additional remodeling because of the different departmental needs, Agnew said.

Cost of the three phase program is expected to run about \$608,000 with phase I costing \$190,000, phase II costing \$188,000 and phase III costing \$230,000.

instruction on all levels and areas of study. Dr. Feinstein believes. The terminal can be used for calculation, simulation of physical, natural or social experience and can be used as a computer assisted instructor (tutor).

Other universities (such as the University of North Dakota) have similar programs but charge schools for use.

Jack Orgeman, River Falls High School math instructor, first began teaching his students the use of computers by having them punch cards which were then run through the UW-RF 1130 computer by Dr. Feinstein.

This year RFHS is using the terminal and Orgeman finds it has been more efficient and very beneficial. His classes in computers have increased in size and several students are planning computer careers.

"Exposure is the main idea

behind the course," Orgeman stated. "It helps students to decide if they like the field."

Orgeman cited three reasons for using the terminal.

"It's the coming thing, it has vocational interest possibilities and it is interesting to the students."

Frank Brown, Ellsworth High math instructor, has used the terminal for the first time this year as an experiment. He has had "very good cooperation" with the UW-RF instructors and plans to use the terminal more next year.

Brown said some students have difficulties finding enough free time to use the computer before and after school. He also emphasized that the computer was used as a check for the students math work; the computer does not do homework for the student, but helps the student better understand the math process.

Proescholdt

cont. from p. 1

as board chairman to Proescholdt was that "a board of education is a policy making body and that it operates best when it touches the mountain tops and doesn't get into the valleys."

According to Bradley, however, the Board found it necessary on occasion to dip into the valleys and get involved in the day-to-day school processes during the Proescholdt administration.

Proescholdt recalls that he was informed in May, 1975, by the Board of Education that he would be evaluated in January, 1975. He says then Board Chairman Bradley "visited me and informed me that there was no way I was going to survive that evaluation."

Bradley terms Proescholdt's statement inaccurate contending that "no one person speaks for the entire Board."

Proescholdt says Bradley wished him to resign. Asked to explain Proescholdt responded, "My perception is that he and I had disagreed on items that were important to him and that I had gotten in his way with things that he had hoped to accomplish. This was particularly true in the area of personnel."

Bradley admits, "Dr. Proescholdt and I as early as last summer had discussions about his performance. The area of personnel was only one among a number of areas where we had differences of opinion."

"In January," says Proescholdt, "I was given what the Board chose to call an evaluation. It consisted of each Board member's perception of my performance. This took all of five to ten minutes."

Bradley says the evaluation had been going on for some time. "It wasn't a problem that cropped up suddenly."

According to Board member Seth Speerstra, the Board's dissatisfaction with Proescholdt was evident last year when it failed to give him an increase in pay.

In January, Proescholdt says he was informed by present Board Chairman Jim Miller that if a vote to renew his contract were taken, he would lose. His contract would not be renewed. Proescholdt hired an attorney and started negotiations with the Board.

He contends that the charges brought against him were nebulous and lacked specificity. He says the Board charged that he had no confidence, that he wasn't counseling with subordinates properly and that he had not established a good relationship with middle management (principals).

Proescholdt says he offered to go through a hearing, to accept a contract for another year, or to reach some type of a settlement. In private session between Proescholdt's attorney and the Board, the Board chose the settlement option. Proescholdt was given accumulated vacation time and released of all responsibility after April 7. His contract will be honored until July 31.

Although the Board chose the settlement option, Proescholdt

still could have asked for a hearing. "It's sad," he says, "that the board doesn't need specific charges. If we had to go to a hearing, they could put down anything they pleased. They don't have to prove it to anyone."

Kremer says, "I wouldn't say the charges were nebulous." According to Bradley, the charges would have been specific for a hearing.

Proescholdt feels he had a good relationship with middle management. He asked the principals to fill out a Purdue questionnaire to reveal their individual perception of his administrative competency. After reading the anonymous evaluations, he said that he was very pleased. "I felt I had done very well. In my own mind I had a good relationship not only with middle management but with the entire staff of classified as well as professional people."

In Speerstra's opinion the Purdue evaluations did not make Proescholdt "look that good." He feels there were several instances where people were not handled fairly under Proescholdt's leadership. One example he cited was the release of Buster Branigan as transportation supervisor. Chairman Bradley did not bring about a hearing, says Speerstra, "Proescholdt should have offered counseling and brought about a hearing." Speerstra charges that Branigan was released because of Proescholdt's inaction.

School board member Dave Smith refused to comment on Proescholdt's resignation. Board member Richard Swensen indicated only that Proescholdt submitted his resignation for "personal reasons." He said, Proescholdt is the only one who can rightfully give out information on what occurred in closed sessions.

On Monday, April 21, the School Board received a petition signed by 88 school district residents requesting that the board ask Proescholdt to reconsider his resignation. The petition brought no comment from the Board and the petition was filed.

Kremer says, "I would defend this Board as being fair and objective with Proescholdt. I don't feel there was any personal conflict between him and any member of the Board."

There are 147 applications filed for the vacated superintendent position according to William Romoser, Assistant Dean of the College of Education for Graduate Programs at the UW-River Falls. The Board hired Romoser as a special consultant to review the applications. He will narrow the field down to ten or fewer names and then submit his list of recommendations to the board.

The deadline for applications was April 25. Applicant requirements include a master's degree, three years of teaching experience and the fulfillment of specified graduate courses.

Romoser hopes to submit his list of recommendations to the Board very soon. Fred Subke, Business Manager for the school district, is acting superintendent until the position is filled.



Photograms by Jan Berens



Grocery technology

cont. from p. 3

According to Steele, Red Owl is talking to five different vendors including National Cash Register and IBM to decide which systems is a "ways down the road."

What the system means for stores is that each can, jar and package will no longer have to be stamped with the selling price. The store manager can simply enter the price into a computer's memory and put a price label on the shelf where the item is sold.

This attractive retailer feature of the new system has raised consumer opposition. Consumer groups argue that prices should be marked on individual items to allow the customer to compare prices.

Food industry officials respond that price marking will be a decision left to each grocery store. Carlson predicts that when the new systems are implemented in the future items will probably still be priced individually until the consumers become accustomed to the new system.

In the three test stores, prices do not appear on individual items, according to Steele. She says customers are provided with grease pencils if they want to mark prices on items as they remove them from the shelf.

A second major complaint advanced by consumer groups is the worry that the high initial costs of systems will be passed along to grocery shoppers.

"It is predicted that prices will decrease with the implementation of computer checkouts," says Carlson. The new methods are expected to counteract rising food prices by increasing speed and efficiency in the supermarket operation.

Carlson believes that the new system will eliminate few grocery jobs. "We would still need someone to bag the items and make sure they go over the scanner. We still need personnel for stocking."

Steele contends that the systems instead of eliminating jobs would probably create more in other areas. She admits, however, that the systems are not yet far enough along to know for sure.

U.S. News and World Report estimates that by 1980 as many as 7,800 supermarkets -- each with sales of \$2 million dollars or more annually -- will have code-scanning systems in use. One thing is sure, consumers can see the technology coming closer as more and more grocery items begin to bear the universal product code.

Hospitals

cont. from p. 2

Falls was a one-hospital town until the late 1950's when St. Joseph's was built.

A long period of non-cooperation between doctors and osteopaths climaxed in the '50's when the M.D.'s left City Hospital. They returned to River Falls with the construction of St. Joseph's.

Dr. Roland M. Hammer, M.D., St. Joseph's, has been working on by-laws for the combined medical staff.

Dr. Hammer said that "to me the merger is a sign that the people of this community are not going to put up with the feud any longer."

Teppen believes that the feud has been blown out of proportion in the past and says that he's had wonderful cooperation from everyone.

"We have a good agreement between the doctors and osteopaths," Teppen concluded.

