

Au contraire, Eau Claire

What's the frequency, Ken? Students at the U. of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, haven't turned their dials — rather, their campus radio station, WUEC-FM 89.7, has switched its alternative-core programming to an all-jazz format.

Students were stunned when the new WUEC-FM director, Ken Loomis — along with other faculty members — decided to change the format of the station without student input. Students had more to lose than just their listening pleasure; they had money at stake, too. About \$18,000 — 97 percent of the station's budget — is provided by student funds.

The conflict over the radio station centers on its perceived audience. At one end of the dial are the administrators, who think WUEC's listeners are over 30. On the other end are more than 1,700 students who think the station should be geared to a younger audience.

"[Students are] not some mass audience we have to program to," Loomis said when he addressed the student senate last September.

Eau Claire students aren't whistling the same tune. In an unprecedented show of support, 1,700 students — 16 percent of the student body — turned out for a two-day petition drive to change the radio station back to its original format.

"It seems Loomis' arrogance has gotten in the way of his judgment, and it's halting the progress of the station," says Aaron Ellringer, organizer of one of the student groups opposed to the change.

In response to the dispute, the administration has created the WUEC-FM advisory committee, which includes a panel composed of both faculty members and students. Loomis has promised to follow the recommendations of the advisory board.

Not everyone at WUEC is opposed to the changes at the FM station. Public affairs director for WUEC-FM Chad Haremza doesn't particularly like the new format, but he says that Loomis has made the station more organized and efficient.

"We're using program logs now, like [professional stations]," Haremza says. But he adds, "I can't ad-lib like I used to, because I don't know anything about the musicians."

■ Jodi Chromey, *The Spectator*, U. of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

Inside Sneak

Rules were meant to be broken. Except when you play basketball in the NCAA. Then the rules can cost you money — big money.

For four years, cameras documented the lives of William Gates and Arthur Agee, two student basketball players at Westchester, Illinois' St. Joseph High School. The filmmakers cut a deal with the students and St. Joseph to make a 30-minute public television documentary of the two inner-city kids who dreamed of playing in the NBA.

Response to the short version was so positive that the filmmakers cut the remaining footage into a three-hour documentary distributed nationally by Fine Line Features. Film critic Roger Ebert praised *Hoop Dreams* as "the best documentary in years." It has also emerged as the most profitable documentary in years, grossing over \$1.9 million.

Hoop Dreams has scored big, but Gates and Agee can't join in on the victory celebration. NCAA rules prohibit a student-athlete's likeness from appearing on any product — in this case the documentary, a Spike Lee adaptation of the film or any of the thousands of merchandising campaigns associated with *Hoop Dreams*.

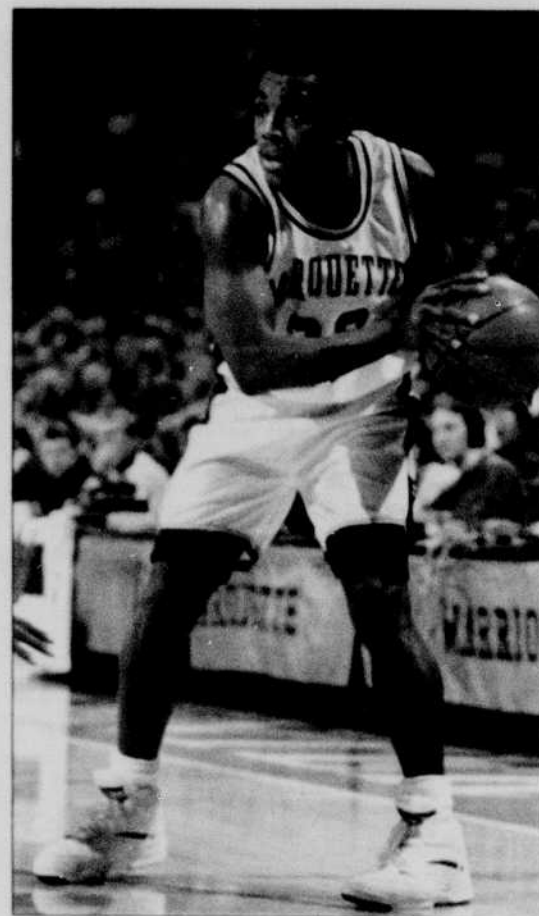
In October 1994, St. Joseph filed a lawsuit against the film's producers. "We were led to believe that this was going to be a not-for-profit film and did not want to engage in a commercial venture," says

St. Joseph president Charles Lynch. "We believe [our school] was presented in a false light."

While *Hoop Dreams*' production company and St. Joseph's army of lawyers go one-on-one, Gates and Agee are stuck between rules and lawsuits. They had to decide whether to live out their dreams of playing college basketball or cash in on the movie's profits. They both chose to play collegiate ball (Gates at Marquette U. and Agee at Arkansas State U.), and the NCAA barred them from promoting the documentary or receiving any of its profits.

The film almost didn't make it to the big screen; Gates and Agee had to fight to obtain a waiver from the NCAA for its release. David Berst, chairman of the NCAA administrative review panel, says that it was unusual to have this type of waiver approved. "[*Hoop Dreams*] was a documentary and not intended to be a commercial product, [which] probably helped in obtaining the waiver," Berst says. "It portrayed someone's real life, and it happened to be marketable."

Although St. Joseph hasn't dropped its suit, Lynch says the school is trying to resolve the situation and hopes for closure soon. And for now, Gates and Agee



What is William Gates' net worth? Ask the NCAA.

will have to wait to reach the NBA before they reap the financial rewards of their hoop dreams.

■ Bill Wagner, *Marquette Tribune*, Marquette U. contributed to this article

Contagious Cheating Caper

In grade school, we're taught that cheaters never prosper. Kansas State U. students learned that lesson when 112 students were caught cheating on an entry-level biology midterm.

Students in an early testing section memorized the answers and leaked the information to the Greek system, the residence halls and many others, says a female test-taker who doesn't want to be identified. "One person calls a house and then all houses in the Greek system have the answers. Then they call their friends in the dorms," she says. Answers to the biology exam were posted near the phone in her sorority house. She estimates 150 to 200 people cheated on the exam.

Carrie Creager, a sophomore who took Principles of Biology, in the spring semester of '94, says students have been cheating on the test for years. "It wasn't on quite as big a scale as it was this semester, but people have been [cheating] all along."

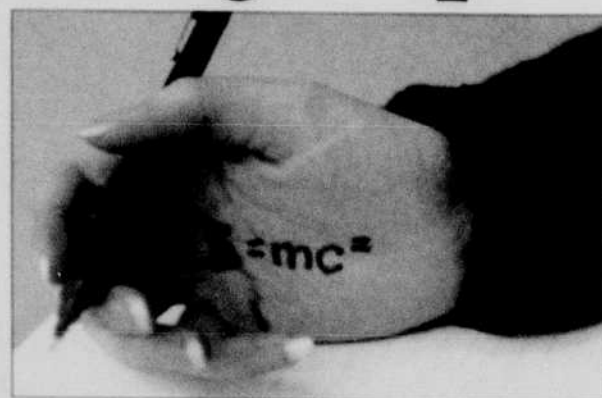
Diane Post, coordinator of the Principles of Biology class says she noticed too many "A"s from the first round of tests and decided to mix up the order of the questions for the second testing section.

Second-round students who used the answer list from the first test were quickly busted for cheating, while others who changed a few of the memorized answers were spared.

Larry Williams, associate director of biology for instructional activity, says that the biology department will still allow early exam times; however, different exams will be made up for each testing section.

All 112 students who were caught cheating received an "F" and a warning that will be on file in the provost's office for three years. If a second warning is filed within those three years, the student will be expelled.

At KSU, students do have an opportunity to erase this blemish from their record: retake the class and have the lowest grade stricken from their record. Students who were caught cheating will not be allowed to re-enroll in the Principles of



Biology until fall '95.

"We certainly closed in on and identified most of [the students who cheated]," says William Feyerharm, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "They're not criminals; they just got caught up in the last few minutes of unpreparedness."

■ Amy Ziegler and Sera Tank, *Kansas State Collegian*, Kansas State U., contributed to this article