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Students gear up for upcoming fall Student Senate elections

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Columnist explains the joys of eavsdropping on conversations

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Roger Tarnes takes over as new Athletic Director



STUDENT VOICE

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Monson wins Student Senate re-election

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Student Senate presidential election winner, Lee Monson, beat his opponent, Nikki Shonoiki, by 34 votes in the re-election last spring.

The re-election was implemented after the winner of the first election, Tyler Latz, declined the position of Student Senate president as well as other issues surrounding the election.

The first election was unusual because of an unresolved ethics complaint that threatened to remove Shonoiki from the ballot for campaigning early. Associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs, Gregg Heinselman, called for a re-election when a resolution to the complaint could not be reached.

Monson won the vote 168 to 134 according to poll results plus nine write-ins. A total of 311 students voted in the re-election, nearly half of the turnout of the regular election.

Director of Student Life and Student Senate advisor, Paul Shepherd, offered two possible explanations for the decrease in turnout: one, the first election included the election of senators while the re-election was to elect the president only; two, the re-election took place during finals week when students were focused on academics rather than student government.

Shonoiki said she was not disappointed when she found out she had lost the election. Already emotionally and physically drained from the previous months' events, she was already moving on.

Shepherd said a challenge facing the Senate is getting people involved in the elections and current issues. One of the key responsibilities of the Student Senate, he said, is informing the student body and communicating with the individuals they are supposed to be represent-

ing.

"Lee is extremely interested in establishing those [external relations]," he said.

Shepherd also said that he was also encouraged by the fact that there are a lot of new students currently in the Senate and there is room for more.

Monson said he chose to run because he felt other parties would be self-serving, and he wanted to initiate conversations with the student body so that their voices and issues would be heard.

"I'm not interested in pushing my own agenda," he said. "My main goal is to try and be available to students. That's what I'm here for."

Two issues that Monson said would be a focus during his term are removing the sophomore on-campus housing requirement in order to open up more spaces within the residence halls, and finding an alternative to the proposed plan for the renovation of Cascade Avenue.

Despite the challenge of time management, balancing classes and the demands of the position, he said he wishes to be able to meet and talk with as many people as possible including students, administration and city council.

"I value academics and this position very [highly]," said Monson. "A strong priority [of mine] is outreach to the student body."

A third-year pre-law political science major and philosophy minor, Monson's previous government and leadership experience includes: College Democrats treasurer, Student Senate College of Arts and Sciences representative and director of the Women and Gender Initiatives sub-committee.

Shonoiki said she will not run for another position on Senate, but will devote her time

See Reelection page 3



Hannah Lenius/Student Voice
Lee Monson, the winner of the Student Senate re-election, was pictured at the first student meeting Sept. 13. Monson became the Student Senate president after controversy led to Senate re-election, which he won by 34 votes.

Campus lab farm fire causes \$25,000 in damage



Jens Gunelson/Submitted Photo
The remains of hay stored in the campus lab farm, which was destroyed during the lab farm fire back in late July.

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Burnt hay and a charred building are all that remain after a fire at the Campus Lab Farm 1 on July 23, but construction of a new building, along with new rules and security measures are in the works.

The late July fire resulted in the arrest of Christopher D. Pixley, 19, of River Falls, who was subsequently charged with arson of a building, which is a Class C Felony, according to Pierce County district court documents.

Pixley, who was reportedly drunk when he started the fire, was being "stupid" and "used a lighter to ignite a small piece of the hay and did not anticipate that it would get out of hand," according to the River Falls police report.

The maximum sentence for such a charge can be up to \$100,000 or 40 years in prison. Pixley is out on bail and will return to court on Dec. 1 for a 12 person jury trial.

The now destroyed building was built in 1958 and was part of the old dairy facility before the equine program used it as storage space for hay. The reckless act that occurred early on the morning of July 23 put the damage

of the hay and the structure at approximately \$25,000, according to court documents.

UW-River Falls operates two laboratory farms which serve as educational tools that offer hands-on learning for several classes within the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES). The campus farm is located just south of campus off of Wasson Lane.

The ramifications of the fire are numerous. The hay, which amounted to around 280 bales, was intended to feed the horses in the equine program throughout the winter, said Laboratory Farms Director Bill Connolly. The farm now has to procure hay from area farms, which shouldn't be difficult considering calls were streaming in from other farms after word got out about the fire, Connolly said.

Despite the seemingly easy task of buying more hay, the amount of time, effort and thought involved in harvesting dry hay makes the fire a tragedy, said Connolly. This summer's record rain fall made it especially difficult to ensure that the hay was dry before it was baled and stored. Connolly said. There are a lot of decisions

See Fire page 3

DOC continues to unify voices of student organizations

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Following its inception last spring, the newly founded Diversity Organization Coalition (DOC) has kicked off the new semester with a running start by amplifying the voice of many campus organizations.

Thus far, the DOC, which was organized by Falcon Programs, encompasses the Asian American Student Association, Black Student Union, Ethnic Studies Program, Falcon Programs, Gay Straight Alliance, International Student Association, Journey House, Jewish Student Organization, Rise Up For Women's Rights, Sisters and Brothers of Islam, Student Senate and the Women's and Gender Studies Program.

This new coalition has been set forth to unify a broader set of student diversity organizations. DOC will therefore establish a cohesive force for equity, diversity and inclusion, according to its founder and the University's sociocultural coordinator, Ashley Olson.

"Our hope is to make sure all organizations have a voice and to remain on the radar," said Aaron Bergman, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Allied Falcon Programmer.

The DOC is carrying on the work of two past organizations, the Diversity Awareness Committee (DAC) and the Community Action Theater Troupe (CATT). The DAC had funded these organizations and had contributed to Unity in the Community. While CATT acted as an education forum for the rest

of the community by going to schools and holding workshops. Neither committee however, were established to serve as a unified coalition. The DOC supplements for what these past organizations did separately, according to the co-diversity programmer for Falcon Programs, Nikki Shonoiki.

Prior to its creation, it had been hard for the various student organizations to keep in touch. As a previous solution, they would designate members to sit in on each others meetings. It was an effort that would often disintegrate as the year went on, according to Jessica Yang, the co-President of the Asian American Student Association (AASA).

"The DOC is a network for all of us to get together and work towards one goal. That goal is to spread awareness about diversity here on campus," said the Public Relations Representative for AASA, Hleeda Her.

Last spring, UW-River Falls released the results of the Campus Climate Survey, which gave a greater justification to have a coalition, according to Shonoiki.

According to the survey, over one third of those who took it and indicated that they were a part of a racial or sexual minority had felt harassed at one point while attending UWRF. It also revealed that 44 percent of those who identified themselves a part of a sexual minority contemplated leaving the University, as did 56 percent of those who classified themselves as part of a racial minority.

Yang said the Coalition will further "allow incoming stu-

dents who are a minority to feel included. As a diverse group we will be able to share stories and open up about issues like harassment. At times, the University isn't all that inclusive."

Olson agrees in that the survey's data has helped inform new discussions, as it serves as a tangible example concerning diverse issues. The Campus Climate Survey, along with the DOC, amplifies common themes, allowing them to be better understood.

The DOC has contributed to the individual groups advisory council because "it broadens the ways we can collaborate as staff members," Olson said. "I have found that students are more comfortable sharing their experiences with an advisor. We are able to notice trends and issues arising. As a collective there is a larger voice."

Chief Diversity Officer Andriel Dees acknowledges the larger voice as one that will bring forth a more inclusive community.

"The goal is to be more inclusive of everybody, not exclusive," Dees said. "It gives students a chance to connect and educate the community on a large spectrum of perspectives."

"We are a small campus, but gaps still need to be bridged so we can learn more about each other," Shonoiki said.

The name may stir some people away, but the DOC is intended for everybody, not just minorities. It's about getting in-

See Unity page 3

Hotel drops franchise, still guarantees consistent service

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The one-year-old hotel on the corner of Main Street and Cascade has changed its name from The Best Western to The Riverview Hotel and Suites. The hotel officially decided to drop the franchise name July 1 this past summer.

“It costs a lot of money to keep the Best Western franchise name,” said Dustin Hanson, the general manager at The Riverview Hotel. “Because we were paying more than we were making just to be a Best Western, we had to make the change.”

According to Hanson, it had cost the hotel about \$60,000 more to keep the Best Western name. The summer months had hurt the hotel the most because, according to Hanson, more than 50 percent of the hotel’s occupancy has been from UW - River Falls events.

“Even though we were completely full for Farm Technology Days the restaurant didn’t get as much response as anticipated,” Hanson said.

The hotel made most of it’s money from sporting events to housing students last year, . The Riverview Hotel and Suites expects to be completely full for the weekend of the rodeo, Sept. 16- 19.

“Customers don’t really see much of a difference in the hotel and the customer service other than the name change,” former Riverview Hotel and Suites employee, Tanna Maki , who worked at the hotel during the transition from a Best Western to a Riverview Hotel and

Suites said it was a smooth transition.

“The hotel has been trying it’s best to keep it’s standards while saving money. It was a pretty smooth transition.”

The Riverview Hotel isn’t the only hotel in River Falls to change it’s name. The Country Inn located behind the McDonald’s in River Falls became The Crossings Inn and Suites on June 1, 2009, a more familiar franchise based out of Saint Paul.

“The occupancy has gone down with the bad economy, but that’s not the reason we switched the franchise names,” said Manager of The Crossings Inn and Suites, Stephanie Johnson. “The new franchise name gives us an opportunity to be more localized.”

The new franchise allows the Crossings hotel to be more involved in the community of River Falls.

“Our occupancy consists of weddings, town events, youth sports and university events,” says Johnson. “We also have been sponsoring the hockey team.”



Sally King/ Student Voice
The former River Falls Best Western has changed its name and sign, but it will change little else.

The Riverview Hotel and Suites expects the same amount of occupancy despite of the loss of the franchise name.

“There has been no drop in customers, but it’s still too early to tell,” Hanson said.

The Riverview hotel replaced also had to change the mugs, napkins and soap as well. “Our main goal is still the same and that’s taking care of our guests,” Hanson said.

According to Hanson, there won’t be much of a change to the hotel.

“The hotel and bar will still be involved with the River Falls community and the university,” says Hanson, “Juniors will still have open mic and the specials every week, and the hotel will be providing the same level of customer service.”

Eight open senate seats allow for student leadership opportunities

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UW-River Falls’ Student Senate has eight seats available for the upcoming election, offering students an opportunity to become campus-wide leaders, while election reform is at the top of the new president’s agenda.

The elections committee still needs to vote on an actual date, but the elections will occur towards the end of September, according to Jayne Dalton, the Student Senate elections committee chair.

There are four first-year seats available, three at-large positions and an opening for a representative for the College of Education and Professional Studies, according to Lee Monson, the Student Senate president.

“The students elected to these positions will have voting capabilities and will serve on committees. The representative of each of the different colleges here on campus will be the contact person for any student who may have an issue pertaining to a particular college,” Monson said.

There are no new rules regarding campaigning for the fall semester election, according to Monson. The current campaign rules include where candidates can do campaign chalking, where they can post posters, when they can put up and take down their campaigning materials and how a candidate cannot threaten a person to vote for them, according to the Student Association Student Senate election rules. The complete set of campaign rules can be found at www.uwrf.edu/StudentSenate/loader.cfm.

Monson’s initiative is to reform policies so they are less ambiguous in time for the spring semester elections. Monson’s reform will involve removing any vague language and removing as much room for interpretation as possible in the election rules documents. By doing this, those presiding over the electoral process and those participating within it can have a consensus on what is fair, according to Monson.

The need for reform is in response to the unclear campaigning rules that resulted in an ethics complaint during last semester’s elections. The complaint, filed by former Student Senate President Josh Brock against Senate presidential candidate Nikki Shonoiki, stated that Shonoiki campaigned prior to the time allowed by Student Senate bylaws during an interview she did for WRFW. The complaint was then heard in an ethics meeting held by the Student Senate. It was validated and moved to mediation. A resolution could not be reached so Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Greg Heinselman was called on to make a final decision on the issue, which was to hold a redo of the presidential election, according to Elwood Brehmer’s article, “Ethics complaint leaves Student Senate in limbo.”

Dalton said she is looking forward to the spring elections when the Senate will have new rules, regulations and an official elections committee chair instead of it being haphazardly put together. Dalton said she wants to see a forum put together so that the first year senators can speak out.

“It would be great for the whole student body to get to know the first year candidates and hear what they are all about,” Dalton said.

“It would be great for the whole student body to get to know the first year candidates and hear what they are all about,”
Jayne Dalton,
Student Senate Elections Committee
Chair

In order for a student to be considered a candidate, he or she must fill out a sheet with his or her contact information and attain 50 signatures from peers.

“The application sheets will be available two weeks before the election and must be turned in one week after the sheet was made available,” Dayton said.

Any student currently enrolled at UWRF and in good academic standing is eligible to run for Senate, according to the Senate’s constitution. Good academic standing means maintaining a cumulative grade point average of 2.25 and carrying a minimum of 12 credits while in office.

The Senate is a non-partisan group that consists of 25 members on one year terms with no term limits, according to the Student Senate Constitution website. The goal of the Senate is to provide students with opportunities to improve their academic, personal and social levels and to empower students with resources necessary for them to advance in their education, according to the Senate’s mission statement.

Construction leaves positive impact

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Over the summer, extensive construction was performed on the UW - River Falls campus to fix problems and make improvements.

“There were many projects that were done over the summer,” said UWRF’s Maintenance Supervisor Mike Stifter. “Some of the major ones were the steam line replacement, office remodels, bathroom and classroom remodels in Rodli, carpet replacement on the main floor in the library, replacing windows in May Hall and in the east and west wings of Hathorn and replacing the heating controls in South Hall.”

According to Stifter, replacing the steam line was the number one construction project that was completed over the summer. The steam that is made is used to heat water, cook food, run sterilizers, humidifiers, pasteurizers, distillers and clothes dryers, along with its main job of providing heat for the buildings.

“There are three main things we are hoping that will happen with the replacement of the steam line,” said Stifter. “One, that the line’s reliability will improve and we will have to do less repairs; two, that the energy efficiency will improve because of the better insulation; and three that the system can be controlled easier.”

Most of the projects done over the summer are expected to have a positive impact on the environment and the University’s energy bills. The new windows in May Hall are expected to help the building retain heat during the winter. The new steam line is expected to efficiently distribute heat throughout the campus, saving energy and money. The new heating controls and windows in Hathorn will also help UWRF to save energy.

Although the fall semester has begun, there are still some projects that are incomplete.

“The restrooms in Rodli were the one project that was delayed, they will open Sept. 13,” Stifter said. “Although there is still some construction around campus, nothing has affected classes.”

Students around campus have noticed the construction including 21 year old student Laura Larson.

“I lived in River Falls over the summer, and when I was on campus then, the construction was much more obvious and in the way,” Larson said. “I think that they did a great job finishing most of the construction that blocked walkways or would have been loud and disruptive before the students came back to school.”

For more information on the construction performed on campus, you can call the Facilities Management Office at 715-425-3827.

RIVER FALLS POLICE/ UWRF POLICE DEPARTMENT

Editor’s note: Information for this section is taken from River Falls Policeand UW-River Falls Police Department incident reports.

Sept. 2

- All three flags were missing from the flagpoles on the west side of North Hall.

Sept. 4

- Jordan Hove, 19, was cited for underage consumption in Stratton Hall.

Sept. 8

- A spare tire and wheel were reported stolen from E-Lot.
- A “smokers urn” was damaged beyond repair on north sidewalk of the Centennial Science Hall.

Sept. 9

- University keys were reported stolen from the Davee Library.

Sept. 11

- An act of arson was reported from the Karges Center. No suspects were reported.
- A bicycle was reported stolen from bicycle rack outside of Johnson Hall.

Sept. 13

- A bicycle was reported stolen from the north end of the Ag Science building.
- A purse was reported stolen from E-Lot.

Sept. 14

- An iPod was reported stolen from the University Center.

VOICE SHORTS

Campus planning seeks input at open house

There will be a community open house concerning the UW-River Falls’ Master Plan at 4 p.m., Sept. 27 in the University Center Willow River Room. During the open house, the consultants will present four alternative plans for community review and feedback. The Campus Master Plan creates a guiding vision for campus preservation, investment and change over the next 15-20 years. This effort will pull together the entire campus and the surrounding community to create a single visionary concept that guides UWRF’s growth and change. Contact Dale Braun, campus planner, at 425-3840 for more information.

Global Connections hosts Study Abroad Fair

Global Connections is hosting the Study Abroad Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 5 in the Riverview Ballroom of the

University Center. The fair will exhibit travel options for students as well as answer questions regarding financial aid for study abroad. For more information, interested students can call Global Connections at 425-4891 or visit their office in 102 Hagestad Hall.

Matt Borup wins his place on upcoming ballot

Democrat Matt Borup won Tuesday’s primary election to represent Wisconsin Assembly District 30 against UW-River Falls student Ben Plunkett. The River Falls Journal reported total votes as Borup with 1,171 and Plunkett with 522.

Counseling Services provides new victim support group

A free abuse victims support group is being offered by UW-River Falls Counseling Services from Sept. 29 through Nov. 17. The group is open to men and women who have

been affected by physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse. Participants are expected to attend all eight sessions. No new members would be allowed after the first session. Interested persons will need to pre-register by contacting Jennifer Herink at jennifer.herink@uwrf.edu or by calling 425-3884.

Egypt study tour available to students

An informational meeting for a J-Term 12-day study tour of Egypt will be held Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in KFA, B107. Contact Dr. Steven Derfler at steven.l.derfler@uwrf.edu for more information.

Application deadline for ceremony participants nears

Students who wish to walk in December’s commencement ceremony must complete their application for graduation by Sept. 24. For more information, contact the Registrar’s office.

Fire: Lab Farm fire second site arson in three years

from page 1

to make when harvesting hay and then “some moron burns it. Why, to see if it burns?” Connolly said. The building is insured through the state, so CAFES is waiting for funding from Madison before it can move forward with the actual construction. Details about the location and other issues are being discussed with several faculty members within CAFES.

Security at the farm is one of the issues that remains a primary concern, and soon a sign will be erected that will display the new farm hours, which are from 8:00 a.m. to dusk. Connolly said this is to his dismay because he prides himself with having an open farm policy and does not want to lock it up. Surveillance cameras are also being pursued as a potential option, Connolly said.

University Chief of Police, Richard Trende said that in light of the sometimes limited resources, those on campus should be the eyes and ears and alert campus police if they see something unusual.

This is the second incident of arson at the campus farm. The first incident occurred in 2007 and juveniles were the culprits.

“Some moron burns it. Why, to see if it burns?”
Bill Connolly
Laboratory Farms director



Jens Gunelson/Submitted Photo
A photo taken after the lab farm fire. The building, which was built in 1958, had estimated damages of \$25,000. Details of location and other issues regarding reconstruction are being discussed within CAFES.

Unity: Diversity group connects many organizations

from page 1



Tennae Maki/Student Voice
UWRF students in Gay Straight Alliance gather for a picnic. GSA is one of the 12 groups who joined the newly formed Diversity Organization Coalition. Pictured from left to right: Laura Manion, Megan Hunkins, Austin Edma, Calvin McManamy, Alex Swenson, Jamie Hanson and Michaela McCoy.

involved on an inclusive campus and becoming more aware of diversity, she said. “Students don’t have a single identity,” Olson said. “The Coalition is there to serve multiple identities.” Ashley Olson UWRF sociocultural coordinator

the efforts of equity, diversity and inclusion at UWRF. The newsletter can be found online at: <http://www.uwrf.edu/Sociocultural/Newsletters.cfm>. The DOC meets Monday evenings from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. In the Eau Galle River Room located in the University Center. For those who have further questions, they are encouraged to e-mail Ashley Olson at ashley.e.olson@uwrf.edu.

Student Life, with contributions from DOC, has commenced to produce a monthly newsletter that will further

Reelection: Senate prepares for upcoming semester election

from page 1

to her involvement in other organizations such as Falcon Programs and the Diversity Organization Coalition.

She said the student body reacted perfectly to the situation that led to the re-election by asking questions about the issues and how they developed. The situation brought attention to how ineffectively the Student Senate was functioning and highlighted the amount of impact that the Student Senate has on the student body.

She said this year the Student Senate needs to get organized in order to be effective in impacting key student issues and advised that they develop professionalism, encourage partici-

pation in Senate from all groups of people and initiate awareness campaigns such as posting flyers announcing elections and promoting how to run for positions.

This coming year, Monson said he encourages students to reach out to him and the other representatives with issues or concerns as well as submit their own pieces of legislation.

Elections for open Senate positions will be near the end of September. Actual dates are yet to be decided by the elections committee. Students interested in participating can contact Student Senate Elections Committee Chair Jayne Dalton at jayne.dalton@uwrf.edu.

Check out the Student Voice online at uwrfvoice.com

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Staff suggests tips for new, returning students

Eavesdropping can be an educational experience



Ashley Cress

Ask anyone what their favorite day of the week is. Actually, don't bother; of course they will answer Monday. Especially if the Monday in question is the first of a new school year. Who doesn't love waking up at six, no six thirty, actually, make that seven, just to go sit in a cold, hard plastic desk chair and

listen to a lecture about the integrative model of social work? Yeah, right. (By the way, if this describes you perfectly, quit being such a prude and go do something crazy. Preferably not something illegal, I don't condone crime, but go have some ridiculous fun. This can be achieved in several different ways, but that is for another column.)

Anyhow, fortunately for all of us anti-meridiem haters and loathers of monotonous lectures, the good students of UW-River Falls know how to keep things interesting and, surprisingly, educational. Eavesdropping on your fellow classmates will bring you knowledge that cannot be found in textbooks. You don't believe me? Or maybe you adhere to the misconception that eavesdropping is negative. Possibly, in some situations, this might be true, but if your neighbors are speaking audibly, the information is fair game. So go on and have a listen, but beware dear reader, for you are entering a territory uncharted. I promise that you will learn things that are incredibly useful, as well as things you never knew you wanted to learn in the first place.

For example, one of my friends was just telling me the other evening about the perils of getting the terrifying Brazilian bikini wax. Shocked, I politely told her that I didn't want to know about insane wax artists telling patients to "raise their legs to the sky and spread them like birds' wings" and how she had to ice pack her crotch for an hour afterwards to numb the pain, or that she had a rather difficult time walking the rest of the day. I mean, this story was too much information. My friend replied that she thought so too, but she couldn't help to overhear this poor girl's painful confession before class earlier that day. But there you are ladies, and/or men, now you know just how incredibly painful a Brazilian bikini wax can be, whether you wanted to or not.

Okay, not all the information you will overhear will be so gruesome. For instance, earlier today I heard a couple of guys talking before class about how one would think Cocoa Puffs



Sally King/Student Voice

Not all learning comes from books. Students listening in on others' conversations may learn a lot.

and chocolate milk should be wonderful together. Their reasoning was that everyone loves Cocoa Puffs and everyone loves chocolate milk, so combined we should have a bowl of double chocolaty goodness. Apparently, this seemingly infallible combination creates disaster for your taste buds. Can you imagine where you would be without this vital piece of knowledge? Perhaps you would have wasted a bowl of perfectly delectable Cocoa Puffs and a tasty glass of chocolate milk. Former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself." Word.

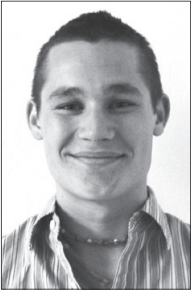
Perhaps now you can plainly see the significance of tuning in on your classmates' conversations. Doing so may brighten your morning, keep you from making an embarrassing, if not agonizing, mistake, save you precious cereal and teach you something you thought you would never need to know. Eavesdropping is an essential life skill that supplies you with valuable life lessons. So open your ears UWRF, and brace yourselves for exciting student pearls of wisdom.

STUDENT Voices

How do you think the Student Senate is going to do this year?

Chris Fritz, sophomore

"They should do better this year than last year."



Logan Wolf, junior

"I want them to get students more involved in Student Senate and get people aware of student politics."

Kelly Sweazy, junior

"From what I've gathered around campus, I think that it's going to be a good year and I trust they will make the right decisions."



Jonathan Swanson, senior

"I feel they are going to do their job the way they should be handling campus activities."

Dan Braun, senior

"I think, from the looks of last year, they aren't going to do very well."



Kristine Steigauf, junior

"I think they are hopefully going to do well because they are important to our school."

Student Voices compiled by – Hannah Lenius



Patrick Hamilton/Student Voice

Students, staff hopeful for a much needed fitness, recreation center

Not Pictured	Sarah Hellier
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As the academic year has finally started becoming routine, I've noticed that our student body has grown increasingly, shall we say, out of shape? Maybe it's just the summer bump that was added on over a diet of beer on the boat and too many foot-long hotdogs consumed at the new Twins stadium. However, I realize that college students are just as inclined to drink beer whether they have classes or not, and as for the food, I think we all can contest to not really knowing what's served in the dreaded cafeteria. I know that might sound harsh, but with all the new workout gigs popping up everywhere in town (such as Anytime Fitness), I was having a hard time understanding why students in River Falls don't take time to work out. I found the answer to my question the day I decided to actually hit the gym. It's not because our students are lazy, un-motivated or just can't find time. It's because we do not have an adequate work out/ recreational center that non-collegiate athletes feel comfortable in. My experience of attempting to work out went as follows: 5:45 p.m.: arrived at Emogene Nelson building, went to the changing room where I felt a

pair of eyes staring at me while I was trying to put my athletic shorts on. 5:50: attempted to find a treadmill to do a warm up run, but failed because they were all taken and resorted to running around the block. 6:13: finally, fought off what seemed like a pack of wolves, for a spot on a pad so I could work my abdominals. 6:30: went to a leg press machine, but couldn't hear myself think because of a group of sweaty men picking up weighted bars and dropping them on the wood floor, over and, over again. 6:35: decided that working out at Emogene Nelson building was not the place for me. After this experience, I talked with Director of River Falls Athletic Performance, Carmen Pata. Pata informed me that, unlike most schools, UW-River Falls does not add a recreational fee into the tuition. I am assuming this is the reason why our current weight room/recreational center is very small and has minimal equipment. If the University would include the fee for our recreational center it would average out to roughly ten dollars a month. Pata also told me that he thinks the lack of a higher quality work out environment turns prospective freshman away from the school. "I'm sure we do lose people," Pata said. "However, there is talk of a new recreational center." According to Pata, the master planning committee from Madison has been very interested in building a new and improved workout area. "Of course we don't know details like size, cost and time," said Pata. It's clear that most students and staff are not only in favor of this idea, but could benefit greatly from it.

Visit the Student Voice Web site at uwrvoice.com

Do you have something to say? Send in a letter to the editor editor@uwrvoice.com

New Falcon athletic director looks to the future

Andy Moran
andy.moran@uwrf.edu

With the recent retirement of long-time Falcon’s athletic director, Rick Bowen, the University is under new direction. Roger Ternes takes over the reins as the athletic director at UW-River Falls.

Ternes, a native of North Dakota, is no stranger to the world of directing an athletic program.

“I spent 20 years at William Woods University in Fulton, Mo. as the athletic director, and the last 11 years prior to coming here as the director at Dickinson State University, which is my alma-mater,” Ternes said.

With experience clearly on his side, Ternes will be the first to admit that he is still new to the River Falls community.

“I started here on July 19,” said Ternes with a grin on his face. “So that right there gives you a little preview of my time here.”

Growing up in an agricultural community, Ternes said he took an immediate love to basketball. Upon arriving to college, Ternes came to a realization that athletes reach a peak in their ability to perform on the court or field. Ternes explained that he still possessed a strong desire to be around athletics.

“Going to college, I was not good enough to play there,” said Ternes. “So what are your other avenues? You have either coaching or directing; just that kind of thing.”

Understanding that he still very much wanted to be a part of the pastime that he loved, Ternes turned to coaching as means of staying around basketball. Over time, that coaching turned into a passion, which led him to his position as an athletic director.

“I’ve coached everything from fast-pitch softball, all the way to basketball, both men’s and women’s,” said Ternes. “And through those things, as a part of my job, I’ve been an athletic director since 1979.”

Ternes said he understands his role as an athletic director at a school that has had its athletic struggles. He said he feels obligated to turn those struggles around; though, not much can be done as this semester had already been planned out before Ternes came to UWRF.

“Understanding that I arrived July 19, what was happening when I got here, [was] going to happen regardless,” Ternes said.

With an understanding that athletics on campus are largely set in place for the upcoming season, Ternes looks to the future

for improvement.

“I believe that where I have the greatest amount of influence and the most work to do, is in the hiring of future staff,” Ternes said.

The resignation of Head Football Coach John O’Grady will leave a large hole in the program. Ternes said that the search for, as well as the hiring of a new coach, is essential to the long-term success of the program.

“The hire we make as the head football coach will be critical for the future of UWRF, [and not just for] the football program, but [also for] the entire athletic program as well,” Ternes said. “Who we bring in to fill that role will be very critical.”

The retirement of former Athletic Director Rick Bowen has also left a void in the athletic program at UWRF.

Bowen brought 25 years of service to Falcon sports, and that is something Ternes is very conscious of. Ternes plans to continue and improve on Bowen’s legacy.

“I have received a lot of good advice from Rick,” Ternes said. “I was able to visit with him during the interview process, as well as a few times since I started working. There is no doubt that he is passionate about this place. You can hear it in his voice.”

Recognizing the shoes he begins to fill at this position, Ternes embraces his new surroundings as an opportunity for growth and success.



Sally King/Student Voice
New athletic director, Roger Ternes, is prepared to lead the UWRF sports program down the right path. Ternes replaced former Athletic Director Rick Bowen in July.

Ternes said he is ready to get down to business and lead the athletic program in the right direction. “It just comes down to rolling up our sleeves and getting things done,” said Ternes. “And that’s exactly what we are going to do.”

Falcons prepare to take on the best in their league



Robert Silvers

After a 3-7 season in 2009, one would wonder why the Falcon Football team would schedule as tough a non-conference schedule as they have in 2010.

“Our conference is so good nobody wanted to play teams from this league,” said Coach John O’Grady. “We do not fear playing anyone. We get better as a result of competing against, supposedly, some of the best in the country.”

Just how tough is the Falcons’ schedule? The Falcons opened the year on Sept. 2 at No. 11 Ohio Northern. On Saturday, they travelled to No. 5 St. Thomas, and in their home opener this weekend, the Falcons host No. 17 Trine (Michigan).

As if that isn’t enough, conference foes UW-Oshkosh and UW-Stout both received votes in the preseason top-25; UW-Stevens Point was ranked in that same pre-season poll, and defending national champion UW-Whitewater holds tight to the No. 1 spot in the country.

How do you compete with the top teams in the country, easy, confuse them. That is

exactly what Offensive Coordinator Andy Kotelnicki and his staff have worked to do this offseason. The 2010 Falcon offense is full of pre-snap motion with several guys shifting positions.

“Both head coaches at Ohio Northern and St. Thomas commented to me after the game that they do not like preparing for our offensive system,” O’Grady said. “It is fun to watch, because we handcuff them to a degree.”

Although the new offensive system has yet to result in a win for the Falcons, the team can be pleased with its early performance. In the season opener

the club led 15-14 at the half, but committed three unforced offensive errors and lost 35-21. On Saturday, the team eliminated many of the errors and competed with a better team as they lost 27-3.

Junior Taylor Edwards (Janesville, WI/ Parker) leads the team offensively with 299 rushing yards and 2 touchdowns.

The Falcons host No. 17 Trine at 1 p.m. at Ramer Field. The action can be heard live on WRFW FM 88.7 or pureradio887.com.

Rob is a senior majoring in communication studies-digital film and television with a journalism minor. He is the assistant sports director at 88.7 FM WRFW and covers River Falls High School football, Falcon football and Falcon men's hockey and women's hockey. Rob also hosts a weekly sports talk show, "Just a Bit Outside," from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays on WRFW.

“We do not fear playing anyone. We get better as a result of competing against supposedly some of the best in the country.”
-Coach John O’Grady

Get your homer hankies ready for 2010 playoffs



Ashley Goettl

The American League Central is accustomed to coming down to the wire. In fact, for the past two years it has taken more than the allotted 162 games to determine the eventual champion. Our own Minnesota Twins have been no stranger to game 163 either, as they are the only team in Major League history to have played the additional play-off game in back to back seasons, (they lost to the White Sox 1-0 back in 2008 off a

down, the Twins and White Sox once again find themselves battling for the top spot in the division.

While the Twins have maintained a comfortable lead over the past few weeks, with this division, expect the unexpected.

For the Twins, the recent success has been nothing short of extraordinary. After losing former Most Valuable Player Justin Morneau on July 7, the Twins have found ways to win from players with little to no major league experience. Players, such as Danny Valencia, have come through with key hits and the former White Sox, Thome, has replaced Morneau’s power with convincing home runs. Remember when he hit the flag pole at Target Field?

Now the question becomes, will this young and inexperienced team be able to continue to find ways to win in close situations?

There are many arguments going against the Twins; the biggest being of course that they don’t have the billion dollar payroll like the New York Yankees to go out and “buy” the proven power hitters and aces. Other indicators that conventional wisdom

would lead you to doubt the Twins’ ability to make a deep postseason run is that there is no clear “ace” to the pitching staff. Many fans would dub Carl Pavano as the ace as he leads the team in wins (16), but then again he is in double digits for losses (11). Still others would say that Francisco Liriano has been the ace as he has not lost a game since before the All-Star break. But as any true Twins fan will know, it is this combination of average Joes (well maybe Joe Mauer is above average), and the Twins style of play to never be out hustled or out witted (I hope Ron Gardenhire will get serious consideration for manager of the year), will be precisely the reason why the Twins will make a deep postseason run leading to an eventual World Series banner.

The odds of a World Series at Target Field seem optimistic, as last year the Yankees won the year they opened their new stadium, along with the St. Louis Cardinals when they opened the new Busch stadium back in 2006, for contemporary examples. If the play-offs were to happen today, the Yankees would host the Texas Rangers and the Twins would host the

Tampa Bay Rays. The Twins would have home field advantage as the Rays would be the Wild Card team, and even if they had a better record than the Twins, the Twins still would host because Wild Card teams cannot have home field advantage.

After the Rangers’ recent sweep of the Yankees, and the Yankees’ continued inconsistency as of late, I would take the Rangers over the Yankees in five games (this may be a pick out of pure optimism for me as a Twins fans, or out of pure hatred for the Yankees, but at least I was honest).

Now I won’t just pick the Twins because I am a tried and true fan, but because the statistics will back me up. The Twins have been absolutely stellar at Target Field. Now if the Rangers were to defeat the Yankees, the Twins would still play host to the American League Championship Series given that they end up with a better record than the Rangers (which they currently do).

Once again, I believe that the magic of Target Field will return and the Twins will be headed to their first World Series since 1991. Call me naive or whatever you please, but as a Twins fan I have come to believe that anything is possible. Let the Homer Hankies begin to fly.

Ashley is a sophomore double majoring in journalism and DFT with a political science minor. She enjoys watching the Twins and Vikings and is a member of the UWRF softball team.

Now I won’t just pick the Twins because I am a tried and true fan, but because the statistics will back me up.

WEEKLY SPORTS WRAP

Volleyball: The Falcon Volleyball team went 3-1 over the weekend at the Gustavus Adolphus College Classic. On Friday the Falcons defeated Carlton 3-2 and Martin Luther 3-2. On Saturday the Falcons lost 3-0 to St. Scholastica but ended the Tournament with a 3-1 win over Gustavus. Outside Hitter Danielle Gibbemeyer (St. Paul, Minn., Cretin-Derham Hall) and Middle Hitter Erin Green (Fridley, Minn., Fridley) were both named to the All-Tournament Team. The Falcons open up conference play at 7 p.m. Friday as they host UW-Platteville. at the Karges Center and on Saturday host UW-La Crosse.

Wildcat Football: The Wildcats traveled down to Menomonie last Friday night to challenge the #9 Menomonie Indians. On the second play from scrimmage Senior Halfback Nick Zimmerman sprinted 80 yards up the middle to pay dirt to put the Cats up 6-0. That would be the extent of the challenge however as the Indians scored 45 unanswered points en route to downing River Falls 45-14. Nick Zimmerman led the Wildcats offensively with 159 yards on 10 carries, a 15.9 yards per carry average and two touchdowns. You can hear the game live on WRFW 88.7 FM or online at www.pureradio887.com.

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Film uses cliched action to amuse



Anthony Orlando

I’ve wanted to be a movie reviewer since I was about ten or eleven years old. I’ve just always really dug movies and even had myself a little camera at one time that I used to make my own epics (mostly starring my friends, my dog, and/or characters from my Star Wars Lego set). So after applying to The Student Voice on a whim and actually getting a shot to fulfill a decade-long dream to publish my opinion about the beauty, wonder and joy that is brought into the world by the film industry, I of course set out to find the most awesomely bad movie I could.

Now I know what you’re thinking, “Dude, ‘The Expendables’ is playing in town, right now!”, and while that was the front-runner for my first review, I happened to come across the title “Machete” while browsing show times at the Hudson Theater. Intrigued, I did a bit of research and my mind was made up. While “The Expendables” may boast the most comprehensive lineup of “B” and former “A” list action stars since ever, I’m afraid that with a cast including Don Johnson, Lindsay Lohan (yeah), Steven Seagal, Cheech, Jessica Alba, Robert De Niro, Michelle Rodriguez and one of the “Spy Kids,” plus director/writer Robert Rodriguez behind the scenes, “Machete” was aching to take the action movie genre to whole new levels of ridiculous, and it delivered.

“Machete” tells the story of “Machete”, a wronged ex-Federale played by the ever-menacing and all-around bad-ass mother

fucker, Danny Trejo. After being betrayed by his boss, watching Steven Seagal (as evil drug lord “Torres”) murder his wife, and seeing some chick pull a cell phone from her vagina, “Machete” decides to get out of Mexico and spend his life as a day laborer in the states. Unfortunately, our hero simply can’t seem to avoid trouble (or as Jessica Alba’s character, Immigration Officer “Sartana” puts it, “You’re a shit magnet!”) as he gets pulled into a corrupt politician’s plan to take control of the Mexican/American border.

Robert Rodriguez sticks to his M.O. with this one, throwing around gratuitous and often absurd instances of violence (Machete rappels down the side of a building using some guy’s intestines), hilariously cheesy dialogue (“I just got a text from Machete” “What does it say?” “It says you fucked with

the wrong Mexican!”), and wall to wall beautiful and butt-ass-naked women who have absolutely no business being anywhere near such butt-ass-ugly men. The thing that saves this movie from being one giant face palm is that the goal was clearly to be INTENTIONALLY over the top. From the cartoonish deaths to the funk music that pipes in whenever a hottie straddles Machete to the casting of Lindsay Lohan (who more or less plays herself), “Machete” never tries to be a serious film and it never is. While there may or may not be certain commen-

tary on the illegal immigration issue, don’t show up to this one expecting anything much deeper than blood, explosions and soft-core porn. In fact, you’ll basically get the gist of the entire movie in the couple minutes before the opening credits even start. So if you’re looking for some simple Plot-less, character development-less, and intentionally over-acted, but still action-packed, sexy and fun. I’d watch it again, though I may want to have a “Mexican Cigar” before I do.

Tony is a math major and physics minor. He currently runs for the UW-River Falls cross country team. He once met Dan Auerbach and is a minor celebrity in Malaysia.



Afterlife completes ‘Resident Evil’ series



Michael Brun

From Paul W.S. Anderson, the industry’s best worst director, comes “Resident Evil: Afterlife,” the fourth installment in the video game-adapted franchise. Like the three films before it, “Afterlife” is a highly stylized affair that emphasizes the so-called Rule of Cool over the more restrictive, and less entertaining, laws of physics. That is to say, so long as it looks cool, it doesn’t matter that kicking a shard of glass into a zombified dog while in mid-air isn’t exactly feasible.

In a recent interview with RottenTomatoes.com, the writer/director/producer extraordinaire stated that his goal for the film was to do for the “Resident Evil” series what James Cameron had done for “Terminator 2.” According to Anderson, this meant taking the same characters and concepts, but amping up the size and scope of the action.

Without question, he has succeeded in that goal. “Afterlife” is an action extravaganza that surpasses its predecessors in almost all regards. While this isn’t saying much, “Afterlife” is arguably the best installment in the “Resident Evil” series. I would also rank it among the strongest and most imaginative films of Anderson’s hit-or-miss career. “Afterlife” picks up shortly after the events of the previous film.

A super-powered Alice (played once again by the typecasted Milla Jovovich) and her army of super-powered clones raid the underground headquarters of the Umbrella corporation in search of bloody revenge. After a “Matrix” inspired fight with the comically evil Albert Wesker (Shawn Roberts), Alice is conveniently stripped of her abilities and left to search for her lost friends.

Her journey takes her to Los Angeles, where she meets a small group of survivors seeking refuge from the hordes of the undead. The film’s story is juvenile at best; so, to make up for this shortfall, Anderson ups the visuals and action sequences to their technological limit. “Afterlife” holds the dis-

tingtion of being the first film post- “Avatar” to utilize James Cameron and Vince Pace’s new breed of 3D cameras. And, I must say, the results are breathtaking.

With a recent wave of disappointing post-conversion 3-D movies threatening to kill the 3-D’s momentum (cough, “Clash of the Titans” and “The Last Airbender,” cough), Anderson resurrects the excitement for 3-D filmmaking just as he would a zombie in one of his films. Not bad for a B movie director.

In one of the film’s most thrilling 3-D action pieces, stars Jovovich and Ali Larter do battle with an axe-wielding behemoth in a prison shower room. The duo duck and weave to avoid the monster’s attacks while torrents of water pour down on them from split pipes. Suddenly the action slows to a near standstill, allowing the viewer to take in the depth and complexity of the shot.

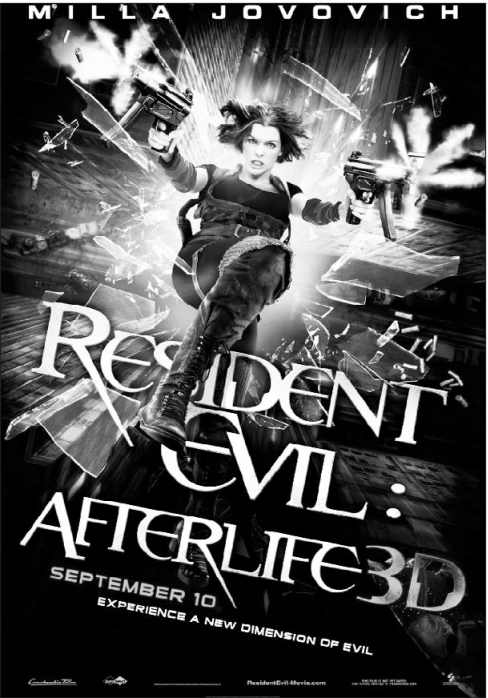
Slow motion and 3-D go together like guns and ammo --and thankfully there’s no shortage of either combo in this action-heavy plot. Before I sound any more like a gushing fanboy, it’s important that I put my praise for “Afterlife” into perspective.

The film has its merits, but only when compared to the markedly mediocre standards set by Anderson’s less than exemplary resume (read: “AvP” and “Soldier”).

The 3-D action scenes are excellent, but the film is so reliant on the technology that I’m skeptical of its impact on 2-D screens or in the home market. Also, with its strong violence and cartoonish plot, I can’t imagine “Afterlife” appealing to anything more than a niche audience.

If you’ve enjoyed the series up to this point, then there’s plenty to like here; however, if you’re not a fan of the other films, then I doubt anything in “Afterlife” is going to change your mind. While certainly not a great film, “Resident Evil: Afterlife” is about as good as a bad movie can get.

If you didn’t get your fill of ridiculous action with this summer’s “Predators” or “The Expendables,” then “Afterlife” might just do the trick. For everyone else, you’re better off saving up for the upcoming onslaught of big-name October releases.



Michael Brun is a journalism major with a minor in film studies. When he grows up, Michael would like to be a film critic or a RoboCop. Or both.

Band captivates diverse audience



Jon Lyksett

I’ll admit it; I’m a sucker for gimmicks. Be it a holographic image on an album cover, or a see-through CD, I’ll fall for it right away. Open up the casing for “Couch Dictators”, the Ocean Band’s sophomore release, you’ll find a CD designed to look just like an old vinyl record. Needless to say, this peaked my interest, and yes, I fell for the gimmick.

Generally, I’m let down by my love for all things gimmicky, but the Ocean Band didn’t disappoint. The Ocean Band is a quintet from Singapore, whose sound is almost as diverse as the band themselves. Three of the five members, Yaniv Chen (vocalist and guitarist from Israel), Angshu Chatterjee (guitarist from India) and Sammy Arvis (drummer and vocalist from France) met at Crazy Elephant Blues Bar, Singapore’s premier rock and blues club in 2004.

Soon enough, the trio became the house band at the Crazy Elephant, and from there, things started rolling. In 2005, The Ocean Band added two new members, pianist Uwe Vogel of Germany, and self described “weird mix of American and Singaporean” Dave D’aranjo on bass.

The quintet began touring in France and the Netherlands that year, and even though only one of the member is half Singaporean, the band was selected to represent the island nation in the “World Battle of the Bands” in 2006.

In addition to the band’s accolades in Singapore, the Ocean Band released their first

album, “Barcodes” in 2005, and opened for the band Hoobastank on their tour to Hong Kong in 2006. “Couch Dictators” opens with the band’s message to the motherland: a 47 second recording of the noises and sounds of radio dial in Singapore. Its more or less The Ocean Band’s way of saying “we love you guys out in Singapore, but this is how we do things.” And how do they do things, you might ask? To put it simply: quite well.

The Ocean Band has a way of incorporating sounds and influences of each of their culturally diverse backgrounds into the standard pop rock formula. For example, some of the guitar licks in the song “Hyacinth” have a slight Eastern Asian sound to them, or a better example would be “Sixteen Cans,” which sounds like a cross between an Irish drinking tune and an old German Polka. One of my favorites is “Wheels,” a piece that feels so much like an old Rolling Stones tune, with a constant steady organ riff, backed up by solid drumming and guitar.

Another great track is “Eskimo Sun,” with very soulful guitar and vocals. All 22 tracks kept me interested, and each one showed off just a little bit of the talent of each of the members of The Ocean Band as well as their diverse pasts and bright futures. All in all, “Couch Dictators” is a solid album.

Although it seems that The Ocean Band hasn’t quite found that perfect sound yet, it works quite well for them: they excel in showing their individual talents, and exploring how their roots can influence their very unique sound, all while keeping it in a format that is popular and enjoyable to listen to.

I guess the gimmick worked on me. I would never have known about these five guys out in Singapore, had it not been for that faux vinyl. Maybe that’s why those advertising directors make the big bucks!

Jon Lyksett is a political science major and music director for WRFW. He enjoys updating his Facebook status an obnoxious amount of times daily.

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Mondays

Advanced Tai Chi

Location: Falcons Nest

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9/13-12/6

Mixed Level Yoga

Location: UC Ballroom/
Falcons Nest

No previous yoga experience necessary
Please bring mat or towel & a water bottle

4:00-4:45pm

9/13-12/13

Tuesdays

Meditation Skills

Location: Wind River Room

Learn basic techniques to help you relax, unwind & focus

3:30-4:30pm

10/26-11/16

Beginner Tai Chi

Location: Falcons Nest

Learn to use slow, meditative movements for relaxation & awareness

4:30-5:30pm

9/14-12/7

Wednesdays

Zumba

Location: Falcons Nest

This class combines Latin dance moves to create a fun & energizing workout

4:45-5:45pm

9/15-11/3

Contact

715-425-3293 or
jennifer.elsesser@uwrf.edu

For more information

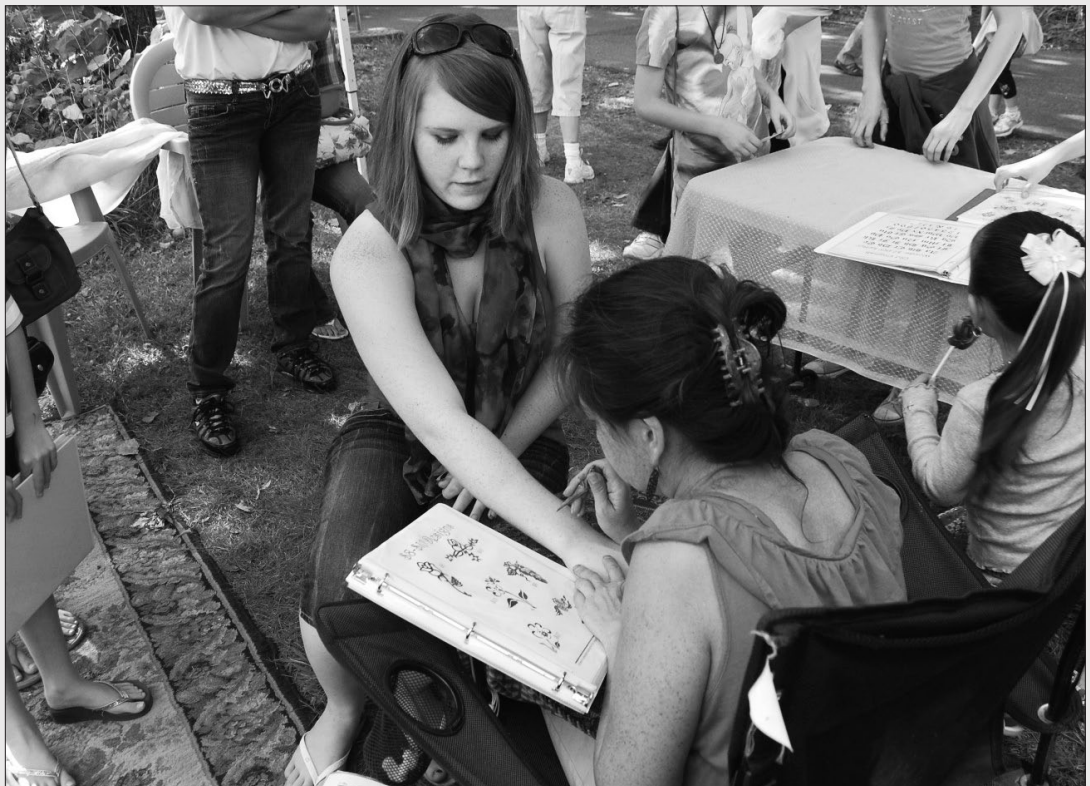
'Kinni River' art event draws crowd



Hannah Lenius/Student Voice
Local bands provided entertainment at the Kinni River art event.
Art on the Kinni attendees examine the art on display. This was the 15th year the event has run.




Hannah Lenius/Student Voice
Spectators enjoy the beautiful day in downtown River Falls. The 'Art on the Kinni' event drew people of all ages.
Hena tattoos were one of the many activities planned to promote local artists and business. There were over 70 artists and musicians at the event.



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