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Happy graduation!

STUDENT VOICE

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UWRF expecting tuition increase

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Students attending UW-River Falls and all other UW-System schools could be expecting another tuition increase for the 2011-2012 academic year.

In the last three years, tuition at UWRF has been increased by 5.5 percent, said Chancellor Dean Van Galen.

An increase is projected to happen again pending a meeting to be held in July by the Board of Regents, said Provost Fernando Delgado.

This year, Gov. Scott Walker proposed a 5.5 percent tuition increase for all UW-System schools. The Board of Regents will therefore be using this number as a base number in determining the appropriate tuition increase at their summer meeting, said Budget Office Director Kristen Hendrickson.

"It could be something less or it could be something more," she added.

Currently the tuition for a resident undergraduate student attending UWRF is \$5,659 a semester. This increase would amount to an additional \$311.

An increase in tuition is the result of less money received from the state. The decrease in state funding is not only impacting Wisconsin schools but universities across the nation, said Van Galen.

At present, about a third of the campus' 86 million dollar budget comes from the state, a third from the students, a third from auxiliary, or revenue, said Delgado.

By contrast, in 1988, 47 percent of funding came from the state and student tuition contributed 19 percent to UWRF's operating budget, according to a 2008 budget analysis of UWRF.

Next year, the state funding could be at 26 percent, or as low as 24 percent, said Delgado.

"The state keeps dropping the levels of support but the costs are steadily increasing," said Delgado. "So, the burden is shifting to students."

Student Senator Patrick Okan said he is concerned with the

unknown factor of how much tuition will increase.

On average, a student that attends UWRF acquires \$24,000 in debt, said Director of Financial Assistance Barbara Stinson.

Van Galen, Delgado and Hendrickson said that they are constantly worried about retaining enrollment, particularly because of the large number of low income and first generation students currently in attendance.

UWRF has the second highest number of low family income students in the UW-System and about half of the enrolled students are first-generation students, said Van Galen.

Student Senate President Tyler Halverson said that it is important for UWRF to retain the first generation students because they are important to the institution.

In 2009, the last time there was a tuition increase, the Board of Regents made an exception for the students whose family income was less than \$60,000. These students were exempt

See Tuition page 3



Falcon Athletic Awards

Sally King/Student Voice

On May 4, athletes, coaches and members of the athletic department gathered in the Falcon's Nest to honor and recognize the past achievements of Falcon athletics. This was the first year the Falcon Awards were held.

Student Senate declines support for Zimride

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Student Senate declined to support a ride-share plan because of safety and other concerns, said Facilities and Fees Chair Beth DeLong.

Zimride is a ride-share program that can be utilized on Facebook and Twitter.

Its benefits include eliminating need for extensive parking permits, helps build relationships and allows students to save money by carpooling, according to the April 12 Student Senate meeting presentation.

Four schools in the UW System utilize the program, including UW-La Crosse, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater. Students can log onto their Facebook or Twitter account and map out their drive with a start and end location and time.

Zimride offers full control of the information that gets shared and the opportunity to rate the driver and the passenger, according to the presentation.

UW-Oshkosh student senator Devin Hagan gave his input on the Zimride program as a part of the UW-Oshkosh campus.

"I feel it's a good investment overall for campuses to implement ride sharing programs," Hagan said.

Hagan began using this program via Facebook prior to owning a car and before it came to the UW-Oshkosh campus. He did caution about a few potential risks.

"A few potential risks worth considering include safety and liability of car accident and injuries, whether it is on Zimride, the UW school or the driver," Hagan said.

UW-La Crosse student senator Jacob Boll said he believes UW-La Crosse students utilize their ride boards more often than Zimride.

"As to my knowledge, it is not all that well used at least by upperclassmen like myself," Boll said. "We have two ride boards on campus that have many postings of riders and drivers that is filled of-

ten. This service is free and likely just as useful as Zimride. Students are more comfortable posting contact information on a sheet of paper on a board than posting it online."

On April 19, Senate passed a motion, declining the support of Zimride either financially or logistically, however senate was in favor of conducting further research on other options.

"The Student Association Student Senate supports the Sustainability Working Groups initiative to simplify commuting and ride-sharing and will assist in researching other methods to meet said initiative," according to the motion.

There were many concerns voiced by senators during the presentation, which focused on safety.

"There's no control with the safety of it because it's a social media site," said DeLong. "It works like Facebook, you can set what people see and set

See Zimride page 3

Dairy science team garners recognition

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The UW-River Falls dairy science team took platinum in the 10th annual North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge in Hickory, NC.

The teams presented recommendations to dairy farms and were evaluated by a panel of five judges which included dairy producers, veterinarians and industry personnel.

The team from UWRF was comprised of Alex Geiser, Paul Lippert, Leonard Polzin, and Anne Spillman, coached by Sylvia Kehoe and Dennis Cooper.

Each member received a \$200 scholarship.

"And then there are coach activities there, and students actually do most of their own work independently and they can ask questions up to the point where they are actually on the farms," said Cooper.

The students prepped for the competition with guest lecture from area nutritionist and consultants. They also completed the two dairy management courses at UWRF DASC 406, 436. They also did a local farm visit to promote familiarity with the team member's strengths.

"It's interesting and educational to see farming in another part of the country and see how they do things, and so it's a good thing to do," said Cooper.

The team members signed up through the UWRF Dairy Club and their advisors selected a regional and national team from those who signed up.

"We had a strong team this year and its really the student that has to earn this and they are the ones that have to execute and do well, so the credit belongs to them," said Cooper. "I just hope we can prepare them as well as we can, but they have to take it from there. It was just a good blend of ability

that we had this year."

There were 32 teams from 30 U.S. and Canadian universities that participated in the competition. There were eight teams per farm.

The teams visited the farm, and made measurements and observations.

They were also given computer records and had time to talk with the farm manager.

"It was a learning experience," said Spillman. "We all learned a tremendous amount from each other. It's a realistic situation that you are put in because most of us will end up in a dairy consulting position at one point or another in our lives."

The teams presented recommendations for milking procedures, animal health, reproduction/genetics, milk quality, and financial management.

See Dairy page 3



Submitted photo

Back row: Paul Lippert, Anne Spillman. Front row: Alex Geiser, Coach Dennis Cooper and Leonard Polzin of the UWRF dairy team.

Budget woes spur retirements

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The 28 UW-River Falls faculty and staff that have or will retire at the end of the academic year is the largest number of retirements at UWRF in the past four years. In 2010 there were 15 retirements, 20 in 2009 and 9 in 2008.

The faculty and staff were honored April 26 at the retirement and years of service banquet.

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Brad Caskey said he predicts that for the next two or three years there will be high numbers of retirements because of the large number of faculty and staff that are at or near the age of retirement.

Three years ago, Director of Human Resources Donna Robole conducted a study that looked into the ages of all faculty and staff and found that more than 25 percent were at least 60 years old. The study was initiated to plan how the administration was going to deal with succession.

Besides the large percentage of aging faculty and staff, Caskey at-

tributes the increase in retirements to the budget crisis in the state of Wisconsin.

On top of faculty and staff having to pay more into their pensions and health insurance each month, some fear that they may lose some of their sick leave hours that have accumulated over the years, Caskey said.

Employees who have worked for at least 15 years of continuous state service earn sick leave credits through the Supplemental Health Insurance Conversion Credit (SHICC) program. The accumulated sick leave is multiplied by the employee’s highest basic pay rate and converted to credits that help pay for health insurance during retirement.

Most of the staff and faculty who retire still have a couple of years before Medicare kicks in so the credits help bridge that gap, said Robole.

SHICC is not protected by state statute and can be negated with only a 24-hour notice, Caskey said. If that occurred, human resources would notify all faculty and staff on campus immediately, he said.

The Department of Administra-

tion has stated that the public will be given ample notice of any changes so they can do what they need to do to prepare.

Despite this assurance, faculty and staff are still nervous about losing the SHICC portion of their retirement package.

“It’s a crap shoot right now,” Caskey said. “People know they will be guaranteed their benefits if they retire now but if they stay, they don’t know what could happen. Therefore, some are pushed to retire sooner than they would like to.”

Although the retirements are spread throughout campus, there is a high concentration of retirements within Facilities Management and the English Department.

Besides the planned retirements of English professors Jim Mulvey and Ronald Neuhaus, there have been three other retirements within the department.

English Department Chair, Laura Zlogar said she and a few others within the department are also considering retirement.

“The big issue is the uncertainty about what the Governor and the

Legislature is going to do with people’s retirement benefits,” she said. “For someone like me, it’s the difference between five and a half years covering insurance premiums versus 11 years. That’s an awful lot of money in retirement benefits.”

According to the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds, which processes retirements for state and local government employees, the number of requests for retirement estimates between January and April has increased 108 percent over the same period in 2010. The number of retirement applications received increased 93.8 percent over the same period in 2010.

In the midst of the proposed \$2.8 million reduction in state funding to UWRF and the increase in retirements, Caskey said he wants to ensure that students are held harmless. Zlogar said she is unsure that students will be able to remain unscathed.

“The financial and political repercussions are going to be felt by students in a very real way” she said. “Students are feeling the impact because there are fewer courses

they can take, some of their classes are being canceled and it might take longer for students to graduate if they can’t get into some of those required courses.”

An English 200 class, which already had students enrolled in, was canceled due to the faculty retirements, said Zlogar.

Some of the positions within CAS may be left vacant and others will be replaced by temporarily employment,” Caskey said.

After all the departments are evaluated and assessed, there will be a better idea about how many of the tenure-track positions will be filled.

Even though Zlogar said she thinks the remaining faculty members within her department will be strained and students may feel some of the affects of the retirements and budget situation, she doesn’t want students to think their education will be severely compromised.

“I don’t want students to get the impression that the wheels are falling off the cart, but maybe we have some flat tires,” she said.

Ag student receives national award

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A UW-River Falls student was named the 2011 Agriculture Engineering Student of the Year by the American Society of Agriculture and Biological Engineers, or ASABE.

The recipient of the award, Melissa Sattler, said she felt like UWRF was a better fit for her than other schools she looked at with similar degree programs.

“It had nothing to do with the fact that my dad went here,” Sattler said.

Sattler said she toured campuses like the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and the UW-Madison before making her decision to come to UW-River Falls, and she defends

the fact that she made her own decision on where to continue her education.

“I just liked the feel of it,” Sattler said, “I enjoyed the atmosphere and the small campus, and how everything was located in walking distance from everything else.”

The fact that UWRF emphasized agriculture sealed the deal for Sattler, and four years later she is now graduating with her degree in agricultural engineering, with a job lined up at Cargill Kitchen Solutions in Monticello, Minn.

She applied for the award on the recommendation of Jerry Nechville, her academic advisor. He said that Sattler has always been a hard worker, and possesses the necessary

technical skills to succeed in the engineering field.

“Melissa is a very effective leader both in and out of class. She always performs at a very high level, allowing herself to exceed expectations,” Nechville said.

The purpose of the award, according to the ASABE Wisconsin Chapter’s website, is to “recognize an undergraduate enrolled in an Agricultural Engineering Technology, Agricultural Mechanization, or Agricultural Mechanization and Management program for achievement in preparation for a career in the profession.”

To win the award, Sattler had to show excellence in her scholastic record, display care for her com-

munity by giving back, show her affiliation and activity within ASABE and tell of her future goals, which include her career at Cargill.

Sattler, who has made the dean’s list a few times, said she always tried her hardest in school. Her community service was displayed through her activity with the Agriculture Mechanization Club at UWRF, which holds lawnmower and snow blower tune-ups for people in the community.

She fulfilled the ASABE affiliation requirement by competing on the Falcon Pulling team, which competes in ASABE’s one-fourth scale tractor competition.

Sattler said that she is eager to continue her agricultural practices

after graduation.

“Cargill is a good company with good values,” Sattler said, “I’m very excited to start working.”

But her life doesn’t stop there. Sattler said her future beyond college obviously includes working hard and moving up in her company, but there might be more to her career than just climbing up the corporate ladder.

“Ever since, like, middle school I’ve had a plan,” Sattler said. “Get to high school, do good in high school and come to college, and then graduate with a job ready in my major. And that’s where my plan stopped. So now I have to do a little bit more soul searching and figure out what my goals are.”

Senate Shorts

From the May 3 Student Senate Meeting:

- A motion was passed to repeal the original Shared Governance fee and replace it with a new one. The week before, last semester’s Senate agreed to allocate money by specific need. The new budget separates money by budget line.
- A motion was passed to reaffirm the creation of the Financial Programming Assistant position. The purpose of this full time position will be to monitor and aid the allocated money to the various AFAB student organizations.
- An act was passed to further monitor the supplies and equipment within the Senate office.
- The Senate agreed to support the Wisconsin Idea Partnership and opposed the UW- Madison split off from the rest of the UW-System. It also approved the Wisconsin Idea Partnership amendment for the 2011-2013 state budget. The entirety of this motion was voted to be passed to Chancellor Van Galen, UW-System President Reilly, the Wisconsin State Assembly and Wisconsin Senators.

Appointments:

- Allison Riske was appointed to the Parliamentary Chair position.
- Patrick Okan was appointed to the Elections Commissioner position for the fall semester of 2011. The elections timeline has been set for Oct. 4.

River Falls Police / UWRF Police Department

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

4/29/2011

- Abel Zelalem Zewdie, 18, cited for underaged consumption in Crabtree Hall.
- Brandon M. Kedrowski, 18, cited for underaged consumption in Crabtree Hall.
- Mark Delain Pressley Jr., 18, cited for underaged consumption in Crabtree Hall.

4/30/2011

- Aaron David Magnuson, 20, cited for underaged consumption in Grimm Hall.

5/1/2011

- A foot stool and carpeting were found burning in the basement of Hathorn hall. A section of grass was found burning between the Kleinpell Fine Arts building and Centennial Science. It is strongly suspected that the two are related.

Charity event collects socks for Japan disaster relief



Marketing communications students learned about nonprofit marketing while hosting an event to collect money and socks for Japan tsunami relief.

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Students taking a nonprofit marketing class hosted the Rock for Socks event May 3 at Junior’s Bar and Grill to raise funds and collect socks for Japan tsunami relief efforts.

The event raised more than \$1,000 and brought in at least 200 pairs of socks, according to a press release.

“The event was well received and everyone seemed to have a good time,” said marketing student Monica Gaffy. “We’re still getting in socks for our shipment to Japan.”

The students collected the socks for the charity Socks for Japan, which was organized by author and Japan resident Jason Kelly.

“Many of the survivors ended up barefoot after fleeing in a hurry,” according to Kelly’s website. “Receiving a new, fresh pair of socks provides a moment of comfort.”

The event also featured six musical groups, many of whom donated portions of their income from merchandise sales to tsunami relief, according to a press release.

More information on Socks for Japan can be found at <http://jasonkelly.com/helpjapan/>.

Tuition: Increase pending board meeting in July

From Page 1

from paying the increase. It has not yet been decided as to whether this exemption will continue for the next increase, said Van Galen.

The tuition increase will cover approximately half of the loss from state funding. Much of the remaining loss of funds will have to be made up internally, said Hendrickson.

Cuts will be made, including, decreasing the classes offered, funding for Information Technology, facilities management, and personnel, she added.

“We have to start asking what are we going to look like in the future,” said Hendrickson. “It has become a realization that we cannot financially support what we have been doing.”

In addition to the proposed 5.5 percent tuition increase, some UW schools, including UWRF, have an additional differential tuition cost, said Delgado.

“Of the schools that have a confirmed differential tuition, we are among the lowest,” said Delgado.

During this academic year, UWRF Student Senate and the Board of Regents passed the Falcon Promise. Within the Falcon Promise, there is an increased differential tuition fee, said Van Galen.

Currently, students pay an additional \$72 in differential tuition. Over the next few years, this amount will increase until 2016, when students will be paying \$160.

Segregated fees are another cost added to a UWRF student’s tuition. These fees are governed by the Student Senate, said Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Gregg Heinselman.

Halverson said that Student Senate is always looking for ways to save students money. Senate worked to lower the initial proposed cost for the Falcon Promise.

“We need to be a voice for the students and find ways to alleviate some of the financial stress,” he said.

Similar to how expenses continue to increase elsewhere, the annual segregated fees will continue to increase next year as well. This amount varies depending on whether or not they

live on campus and where they might live on campus, said Okan.

Delgado said it is important for students to spend their time at UWRF as efficiently as possible.

“The longer you are here the greater disadvantage you put yourself at,” he said.

Special Assistant to the Chancellor Blake Fry said it is important for students to keep an eye on federal grants, like the Pell Grant, because there have been proposed cuts on them for the next federal fiscal year.

Hendrickson said the campus has to look for ways to raise money for scholarships because federal financial aid is out of the University’s control.

“It is an unfortunate fact of life,” she said. “the key thing is affordability and making sure that students can continue to come.”

Dairy: UWRF one of five to earn platinum honors

From Page 1

“The experience was great because unlike the classroom, these are real world situations that producers are in,” Geiser said. “We also had a great team this year with Lenny specializing in financials, Anne strength was milk quality and

power point design, and Paul and I put helped put the rest of the presentation together.”

The four teams other teams that were given the platinum award were California State University-Fresno, Cornell University and The Penn State University.

“Dairy Challenge was a great experience for us all,” said

Geiser. “And I think we would all agree that it an honor to represent UWRF at the national competition and to bring home the platinum award reiterated why UWRF has one of the best dairy science programs in the nation. “

Zimride: Senate has plans to look at carpooling options

From Page 1

your own pictures. Then once you get in a car with them, it’s out of the student’s control.”

“I don’t believe it is safe,” Student Senate President Tyler Halverson said. “I don’t want students to be put into that situation.”

A three-year subscription to use the Zimride application

via Facebook and Twitter would cost \$12,000.

“It’s a three-year commitment. If we don’t like it after a year, we’re stuck with it for another two and we don’t want to put ourselves in that situation,” DeLong said.

Past Allocable Fee Appropriation Board Chair Jordan Harshman voiced his concerns for other reasons.

“I don’t think campus wants it. I also don’t think there has been enough surveys done to suggest the campus needs it,” he said.

Senate has plans in place to look into additional options for carpooling.

“We can make our ride board more efficient and save money there,” DeLong said. “We have a fabulous technology department that could work on this.”

Study reveals how laptops affect education

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Look anywhere around the UW-River Falls campus at any given time, and certainly there will be students working away diligently on their personal laptop computers.

According to a study done by the Pew Research Center, the “Millenials” generation is more likely to own a laptop computer than any other generation, with 70 percent of young adults aged 18-34 owning a laptop.

The Pew Research Center is a non-profit organization that does research and finds out statistics about Americans and changing trends in the United States.

This number might not seem very shocking, given the number of laptops that can be seen in classrooms and around the UWRF campus.

Campuses like UW-Stout even provide laptop computers for students to use, at an increased tuition rate.

According to Steve Reed, co-chair of the Information and Instructional Technology Council, the number found by the Pew Research Center is very close to what we see here on

campus.

He said about 68 percent of incoming freshmen now own their own laptop when they come to UWRF.

Students aren’t just using their laptops in their dorm rooms, however. Classrooms are starting to fill up with students taking notes on personal laptops, and even with other new electronic devices such as iPads and tablets.

Junior Jamie Hansen said she prefers to take notes on her laptop, because it is easier for her to read them and to keep them organized than if she were writing notes in a notebook.

“I use a computer in the classroom so I can take notes as fast as the teacher talks,” said Hansen, a marketing communications major.

A study done in 2003 by researchers Helene Hembrooke and Geri Gay found that students who multitask on their laptops during class remember less than students who are not using a laptop.

Their study focused on two groups in a communications class. The group that was allowed to browse on their laptops while taking notes suffered lower retention than the group that wasn’t browsing.

Their study was published in the Journal of Computing in Higher Education Vol. 15(1).

Their study also found that the main cause of distraction in the classroom was other student’s computer use, followed by own computer use, other students talking, length of the class, other students coming and going, and the style of class.

Some UWRF students agree with the findings of the study, and feel they cannot achieve the same quality of learning when they are distracted by the temptations using a laptop in class brings.

Senior Londe Richardson said he prefers to take notes by hand that way he is really focusing on the lecture, and not sites such as Facebook.

“I can’t bring my laptop to class to take notes, its too hard not to get on the internet,” Richardson said,“Plus I think its annoying when I see other students checking their email or chatting on Facebook with their friends, it distracts me from what the teacher is saying.”

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Students should stay active over summer

The end of the academic year is in clear sight and many students are thinking about their summer plans rather than what will be on their finals. Even though the school year has been long, arduous and stressful, students should finish out the year strong. By studying hard, summer vacation will seem more gratifying.

Once finals are finished, marking the beginning of three months off from the academic year for many and the start of a new chapter for some, it is no wonder why summer vacation is lusted over.

Although the desire and yearning for a break is completely warranted, everyone should consider what they will do with their time and make a plan.

For those that will be returning to school in the fall, there are several things that you should be mindful of.

First off, above all else, have fun and relax. College can be a very difficult time and during the school year, there seems to be only enough time to study and sleep. Utilize the time during summer break to travel. Go on a road trip somewhere and visit a national park. By traveling, one can learn about culture, geography and history without having to sit in a classroom.

Returning students should also work during the summer and save money for the following year’s tuition. Although it may be tempting to take out loans, for they are so easy to qualify for, try and save enough money to pay for the tuition without loans.

Another summer activity, although some may ardently detest it, is to take a summer course. This will help add structure to your summer while also speeding up the time it will take to graduate.

The final thing that should be on the summer to-do list is reading. This goes for graduating seniors too. Don’t think you are exempt from picking up a book just because you have a diploma in your hand. Depending on your reading style, write down several book titles and challenge yourself to see how many you can read.

For those graduating seniors, much of the previous mentioned advice applies to you. Travel as much as possible and read. Besides that, search for a full time job and don’t get discouraged if it takes longer than anticipated. Also, keep in touch with your professors for they will provide references and may know of a job opening.

Alumni services can provide the opportunity to reconnect with your fellow graduates.

Editorials represent the opinion of the Student Voice Editorial Board and are prepared by the editorial staff.

STUDENT VOICE

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The *Student Voice* is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Fridays during the regular school year.

All editorial content in the *Student Voice* is determined by the newspaper’s Editorial Board. The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper’s advisor, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less, and include a first and last name and phone number. They can be submitted at 304 North Hall, River Falls, WI 54022 or to editor@uwrfvoice.com.

The *Student Voice* reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or space. It also reserves the right to withhold letters. All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the *Student Voice* per issue. A single copy of the *Student Voice* is valued at \$1, and additional copies may be requested from the editorial staff by e-mail through editor@uwrfvoice.com. Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

Bucket list brings choices to summer



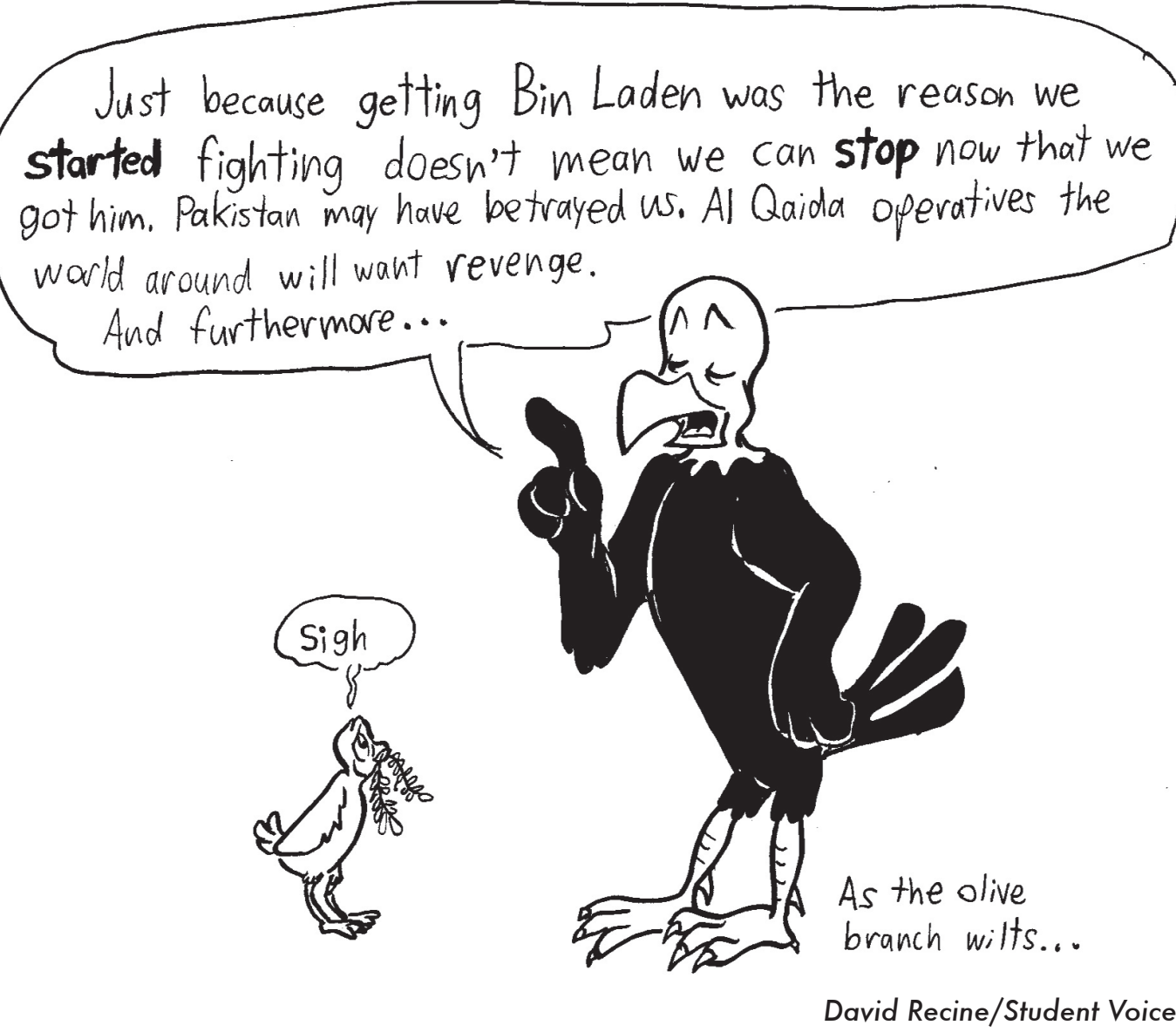
Cassie Swenson

Cassie is a sophomore, majoring in jmarketing communications and minoring in art. She is a member of the UW-River Falls tennis team. She is the viewpoints page editor of the Student Voice.

It doesn’t feel like it yet, but the summer season is slowly approaching us. First step is finals week, second step is sunshine. Hopefully in the next week, the sun begins to show us what its really got and bring in some warm weather. Here is a list of 20 summer activities for you to do in case of boredom:

Do your best to complete them all before we meet again next fall semester. Feel free to add to this list or make up your own.

- Have a water balloon fight
- Make homemade ice cream
- Watch the sunrise and sunset in the same day
- Camp outside in a tent
- Catch fireflies
- Play night games
- Visit High School friends
- Go to the beach
- Sleep in past 10am
- Have a family night
- Dry your laundry outside
- Make food on the Grill
- Walk around without shoes
- Go hiking
- Read and finish at least one book
- Make s’mores over a fire
- Look for shapes in the clouds
- Go for a road trip
- Go star-gazing
- Have a picnic
- Enjoy summer!



David Recine/Student Voice

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students not benefiting from fund changes

I am writing in response to the “AFAB explores funding allocation changes” article on the front page of the Student Voice for this week.

First off, I would like to applaud Mr. Halverson for his support in the matter of dues paying organization allocations. I would just like to clarify a few things that may have been misconstrued or misunderstood. In response to Mr. Harshman’s statement about inclusiveness, the Greek organizations have LEGAL FEDERAL right to remain exclusive based solely on gender, but within those genders we are not exclusive about who can join. Let it also be known that there are both male and female Greek organizations on campus. It would be one thing if it were ALL male or ALL female.

Why is it that we are holding up a double standard? Our CSAB allows funding for dues paying sports clubs, yet our AFAB does NOT allow funding for dues paying organizations.

I would also like to address Ms. Shonoiki’s comment about Phi Mu’s River Falls Idol, as I have worked with this organization in the past and know

full heartedly that this event is not a fundraiser. This event is a philanthropic event for Childrens Miracle Network only. I believe she meant that Phi Mu fundraises prior to the event to support its expenses. Phi Mu’s River Falls Idol is just one of many examples of how Greek organizations are non-profit. Another example of how Greek organizations don’t benefit financially is the campus wide Blood Drive, which is hosted and paid for by the Greek Community.

The most upsetting thing is that every student, including students that are affiliated with dues paying organizations, pay \$68 per year to the Allocable Segregated Fund. The issue is that dues paying organizations do NOT benefit from the money that they HAVE to pay. Is it fair to segregate a student from funds he or she is forced to contribute? If we want to talk about fairness, that is as unfair as it gets.

Ben Casper
student

Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor:

editor@uwrfvoice.com

Unique features of UWRF should be embraced as the year comes to a close



Elwood
Brehmer
Columnist

The rodeo alone is sufficient bragable material. It’s the most audience-friendly, interactive collegiate event I’ve ever been a part, of as a spectator or participant; and if I’m not mistaken UWRF is the only school with a rodeo team east of the Mississippi. Quite a unique feature of our little University.

The glass studio is one of the two in the UW System, with the other being in Madison. Definitely a plus for the art-oriented and another unique feature of UWRF.

For 17 years UWRF was the second home to an NFL team. How many towns, much less colleges can claim that? Well, 32 can. If Missouri wouldn’t have offered the Chiefs unmatched tax breaks to stay home for the summer they would still be here. Having grown up in

UWRF, or Moo U as it’s known by the cynical, is an underrated university in an underrated city. The Moo U label should be embraced.

The Moo U label should be embraced.

“RF” as well I can attest to the fact that the arrival of the Chiefs every summer is something that was wildly under-appreciated.

The Kinnickinnic River is a national treasure that is invisible to the majority on campus. The stretch upstream of town is world-class trout fishing, with over 10,000 fish per mile of water. From River Falls to the St. Croix, the Kinni is as gorgeous a stretch of water as there is in Wisconsin, maybe in the country. Float it in a kayak once. I GUARANTEE you will have to remind yourself that you are in Wisconsin at least twice. If the massive cottonwood trees arching over the water and

broad-leafed ferns don’t get you, the 150 foot limestone cliffs with spring water seeping out their sides will. Oh, and I forgot to mention the moss-fuzzed rocks

that give the air a beautifully sweet and fresh aroma.

I’ve gone sentimental because I will be one of the graduating crowd next week. Looking back on my years at UWRF made me realize how lucky we are here. And even though tuition’s gone up, it’s still a

steal compared to one of those schools crammed into a space too small in one of those concrete jungles. Enjoy it.

And even though tuition’s gone up, its still a steal compared to one of those schools crammed into a space too small in one of those concrete jungles. Enjoy it.

I would like to finish my work for the Voice by admonishing my advisor and the faculty overlord for the Voice, Andris Straumanis. He’s the guy wondering North Hall with the scary-intense stare and fashionable glasses. You know what kind of stare I’m talking about. It’s the kind that turns you pale and gives you a nervous

twitch from all the way across the room. And that’s when he’s in a good mood. Despite what the bad\$\$\$ evil-eye implies, Andris works as hard for his students as any professor I’ve had; and I’ve had a lot of professors. I’ve been here for six years. A testament to his work is his ability to turn a hack like me into a somewhat readable writer. Thank you Andris. Thank you UWRF. It’s been fun.

Elwood is a senior journalism student originally from River Falls. He tries to write about topics from a slightly offbeat perspective. Outside of school he typically dreams about fishing, then goes fishing, daydreams while he is fishing about what he is going to cook when he gets home, then cooks. That is, unless the Packers are on.

STUDENT VOICES

How do you feel about the tuition possibly being raised next year by 5.5 percent?

Alexandra Schachtner, sophomore



“I guess I’m okay with it as long as it benefits me in some way.”



Katey Deutsch, sophomore

“I’m not satisfied with it going up at all.”

Bryan Tester, freshman



“That’s garbage, why would you want tuition to go up?”



Corey Greenwood, freshman

“I don’t really feel good about that, I’m a little pissed about it.”

Songe Hoyt, freshman



“Not okay, but I’m transferring anyway.”

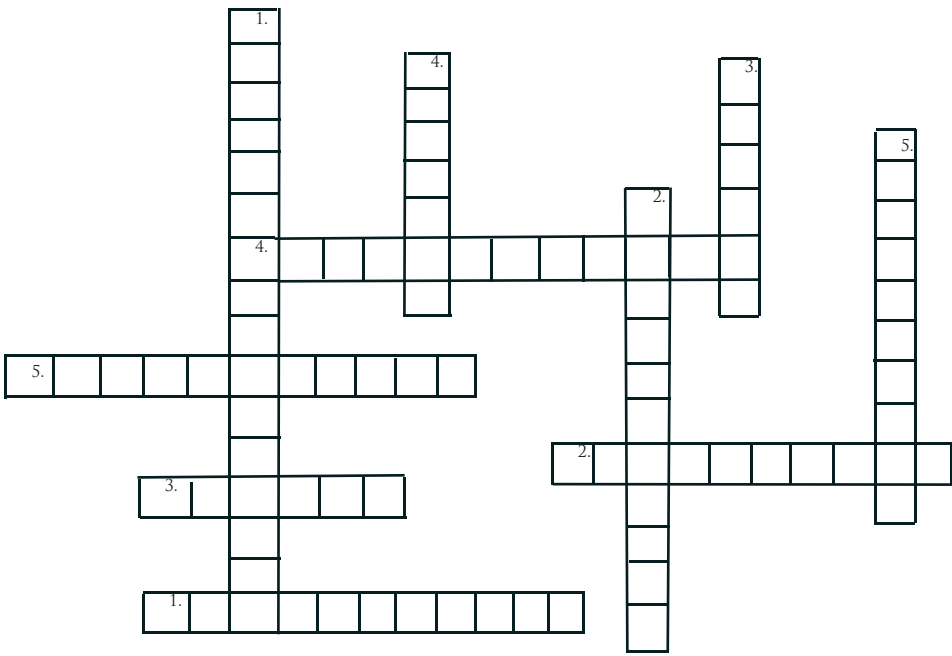


Shaunie Rollen, freshman

“If it’s necessary then its understandable, and its not really that much.”

UWRF Crossword Puzzle #2

By: Cassie Swenson



- ACROSS
- DOWN
1. HANDY WEBSITE BY UWRF TO FIND JOBS.
1. WHAT DOES UC STAND FOR?
2. PAGE 5 OF THE STUDENT VOICE IS THE __ PAGE.
2. FINALS FEST 2011 PERFORMER.
3. MAY 13 IS THE LAST DAY TO SPEND __ DOLLARS.
3. THE LAST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER, FILLED WITH TESTS IS CALLED __ WEEK.
4. EMAIL SYSTEM THAT WILL NO LONGER BE USED NEXT FALL IS CALLED ____.
4. RES LIFE IS NOW LOCATED IN __ HALL.
5. THE FIRST DAY OF SUMMER 2011 IS JUNE ____.
5. GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT THIS YEAR IS ON MAY __?

Find Freddy’s Feather!

Be the first person to find the lost Freddy the Falcon Feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes to the Falls Theatre!

Playing through May 12:

Fast Five
Rated: PG-13
Daily 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.,
Sat. & Sun. 2 p.m.

The first person to report the find to editor@uwrvoice.com AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins.

www.fallstheatre.com

Falcons seeded first in WIAC tournament

Blaze Fugina
blaze.fugina@uwrf.edu

The Falcons softball team clinched the WIAC conference championship after sweeping UW-Oshkosh Tuesday at Ramer Field.

The Falcons finished the regular season with a 13-3 conference record, and 22-13 overall.

By clinching the WIAC conference championship, the Falcons ensured that the WIAC conference tournament will be played at River Falls.

Falcon head coach Jody Gabriel said that the team’s expectations heading into the tournament are nothing less than a conference championship.

“The postseason is a new season, so we set new goals,” she said. “A win in the conference championship would secure an automatic bid to the national tournament.”

Falcon pitcher Rose Tusa attributed her team’s success to the athleticism and versatility the Falcons have.

“The biggest contributing factor to our success is the great versatility and depth in our team,” she said. “Our offense has been excellent and not just the nine starters, but everybody whether pinch hitting or sac bunting.”

Gabriel also won her 100 career game as the Falcon’s head coach on Sunday May 1 with come from behind wins in both legs of a doubleheader sweep over UW-Whitewater. She said that expectations have changed over the four years she was head coach of the program.

Gabriel was with the team as a player until 1994 and was an assistant coach for five seasons.

The WIAC tournament is a double elimination tournament that begins with seeding from the first seed to the sixth seed. Only six of the teams in the WIAC make the tournament.

Because the Falcons were the number

one seed in the playoffs, they will play UW-Oshkosh at 10 a.m. on Friday.

Tusa said as long as the team keeps playing the way it is, they should have a successful tournament.

“I feel that our chance is good, as long as we keep playing like we have,” she said. “Our bats have been on and our defense is solid. If we keep focus and play our game we can win the tournament.”

The Falcons, who swept the Titans this week, are 2-0 against them on the season.

Gabriel said that they are preparing for the first round matchup by continuing to improve on their playing skills.

“We need to focus on chasing excellence,” she said. “We expect that every game is going to be a

battle.

She also said that the conference is deep, and that any team can win a game on any day.

Because the tournament is double elimination, teams have a cushion to lose games, but teams with a loss need to win more games to get to the championship.

“The losing bracket takes more out of you,” said Gabriel. “We’ve been successful, but we have new goals to meet, like working to the postseason,” she said.

The first three games of the tournament are Friday at 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. The first round of the losers bracket takes place at 4 p.m. between the losers of game 1 and 2.

The championship game of the tournament will take place Sunday afternoon at Ramer Field, with the earliest start time being noon.

The NCAA Div. III softball tournament begins May 12, with the regional host being UW-Eau Claire.



Blaze Fugina/Student Voice

The Falcons practicing Tuesday for their upcoming WIAC tournament starting on Friday. The Falcons, who won the conference, are the number one seed and play UW-Oshkosh in the first round

Three men’s rugby players make All-Minnesota team

Andy Moran
andrew.moran@uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls men’s rugby team recently had three players make the final cut for the All Minnesota rugby team at the try-out held in early April.

Put on by the Minnesota Rugby Union, the tryout consisted of collegiate level players from all over the state of Minnesota.

According to team member Jesse Engen, in order to compete in the tryout, players present themselves to the union and hope for an invite.

“It is something you pursue on your own,” Engen said. “There are no credentials necessary to at least tryout.”

During the tryout process, players are ranked by a board of coaches and rugby officials until the final round of cuts in which 28 players are selected.

Engen said that to make it to the final round is where the real work starts.

“During the final selection tryout, we play a team called the East Side Banshees,” Engen said. “They are pretty good so that’s always a challenge.”

Once the 28 man roster is finalized, the team heads to Chicago, Ill. for a nationwide tournament consisting of teams made up of other state’s best players.

The All Minnesota team competed in the Midwest bracket this year, a bracket that they took second place in at last years tournament.

Engen, who was a member of last year’s

squad, said that the extra motivation to win this year after a second place finish last season was big.

“We made it to the final game last year,” Engen said. “We lost so to go back and win was really nice.”

Engen said that this years tournament provided some interesting twists to accompany strong competition.

“It was sleeting and raining and all kinds of stuff this year,” Engen said. “The weather combined with the good competition made for a tough tournament.”

Considering the number of players UW-River Falls produced for such a prestigious team, Engen said that the rugby team on campus has come a long way since its beginnings.

“It really shows how far we have come,” Engen said. “We have a really athletic team this year.”


Engen added that the recruiting for the rugby team takes place at the yearly Involve-ment Fair held in the University Center.

“Anybody can play,” Engen said. “When I came here, I had never played and really didn’t know anything about it.”


With the end of the academic year approaching, the lacrosse team has wrapped up its proceedings.

For more information on how to get involved with UWRF Rugby, visit the UW-River Falls homepage and search “rugby” under Club Sports.


WIAC softball tournament May 6-8




#1-seed UW-River Falls Falcons
* Regular Season Champions
13-3 WIAC, 22-13 overall




#2-seed UW-La Crosse Eagles
* Ranked 22 in nation by NFCA coaches poll
11-5 WIAC, 25-12 overall




#3-seed UW-Whitewater Warhawks
* Ranked 8 in nation by NFCA coaches poll
11-5 WIAC, 26-8 overall



#4-seed UW-Eau Claire Blugolds
9-7 WIAC, 26-12 overall



#5-seed UW-Superior Yellow-jackets
8-8 WIAC, 23-13 overall



#6-seed UW-Oshkosh Titans
6-10 WIAC, 21-15 overall

Friday, May 6
Game #1--UW-River Falls (#1) vs. UW-Oshkosh (#6), 10 a.m.
Game #2--UW-La Crosse (#2) vs. UW-Superior (#5), Noon
Game #3--UW-Whitewater (#3) vs. UW-Eau Claire (#4), 2 p.m.
Game #4--Game #1 Loser vs. Game #2 Loser, 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 7
Game #5--Game #1 Winner vs. Game #3 Loser, 10 a.m.
Game #6--Game #2 Winner vs. Game #3 Winner, Noon

(If 4 teams remain after Game #6)

Game #7--Game #4 Winner vs. Game #6 Loser, 2 p.m.
Game #8--Game #5 Winner vs. Game #6 Winner, 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 8
Game #9--Game #7 Winner vs. Game #8 Loser, 10 a.m.
Game #10--Game #8 Winner vs. Game #9 Winner, Noon
Game #11--If necessary, if Game #9 Winner wins Game #10, 2 p.m.

(if 5 teams remain after Game #6)

Saturday, May 7
Game #7--Game #4 Winner vs. Game #5 Winner, 2 p.m.
Game #8--Game #5 Loser vs. Game #6 Loser, 4 p.m.

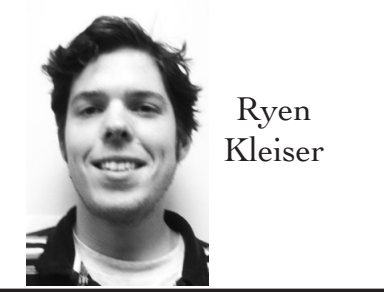
Sunday, May 8
Game #9--Game #6 Winner vs. Game #8 Winner, 10 a.m.

(If 2 teams remain after Game #9)
Game #10--Game #7 Winner vs. Game #9 Winner, Noon
Game #11--If necessary, if Game #7 Winner wins Game #10, 2 p.m.

(If 3 teams remain after Game #9)
Game #10--Game #7 Winner vs. Game #9 Loser, Noon
Game #11--Game #9 Winner vs. Game #10 Winner, 2 p.m.

Sports Schedule	
Friday, May 6 10 a.m. Track and Field at WIAC Championships at UW-Platteville	Thursday, May 13 10 a.m. Track and Field at Eagle Open
Saturday, May 7 9 a.m. Track and Field at WIAC Championships at UW-Platteville	Friday, May 12 TBD Softball at NCAA Regionals @ UW-Eau Claire
Thursday, May 12 TBD Track and Field at NCAA Championships at Delaware, Ohio	Friday, May 13 TBD Track and Field at NCAA Championships at Delaware, Ohio
Friday, May 13 10 a.m. Track and Field at Eagle Open	Saturday, May 14 TBD Track and Field at NCAA Championships at Delaware, Ohio

TV on the Radio releases ‘Nine Types of Light’



Ryen Kleiser

Over the last couple of months the Indie group TV on the Radio, has been taken on one hell of an emotional rollercoaster ride.

Seemingly going from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows. On April 12, the group released their fourth album “Nine Types Of Light,” and had a solid tour coinciding with that. Excitement in the music community was brewing and a relatively rare tour was expected in our very own First Avenue Danceria in Downtown Minneapolis.

Yet in one quick swoop, the excitement ended, the party was over, and the fragility of life was depressingly and abundantly clear. On the morning of April 20, 2011, the bassist of the group, Gerard Smith, passed away at the shockingly young age of 34 due to lung cancer.

The music industry was shook to its core at the loss of another great musician at such a young age, especially given the circumstances. Understandably, the group immediately canceled its upcoming seven shows and took an expected leave of absence from touring. Upon hearing the fateful news, I was shocked, confused and humbled.

On the morning of April 20, 2011, the bassist of the group, Gerard Smith, passed away at the shockingly young age of 34 due to lung cancer.

As a huge fan of the group, I was excited to witness their brilliance firsthand, yet there was little I could do than take time to reflect on their path to fame and wish the band my condolences.

Naturally, I took time to reflect back and give their albums a thorough listen through, including their most recent release “Nine Types Of Light.”

With that said, I feel that this could be there best album yet. It’s cutting edge, playful and fun to listen to, and strikingly emotional in some songs. Not only that, but the band took the time to make a video that helps the story of their songs flow together fantastically and offers a closer perspective of their genius.

Furthermore, picking favorite songs from this album is next to impossible. Every song remains more than capable of making its way to ‘single status’ in today’s music industry.

So my message to you readers out there is simple. Even if you know nothing about TV on the Radio, go out and listen to their new album “Nine Types Of Light.”

Music of this sort is groundbreaking, universal and moving to listeners of all backgrounds. For those of you readers out there with any fain interest in the group, pay Gerard the respect of supporting his band and remembering him through their music.

Despite his passing, he will continue to live on amongst us through his music and his bandmates.

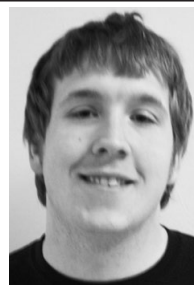
All in all, TV on the Radio offers listeners a glimpse of brilliance with their most recent album release of “Nine



Types Of Light,” and pays a testament to the passing of Gerard Smith with their emotional leave of absence from their upcoming shows.

Ryen Kleiser is a laid back biology student at UW-River Falls. He is hoping to become a well known biologist and teacher.

‘Water for Elephants’ enchanting, visually stimulating



Dustyn Dubuque

“Water for Elephants” follows a veterinary student, Jacob (Robert Pattinson), during the Great Depression as he drops out after his parents are killed and jumps onto a train to find work. He happens to land on a

less and aggressive August can be when something doesn’t go his way.

Finally, Robert Pattison has showed me that he can bring life to a character with true emotion. His relationship with Witherspoon is very believable and strong. Also the hatred and tension given by Waltz is terrific. Waltz really tears down the screen with his antagonist character heightening the tension between the three lead roles. The supporting cast is great with many characters playing their roles very well. The other major character is the elephant herself as she becomes the centerpiece of the love story.

Not only is the elephant a great part of the story it also looks beautiful in all of the ways they make it do tricks in the circus. The visuals themselves are all good and you really feel immersed in the time period. The circus aspect is great, a good change of environment for a love story to take place in. The only real gripe I had with “Water for Elephants” was that Reese Witherspoon’s character felt flat at times and did not capture the screen like the two male leads did. I felt the connection between Pattison and Witherspoon but there was still something missing.

All in all “Water for Elephants” is the best movie I have seen this year not only for its visuals, setting, story, and romantic connection but because Pattison really got me submerged into the life his character was living. At times he was as down as you could be while at other times you felt jubilation when things went right. Also Christoph Waltz put up another great performance as only he can.

The only real gripe I had was that Reese Witherspoon’s character felt flat at times and did not capture the screen like the two male leads did.

traveling circus traveling across America competing against the Ringling Brothers.

This circus is headed by August (Christoph Waltz) a ruthless man who will do anything to keep money coming in during this time of economic crisis. Along with his wife and star attraction, Marlena (Reese Witherspoon), August has created a spectacle to appease all audiences. Jacob does all the lowest jobs until coming into contact with Marlena and realizes one of her horses need to be put down. August goes against the idea but Jacob takes it into his own hands to kill the horse, this wins August’s affection as Jacob gets a new job as the circus’ vet.

After a while Jacob becomes close with August, and more importantly, close with his wife Marlena. He spends time with both of them only to start getting feelings for Marlena. Eventually August strikes gold by getting an elephant for the circus that his esteemed wife must now learn to ride for the show. Through the elephant we see the relationship blossom between Jacob and Marlena, while we also see just how ruth-



Commuters can expect to see a rise in deer related crashes

Michael Brun
michael.brun@uwrf.edu

It is a sight that commuters driving to UW-River Falls may have seen: The carcass of a struck deer lying in the ditch or spread across the pavement. According to an expert on deer-vehicle crash data, that sight is about to become more common.

Most deer-related crashes occur during mating season between October and November, but a second peak of crashes typically occurs in May and June when fawns spread out in search of new ranges, said Donald Lyden, a research analyst for the Wisconsin Bureau of Transportation Safety.

“It makes me nervous when I see it, especially driving home later in the day when no one is on the road,” said Andrew Mayfield, a student at UWRF. “You never know when something is going to jump out at you.”

Mayfield, a resident of Oakdale, Minn., is one of the thousands of UWRF students who, along with hundreds of faculty and staff, commute to the university on a regular basis. By

driving on the rural highways that lead to campus, commuters risk injury or death from collisions with deer.

Law enforcement reported 2,806 vehicle-deer crashes in May and June of 2009, which accounted for more than 17 percent of all vehicle-deer crashes that year, according to an online fact sheet composed of the most recent data compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

“In eight of the last 14 years, June ranked as the worst or second worst month for injuries,” according to the fact sheet.

Commuters traveling in the early morning or evening hours face the greatest risk of hitting a deer.

According to the fact sheet, in 2009 most springtime crashes occurred in the dawn hours from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m., and after dusk from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Lyden said there are tips drivers can use to reduce the risk of hitting a deer.

“The important thing to do is to drive the speed limit, and always be on the lookout for deer,” he said. “If you see one deer, there are a probably more.”

Lyden also said that drivers could help avoid injury in a

vehicle-deer crash by always buckling their seatbelt.

According to the fact sheet, motorcyclists need to be especially cautious of deer.

More than 75 percent of all deer-related motorcycle crashes in 2009 resulted in injury or death, compared to less than four percent of people driving in cars. Of the seven deaths caused by vehicle-deer crashes in 2009, five were of motorcyclists.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources website, If a driver hits a deer, it is recommended that they contact law enforcement and report the accident.

If the crash is serious enough, drivers are required by law to report it.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation website, a crash that involves the death or injury of a person, causes \$1,000 worth of damage to private property or causes \$200 worth of damage to nonvehicle government property needs to be reported to police.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation vehicle-deer fact sheet can be viewed at <http://1.usa.gov/hnuWZM>.

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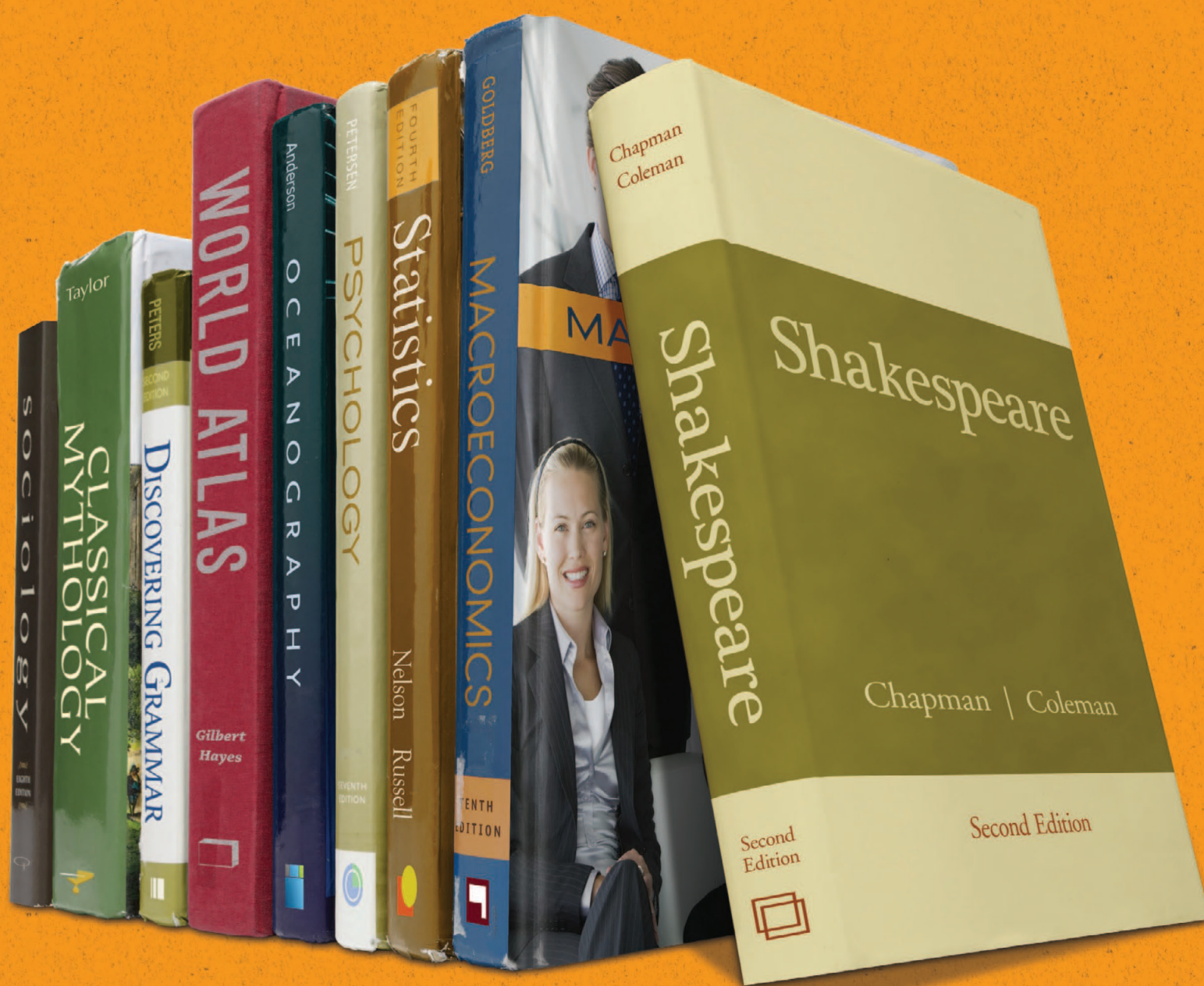
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