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Swim team looks to build program

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Leggings are not considered to be pants



STUDENT VOICE

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ROTC builds strong students

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The UW-River Falls Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program will have three students graduating this school year in the top 20 percent in the nation.

According to Tabb Benzinger, assistant professor of military science at UWRF, having three of the 33 students graduating in the top 20 percent in the nation is phenomenal. Their names are Hailey Myran, Zachary Rossow and Charlotte Evans.

“It means a lot to me to be able to be a commissioned officer in the United States Army,” said Evans, a physics major. “It really puts it in perspective on the training and support system we’ve had here.”

Evans plans to graduate in December and will be a part of the Texas National Guard, Signal Corps. It will not be a full time commitment so she will be in graduate school studying either material science or condensed matter physics at the same time.

“I realized I wanted to be a part of something bigger than myself,” said Evans. “I trans-

ferred schools to get a better opportunity.”

Evans explained that at her previous school she decided to try out ROTC for a semester to see how she liked it. After she realized that ROTC was for her, she transferred to UWRF because the program here was bigger and more nurturing.

“Had I not joined ROTC, I would have been a completely different person, I am happier now,” she said.

According to Benzinger, ROTC was introduced to the UWRF campus in 2006 as a trial based program until 2007 when the Board of Regents and the United States Army recognized it as a partnership on campus.

There are about 6,000 students currently enrolled in the ROTC program around the country. The UWRF ROTC program currently has 33 students with 22 of them male and 11 of them being female.

The schedule of an ROTC student depends on the level they are at in the program. Freshmen are required just one day of physical training

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Ribbon cut on new Cascade



Alicia Carlson/Student Voice

The Cascade Avenue ribbon cutting to celebrate the finishing details of the Cascade Project was on Oct. 12. River Falls Mayor Dan Toland is pictured on the left next to Chancellor Dean Van Galen, City Council Member Tom Cafilisch, City Engineer Reid Wronsky, Wisconsin Department of Transportation Northwest Region Planning Chief Tom Beekman and State Senator Sheila Harsdorf. See page 3 for more Cascade Project details.

Wisconsin U.S. Senate race has candidates aiming to replace Kohl

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Republican Tommy Thompson and Democrat Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin’s candidates for U.S. Senate, vie to replace retiring Senator Herb Kohl in what has been a very tight race thus far.

According to a Marquette University Law School poll from Oct.17, Thompson leads Baldwin 46 percent to 45 percent.

The polls conducted for this race have shown ups and downs for both candidates since the August primaries, but the results have always been very close.

Both candidates have held positions in government before and hope that what they accomplished in those positions will only help them in this election.

Baldwin has served as a U.S. representative for Wisconsin’s 2nd Congressional District since 1999. She also served as a member of the Wisconsin State Assembly from 1993 to 1999.

Thompson served as the 42nd governor of Wisconsin from 1987 to 2001 and was the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services from 2001 to 2005 under the George W. Bush administration. Thompson was also a candidate for president in 2008, but dropped out early after not doing very well in the polls.

Thompson argues that he accomplished great things while in office and believes that he is the perfect candidate to get things done in Washington.

UW-River Falls Associate Professor of Political Science Neil Kraus believes that Thompson may have an edge on Baldwin as far as name recognition goes.

“Somewhat middle-aged people and older are going to remember Thompson, and while younger voters might not know much about him, they have probably heard their parents talk about him.”

Baldwin made an appearance at the South Fork Café in River Falls last Friday with the Minnesota candidate up for re-election for U.S. Senate, Amy Klobuchar. They met with people and Baldwin

spoke briefly on her goals and views on a few issues. They were in Hudson, Wis. before coming to River Falls and also visited Spring Valley, Wis.

Kraus explained that Baldwin has only represented the Madison area and a few suburbs around it, while Thompson has represented the entire state and has the name recognition. Therefore, it seems as though Baldwin may be campaigning more because she needs to get her name out there.

UWRF College Republicans Vice Chair Hannah Carlson believes that the name recognition definitely gives Thompson an edge in this election. She says that he was very popular when he was governor and hopes that many of the people who voted for him then will stand with him now.

Both Baldwin and Thompson have strong platforms and very different views on many issues.

Baldwin’s official campaign website, tammybaldwin.com, states that she is devoted to fighting for Wisconsin families and has been her whole life. She wants to put the middle class first and fight for a fairer economy.

She firmly believes that people with \$1 million incomes should not pay a lower tax rate than middle class families. For Baldwin, access to affordable health care is crucial to middle class security. Baldwin voted for the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and opposes its repeal.

To reduce spending, Baldwin would take away subsidies to big corporate farms, bring troops home from Afghanistan and reduce the cost of prescription drugs under Medicare by ending taxpayer give-aways to the pharmaceutical industry.

Baldwin said she will fight to protect Social Security benefits and preserve and strengthen Medicare.



Tammy Baldwin



Tommy Thompson

With social issues like gay marriage, abortion, etc., she is pro-choice and a major advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. She states that fairness, equality and opportunity are at the core of who we are as a state and nation.

If elected, Baldwin will be the first openly gay U.S. Senator.

One of Baldwin’s main topics is education. She said that providing everyone a quality, affordable education is the most important thing we can do to compete and win in the global economy.

“The access that young people have to education is key to moving our economy forward,” said Baldwin. “We are not going to grow an economy built to last unless we adequately provide the opportunity for higher education.”

Tommy Thompson’s official campaign website, tommyforwisconsin.com, states that he “believes we can restore America by rebuilding our economy through bold reforms, innovative solutions and commonsense conservative leadership.”

Thompson’s immediate priority in the U.S. Senate will be to repeal Obamacare and restart health care reform deliberations from a clean slate.

He wants to reform taxes by addressing the spending and debt crisis, simplify taxation for individuals and spurring the economy through a pro-growth corporate tax policy.

On the social issues, Thompson is on

See Senate page 3

Campus prepares for new facelift

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UW-River Falls is remodeling the campus once again. There is talk to redesign both the campus mall and Rodli Commons.

Interim Executive Director for Division of Administrative Services Mike Stifter provided insight on these two new remodel projects.

The campus mall project has been put into place to revamp the interior of campus. This project will run from Spruce Street, near May Hall, all the way to 6th Street, which is the Rodli area. Both projects are part of the Campus Master Plan.

The University wants to make the campus mall more aesthetically appealing. The remodel will make the mall more pedestrian friendly as far as accommodating skateboarders, bikers and people who are just walking.

Last week there was an open forum in regards to the campus mall project. There were three separate sections to this forum. There was a forum where students could bring up their ideas and thoughts, a forum for faculty and staff and a general information forum.

The Rodli remodel is a renovation project. This will take the admissions office, the financial aid office, the registrar’s office and others. Making them more accessible by putting them into one building. This was put into place so that Rodli would become the new enrollment services building.

According to the Campus

Master Plan, the new enrollment services building was either going to be housed in Rodli or in Hagestad Hall.

Rodli was the choice in the end. One drawback that Stifter mentioned of moving all of these offices to Rodli would be that all of the classrooms that are currently in that building might have to be removed.

In regards to a timeline for these projects, Stifter said they hope to be completed by 2016. By January of 2013, an architect and engineer team is anticipated to be in place. By May or June of next year, there is hope to have a formal design planned out. As for a budget for these plans, Stifter said that it is hard to say at this point.

Stifter said that redoing the campus mall and Rodli will affect students for the better. This will add to the overall experience on campus and the changes will be practical, but will have flare. The plans could affect the students time wise as far as getting across campus goes but Stifter said, “We’ll work around those kinds of things.”

Student Laura Reimann does not feel the same way. “Personally, I think it’s frustrating,” said Reimann. Reimann noticed that something on campus always seems to be changing. The projects will make it more inconvenient to get across campus.

On the other hand, Reimann also said that it would be really nice to have all of the administrative services in one building so students don’t have to go between North Hall and South Hall.

News Briefs

UW-River Falls Professor receives Dykstra Award for faculty excellence



Provided by UWRF directory
Brian R. Smith
Brian R. Smith, professor of horticulture and state commercial fruit specialist with the University of Wisconsin-Extension was recently honored with the Paul B. and Robert A. Dykstra Faculty Excellence Award. Smith was presented with the award at the opening of the fall semester at UWRF.

The Dykstra Award supports the research, creative or scholarly activity of one tenured or tenure-track faculty member annually. UWRF faculty members nominate their peers for the award. In their nomination materials, Smith’s colleagues commented: “connecting the science of genetics and plant growth and development to the applied interests of students are Smith’s strengths,” and “Brian inspired and mentored me in my passion for plant breeding.”

Smith came to UWRF in 1988 and has held a joint teaching/extension appointment since that time. Smith was the driving force behind the development of part of the campus farm into a 26-acre fruit research facility where he conducts his cultivar development, varietal evaluation and cultural studies to support the commercial fruit producers in the state and region. He provides producers with data and information on varietal yield, hardiness and pest resistance allowing them to make better production decisions. Smith’s work focuses on strawberries, Aronia, raspberries and stone fruits, such as plums and apricots. In 2010 Black Ice ™, a high quality, red-fleshed winter hardy plum for the upper Midwest, was released for sale to the public.

Smith authors and receives numerous grants in support of his fruit breeding and cultural studies. Funding sources include state and national fruit grower associations, UW-System, USDA and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Smith is listed as a “co-inventor” on seven raspberry and blackberry cultivar patents and “sole inventor” on the plum patent. He was the recipient of the first-ever Wisconsin Idea Fellow award from UW-System in 2004 and the first WiSys Innovation Scholar Award in 2006.

Smith has a B.S. from South Dakota State University and a M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He can be reached at 715-425-3851.

Staff awarded 2012 Chancellor’s Excellence awards:
Chancellor Dean Van Galen announced the 2012 recipients of the academic and classified staff Chancellor’s Excellence awards:

- Academic Staff: Jim Thies, Sports Information director
- Classified Staff A: Tom Engesether, building maintenance, craftworker lead, facilities management
- Classified Staff B: Joan Kratt, retired honoree, academic department associate in journalism, marketing communications and political science

Jason Lewis, nationally syndicated radio talk show host, to speak at UW-River Falls about Obamacare

Jason Lewis, the host of the nationally syndicated Jason Lewis Show, will be speaking at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20 in the Kinnickinnic Theater at the University Center. The event is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by the UWRF College Republicans.

Lewis will speak on the fallacies of Obamacare and what the impact means for your future healthcare and the economy. Luke Affolter, the College Republicans’ secretary, said that having Lewis on campus is a true honor. “Jason’s message will resonate well with the campus community. He is a nationally syndicated radio talk show host, so having him come to our campus is something special. He is passionate when he speaks and offers true insights on what Obamacare is really all about.”

Lewis is also the author of “Power Divided is Power Checked: The Argument for States’ Rights” from Bascom Hill Publishing. Jason has hosted local talk shows in Charlotte and Minneapolis-St. Paul where he was rated No.1. Jason got his start at national syndication as a regular substitute host for the Rush Limbaugh program and was recently selected as one of the top 25 talk hosts in the country by Newsmax Magazine.

Guest speakers come to UW-River Falls to talk on freedom of speech at public universities

Three guest speakers will come to UW-River Falls for a non-partisan open panel discussion on academic free speech at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 25 in the Kinnickinnic Theater. This discussion will focus on the freedom of speech that faculty, staff, and students all possess on the grounds of a public university.

The three guests on campus include: former UWRF Professor and current UW-Eau Claire Assistant Professor John Evans, Director of Legal and Public Advocacy for the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) Will Creeley and UW-Madison Professor Donald Downs.

Creeley said that students are not always aware of the rights they have and may think that they leave these rights at the door when they walk on to a campus.

“My hope is that anyone who attends leaves with a clear knowledge of their rights on campus and understands the First Amendment is fully being brought to institutions like UWRF.”

River Falls Police/ UWRF Police Department

- Oct. 5**
- A vehicle was reported vandalized at the O lot.

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

Play delivers unique character experience



Photo by University Communications

Actors (from left to right) Sophie Sieh (Honey), Rob Brecher (Nick), Danny Vapava (George) and Dana Clausen (Martha) are featured in the UW-River Falls University Theatre production of “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?” playing at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 18-20 and 24-27 in the Sanford Syse Theatre of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

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A 50th anniversary production of Edward Albee’s deconstruction of marriage, “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?” will be taking place on the UW-River Falls campus in the Sanford Syse Theatre on Oct. 18-20 and Oct. 24-27.

The play, which features four UWRF actors, tells the story of George, a history professor at a New England university, and Martha, his wife, who ask a younger couple, Nick and Honey, to their home for a nightcap and some emotionally damaging games. The UWRF production uses an updated script that Albee revised for the 2005 Broadway Revival of the play. “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?” will be directed by UWRF Professor James Zimmerman.

In a press release Zimmerman said that “the updated script remains truthful to Albee’s original, while allowing audiences to follow the true inner thoughts and motivations of George and Martha. The evening becomes less a story featuring ‘marriage as blood sport,’ and more an exploration of relationships.”

The actors said they saw this show as a challenge. “There’s an intense amount of subtext that is hinted at,” said Danny Vapova, who plays George. “The opportunities for an actor to tackle them range from the easy, which can be boring. Or they can go for something that’s really exciting and something that is more truthful but is going to be incredibly difficult.”

George is past the prime of his life, according to Vapova. “You can play so many levels of self effacement, so many levels of self hatred and so many levels of frustration,” said Vapova.

Dana Clausen, who plays Martha, said that her character is the driving force of the show as she is psychologically “all over the place.” The very first action that takes place on the stage is Clausen’s character “drunk, slamming into the door, not able to open it.” Clausen said that things only get worse from there. “By the end there’s snot flying and tears,” said Clausen.

Vapova said that he and Clausen agree that “our characters

that we play in this show are the hardest characters we’ve ever had to play.”

According to the cast, it becomes very clear early on in the proceedings of the night that Martha is rather fond of Nick, played by Rob Brecher. While George seems aware of this fact, Honey remains oblivious for a large part of the show.

“She’s kind of the comedic relieve, I think,” said Sophie Sieh, who plays Honey. Even with Honey’s ability to add some light-weighted moments to an otherwise intense show, Sieh said that “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?” is the most serious plays she’s ever been a part of. Sieh said that being able to be a part of a smaller cast was a great experience.

Although the show has some intense, emotional moments, there are spots of levity according to Vapova. “It’s a devastating show,” Vapova said. “It is also embarrassingly funny. You’ll laugh and then you’ll feel guilty about laughing.”

Clausen said that preparing for her role in “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?” has been exhausting. “I’ve been eating like, four meals a day,” Clausen said. “It’s like being an Olympic athlete. Your body is using up so much energy, physically and emotionally, every time you’re in rehearsal or every time you’re in performance. You’re exhausted and hungry.”

Performances will be held in the Sanford Syse Theatre, which has 80 available seats. In a press release, the director urged those planning to attend to reserve seats in advance through the box office in Kleinpell Fine Arts or by calling 715-425-3114 to make sure that they get a seat. The cast said that black box shows have sold out in the past.

Being in the smaller black box theatre gives the actors an opportunity to get a little more up close and personal with the audience, according to the cast. “You’re going to be five feet away from us,” said Vapova.

“You might get spit on,” said Clausen.

The cast said that even though Virginia Woolf gets name-checked in the title of the play, you don’t need to be a well read academic to enjoy it.

“You know these people,” said Clausen. “You’ve seen their marriage and you know this is probably what they’re like at home.”

Surprising results found as marketing techniques move away from technology

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Marketing departments around the UW-River Falls campus and in the community are constantly looking for a way to market their products and services to students on campus who are immersed in a highly commercialized culture.

Marketing techniques are present on the UWRF campus in the cafeteria, plastered on vending machines, scripted in emails, texted through them, in their mailboxes and even in the bathroom stalls.

Amy Luethmers, University communications marketing specialist, understands this all to well while she tried to reach current students and potential students.

“Because students are so checked into, pretty much just texting and they don’t read email anymore, they don’t surf quite as much, it’s pretty hard to get their attention,” said Luethmers.

Because of the issue of connecting to students who are constantly ‘plugged in,’ as said by Luethmers, departments on campus have tried new techniques to reach their audience. The communications department recently passed a new strategic plan that involved the creation of a mobile phone application. These are more widely known as apps.

The University Communication’s department is not the only one thinking this. Family Fresh Market manager John Wild said they are looking in the same direction.

“We do have a Family Fresh app too, but they haven’t really advertised that very much in our ad,” said Wild.

However, with stores like Target, Walgreens, Walmart, Michael’s, Hobby Lobby, Victoria’s Secret and DICK’s Sporting Goods having their own mobile apps, the Family Fresh app and the UWRF app could get lost in the wealth of other possibilities for students.

The goal is for both of them, and for all the thousands of other apps, to serve an individual purpose. This could be more challenging than they anticipated.

The Student Support Services department on campus sees this rush to technology as moving with the flow to maintain an online presence by hiring a social media intern; this intern’s purpose is to market through social media, email and other technological means, but they have made another observation.

Interim Assistant Director of Student Support Services Gina Sevick said that students were more apt to look at paper mail more so than emails. She noticed this when the department decided for budgetary reasons to cut all of their paper contacts with students and focus on email and other means of contact. They had less participation than previously, and as soon as they started circulating paper notices, participation increased again.

This observation is unique because with the decrease in mail sent by the postal service, more people have been getting email.

Sevick said that she could see students viewing the emails that her department and other departments or companies sent to students as being junk mail because they get so much of it. She admitted that she was guilty of deleting things she did not find relevant to her before reading them, too.

So with students being bombarded with emails, posters and other marketing techniques brought to them, few alternative techniques are left.

Global Connections uses one of these last resources, word of mouth, to communicate their services to students alone with other types of marketing like posters and social media sites.

Global Connections is not alone in this method. Sevick also has a similar method of involving student workers to get the word out about what their department has to offer.

Even with technology leaking into all aspects of life, technology may not always be the most consistent method or best method of marketing or communicating to students. Other methods such as paper mail and word of mouth may prove to be stronger in certain situations.

Cascade Project delayed after hang-ups

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The Cascade Avenue project is coming to an end after six months. The estimated ending date was Oct. 12, 2012. However, due to lighting difficulties, the opening of the road has been delayed. It is expected to open in approximately two weeks. The ribbon cutting ceremony was an opportunity to thank those involved throughout the project. The University and the state itself have set objectives of the project; such as developing a traffic plan for the neighborhood around the University, expansion of parking areas and ensuring safety of pedestrians. Despite these objectives, the project has brought about concerns on several levels that they hope to correct.

The concerns include poor street lighting, excess speed of vehicles, delays for traffic, no turn lanes, distance being blocked by parked vehicles and lack of adequate parking for individuals on the UW-River Falls campus. The construction has led to commuters needing to make other parking arrangements such as parking in the commuter lot near Ramer Field. There is also pay by space. Deborah Johnson, Police Service associate at the UWRF Police Department states, “There’s meters and pay by space. Pay by space. People purchase time across the street.” There is also distribution of parking permits for commuters and the general public. Parking on the east side of Cascade will be unavailable

from Oct. 15 to Oct. 19. As well as vehicle issues, there are problems with regard to safety, such as motorists yielding to pedestrians at crosswalks and there are no sidewalks on the north side Cascade. There is also a lack of bicycle facilities on campus. Due to the road being blocked off, methods of travel in ways other than by vehicle, are being used. For example, there has been an increase in the number of bicyclists on campus that has added to on-campus traffic. With the combination of foot traffic, use of skateboards and use of bicycles, it is necessary for members of the campus community to be aware of safety; to be careful of traffic other than that on the road. The re-opening of Cascade will improve the con-



Alicia Carlson/Student Voice
Chancellor Dean Van Galen took the opportunity of the ribbon cutting to thank those involved with the Cascade Project.

ROTC: Program helps students set, reach goals

From page 1

(PT), sophomores have two days of PT required and juniors and seniors are required to do three days a week. PT goes from 6:15 a.m. until 7:15 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. However, those in the ROTC program who are also in sports are not required to participate in PT. It’s also required that one weekend a semester students go to a field training exercise at Fort McCoy or another Army post. “We also have one class a semester and we have a leadership lab that goes with it on Tuesday mornings for two hours,” said Rossow, a double major in economics and geography. “At the end of the day, ROTC takes someone that doesn’t know anything about the Army and teaches them everything they need to know so they can be a successful Lieutenant.” Rossow spent three years getting his Associates Degree before coming to UWRF where he decided to join ROTC and go to school rather than just joining the Army. While some ROTC students choose to do Basic Training over the summer so they don’t miss school, Rossow took the 2010-2011 academic year off so he could go through Basic Training as well as Advanced Individual Training (AIT). “It was one of my goals when I first came here so it makes me happy to accomplish it,” said Rossow about graduating not only in the top 20 percent, but the top 13 percent in the nation. Due to Rossow graduating in May, he will be finding out what job he will receive at the end of this month. In December, he will be informed on where he will be stationed. “After graduation I’ll start training and then go to my duty station,” said Rossow.

“From there, who knows.” Benzinger explained that the University is always welcoming the ROTC program with open arms and is willing to back the program up if they need support. “ROTC is a small family inside the University, they support each other inside the classroom and outside the classroom,” Benzinger said. “It’s an assurance of learning and shows that the curriculum is well received by our students.” Balancing schoolwork and ROTC may seem like a challenge, but according to Rossow and Evans, it actually helped with time management. “For one, it taught me good time management skills,” said Evans. “I can still get a 4.0 grade point average while working out and training. It made me realize how much I can accomplish.” Rossow also added that being more disciplined was also an added bonus of being in ROTC. “I think after being in the Army, you become more disciplined with following directions and getting things done because in the army you have to,” Rossow said. Both Evans and Rossow agree that joining the ROTC program has been life changing not only for their future, but as well as making friends. They bond over going through training and what it all entails. “I’ve met some of my best friends because of the Army,” said Evans. Evans encourages those who have even just a slight interest in ROTC to get involved. “Even if you think that you possibly want to join the army, at least try one semester of ROTC,” Evans said. “Even if it’s not for you, you’ll be walking away with something good.”



Brittany Flatten/Student Voice
Tammy Baldwin visited the South Fork Cafe to talk to community members about issues that she cares about in River Falls.

Senate: Close state borders could create student voting struggles

From page 1

ance and retirement in order to bring those benefits more in line with the private sector. Thompson is a strong advocate for education, and argues that he did more than any other governor to expand educational opportunities for inner-city families, and helped to bring about school choice and school-to-work programs. UWRF student Will Litzer, is informed about the candidates and their positions, but he thinks that other students may not be. “It really comes down to students wanting to be informed. This is a tight race, but I hear more talk about the candidates among the general public than I do among students.” Litzer also believes that some Minnesota students may choose to go home to vote or fill out an absentee ballot in order to have their vote count on some of the Minnesota issues so maybe that is why some of the UWRF students seem to be uninformed about the Wisconsin candidates. To find out more information about the candidates and their platforms, visit their official campaign websites.

Launch Your Career in Health Care

A black and white photograph of two female students in a classroom. They are both smiling and looking at a model of a human brain on a desk. One student is pointing at the brain.

Come To Discovery Day.

Saturday, November 3, 2012 | 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Can't make it in November? Register for our next Discovery Day in January 2013.

Apply Within 30 Days of Attending & Receive a First-Term Tuition Grant.

Don't Delay. Register Today!
www.nwhealth.edu/discovery

EDITORIALS

Local elections, professional life equally important for UWRF students

The very first question in the last presidential debate on Oct. 16 had to do with college students facing a bleak job market after they graduate. It’s clear that higher education is an important topic in this election season.

However, Mitt Romney and Barack Obama are not the two candidates who affect UW-River Falls directly. That would be the state senator and state assembly person. Do you know who the local politicians are in River Falls?

State legislators, for example, have done a lot to help improve UWRF. A big example of that is the eventual construction and subsequent completion in 2016 of the Falcon Center.

The Falcon Center has an estimated cost of over \$68 million, \$50 million of which are coming from the state. It was local politicians that played a big part in getting that money for the University.

Remember that local legislators are up for re-election. These are candidates who care about UWRF and the community and you can at least repay them by doing some research on the candidates before you go vote.

However, state senators, the national senators, and Romney or Obama aren’t going to be the reason you get, or do not get a job. That comes down to you as an individual. The economy is certainly the most important issue in this election.

The Career Fair just saw a few hundred students from UWRF interact with about 100 companies in a professional setting. It is worth noting, though, that the professional setting should not start and end simply with the Career Fair. Instead students should continue to be professional in their daily lives. You never know who is watching or who you will meet on the street someday. You only get one chance to make a first impression.

It is also important to keep note of being professional in social media. Whether they tell you or not, potential employers will be looking at your Facebook page.

Pay attention to the upcoming elections and do your research. These elections are just as important as the presidential one. It still comes down to you as an individual, though. If you don’t do your part to make yourself seem professional then it won’t matter who gets elected or what laws are passed.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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Read the *Student Voice* online at www.uwrfvoice.com

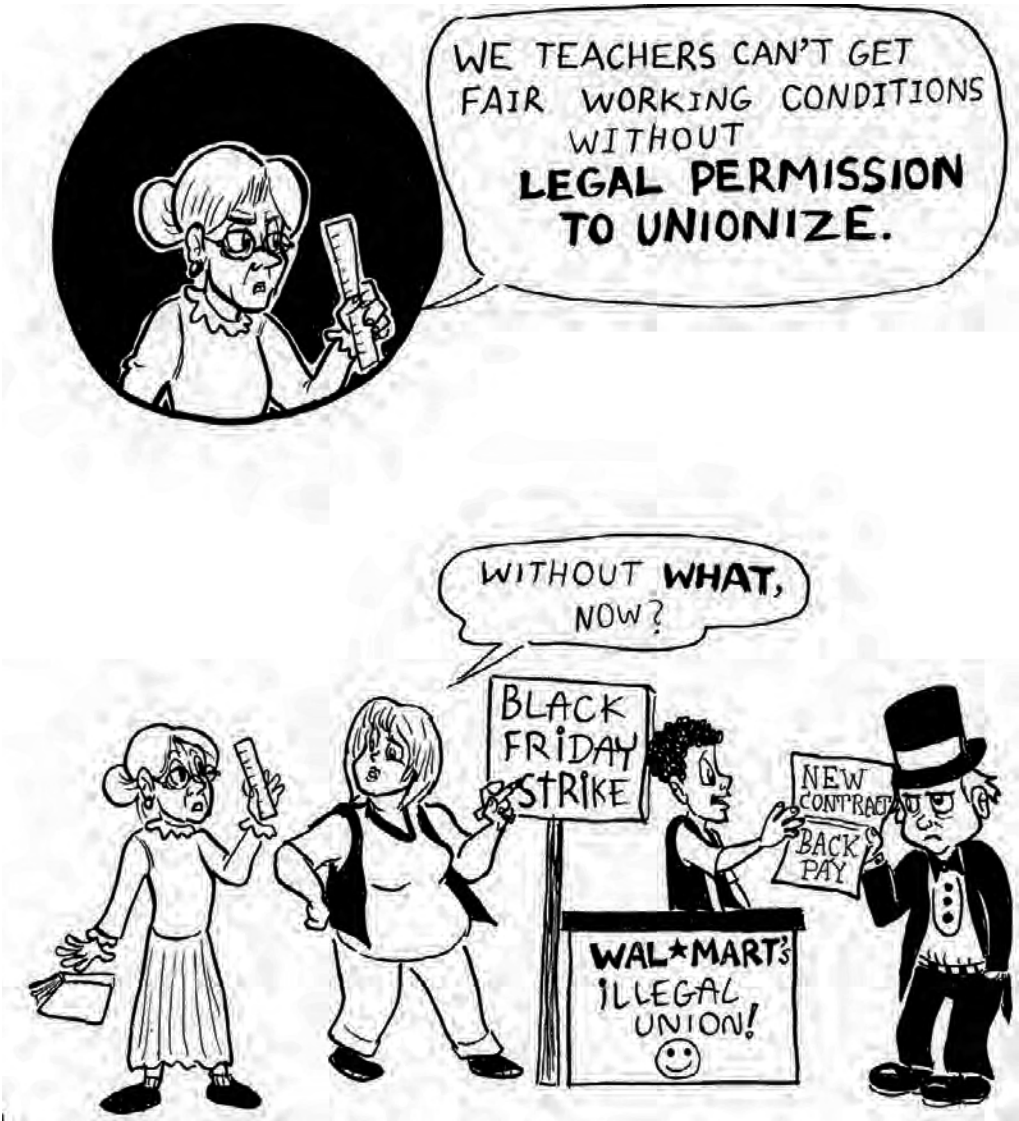
The *Student Voice* is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Fridays during the regular school year.

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.



David Recine/*Student Voice*

Letters to the editor

Columbus Day observed not celebrated

I am writing in response to Cristin Dempsey’s piece, “Columbus Day celebration lacks enthusiasm in United States.” For many people, Columbus Day is a painful day of remembrance. Christopher Columbus’ legacy includes religious persecution, slavery and violence. Columbus Day is indeed an important day in our nation’s history, marking the exploitation of native people and resources that continued on long after Columbus’ death. Columbus came for gold, not to fight for freedoms. There are many more appropriate holidays to show patriotism and celebrate our freedoms as Americans such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Independence Day,

Memorial Day and Veterans Day, to name a few.

I would have found the piece more compelling if the author explored reasons why this federal holiday is not celebrated as widely. I also think it would have more credibility if the piece reflected on Columbus’ documented actions in the Americas instead of crediting him simply as a “hero.” What sets Columbus apart? He believed the world was round. I’ll celebrate him as a navigator with the guts to try out his theory, but not a hero, an upholder of freedom or a humanitarian.

Molly Breitmün
Student

Obama helps students

President Obama cut the banks out of the student-loan process as middlemen. By doing so, Obama saved taxpayers \$61 billion that will be given to 3 million students by way of Pell Grants and other aid. Obama assured that all young people, age 26 and under, can remain on their parents’ health insurance. Obama is out to help students because he knows we need an educated populace to compete on the global

stage. The Paul Ryan budget will cut Pell Grants.

The Ryan budget will eliminate your parents’ mortgage-interest deduction effectively raising their income taxes. Vote, if you haven’t already. Mark your calendar right now. Vote on Nov. 6 for Obama.

Roseanne Olsen
River Falls, Wis.

STUDENT VOICES

If you could change one thing about UW-River Falls what would it be?

Ellen Poppy
senior



“More community.”

Steve Yang
senior



“Expand on exercise facilities.”

Casey Dolen
freshman



“Have more information on classes.”

Zeelue Xiong
junior



“Have more study rooms.”



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!

Congratulations to last week’s winner

Bobbi O’Brien

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

Christian athletes balance many aspects of life

Ryan Tibbitts

Columnist

In this present day world, most of our lives are consumed by a fast-paced, stress-filled lifestyle. At times it seems we all take on more than we can handle and it is easy to feel alone. This is why, from my own personal experience, two of the most important things people need are support and community.

Two different groups that I have experienced in my life that emphasize the support of community and being there for each other are sports teams and Christian groups. Growing up as an avid sports fan and now growing in my faith the last couple of years, I have found myself wondering if these two groups with these shared similarities in their message can coexist in this world.

I came into this school year believing strongly that it would be easy for these two lifestyles to come together as one for myself. I have a weekly radio show where I planned to talk sports, but also give a Christian aspect about different groups around campus and present some UW-River Falls athletes that live a Christian life. I was not prepared for the negative attention I have received from this show. Only 10 minutes are given to the Christian segment, yet I have received two complaints in only four shows about how offensive it is for me to push religion on the radio, which was not my goal at all.

We live in a world where freedom of speech and freedom of religion are both heavily stressed. Yet it seems that freedom to express religion is being frowned upon. In the NFL Tim Tebow faced scrutiny last year for praying during games and talking openly about his religion. Other athletes said he had no place sharing his beliefs and that he should just worry about football.

Sports and religion used to go hand and hand easier. One of the greatest NFL coaches of all time, Vince Lombardi, has a famous quote that says, “Think of only three things: your God, your family and the Green Bay Packers-in that order.” If a coach were to tell his team that nowadays, it would be a big news story about how a coach tried to push Christianity onto his football team. It would surely be Tweeted about and the coach would have to defend himself.

Two athletes from UWRF that are great role models and have no fear about showing their

faith are Falcons senior running back John Schimenz and women’s cross country and track runner Brianna Berthiaume.

Schimenz is the president of the Catholic organization on campus, the Newman Club. Through this organization he does a lot of community service projects like hosting a free lunch to all students at the Newman Center on Thursdays, and going on a Habitat for Humanity trip every spring. Schimenz said when he first came to campus as a freshman it was tough not knowing anyone. “It was hard not only as an athlete who some people are timid towards, but as a Christian not knowing who else had the same interests.”

Schimenz has come a long way and is now a starting running back who is open about his faith. He has taken a strong part in starting up a Bible study for athletes called “Athletes in Action.” He wanted to stress not only to fellow athletes but all students that, “there are others out there with the same beliefs, you do not need to be scared and you are not alone.”

Berthiaume is involved with the Intervarsity organization on campus as the communication coordinator. She added that time management is important. She loves being part of the team but said, “it is not about being a star runner for me, God is most important in my life.”

She is also planning on being a part of the “Athletes in Action” Bible study and for any students out there she wanted to tell them, “set a schedule, have a set time for everything and just keep a good balance in life.” Berthiaume said school and athletics are easier for her when she has given time for God.

It is athletes and fellow students like these two amazing people that help to give me hope. For people who have different beliefs, that is fine, but do not get down on people just for showing their faith.

College life can be tough and stressful, but no one has to be alone. Community is so important, and athletics and religion have shown me that. These two worlds are different in many ways, but their main message is the same and that is why I have no doubt they can coexist together.

“It was hard not only as an athlete who some people are timid towards but as a Christian not knowing who else had the same interests.”

Voter identification potential form of modern discrimination

Morgan Stippel

Columnist

With the presidential election less than a month away, Minnesota residents have a number of decisions to make. Apart from selecting a presidential candidate, Minnesotans will also be voting on two potential amendments to the state constitution. The marriage amendment has been getting a lot of attention in the media, but the amendment that has been seemingly neglected is the voter identification amendment.

If passed, this amendment would require Minnesotans to present a government-issued photo identification card before they would be allowed to vote. While the effects of this amendment may seem minute, the truth is that this amendment comes at a price and would prevent a large group of citizens from voting.

There are many Minnesota residents who possess a driver’s license, and this form of identification would be accepted at the polls. However, there are just as many residents who do not have a driver’s license or any other government-issued form of photo identification who would need to pay money to obtain one.

The most obvious impact the passage of this amendment would have on Minnesotans is that taxes would likely increase. The state government could have to spend up to \$50 million in taxpayer dollars in order to produce enough IDs to distribute to residents who do not currently have a government-issued ID.

In addition to producing the IDs themselves, more money would be required for the technology needed to read and register these identification cards at voting sites. Most would agree that taxes are high enough as it is, and voting “yes” to the voter identification amendment would only ensure that these taxes continue to increase in the coming years.

Once enough IDs are produced, Minnesotans will be responsible for paying the required amount in order to obtain them. The simple fact that these forms of identification

would cost a significant amount of money leads us to the second consequence of this amendment: anyone who does not currently posses a government-issued form of identification or does not have the money to afford this type of identification would not be allowed to vote. This amendment is clearly discriminatory because it prevents an entire group of people from going to the polls. Passing this amendment would segregate a large group of Minnesotans by denying them the ability to vote: one of the most basic American rights.

Most importantly, there is no reason for this amendment to be passed because there is no significant or credible evidence that proves voter fraud is a problem in the state of Minnesota. The penalty for placing a fraudulent vote is a fine of up to \$5,000 and up to a five-year prison sentence. Minnesota has 10 Electoral College votes, and these votes are given to a presidential candidate based on the results of the popular vote within the state.

The last time these 10 Electoral College votes went to a Republican candidate was in 1972 when Richard Nixon was elected to serve his second term. In a state that has been consistently Democratic for 40 years, it is highly unlikely that people would risk a hefty fine and prison time in order to place a fraudulent vote.

One of the greatest things about living in the United States is that as citizens, we are given the power to choose the people we want to lead our country. By passing the voter identification amendment, we would deny this right to a large group of Minnesotans. In addition to discriminating against those without government-issued photo identification, this amendment would put great financial strain on taxpayers.

Should the Minnesota state government spend millions of taxpayer dollars in order to regulate a nonexistent problem while discriminating against a number of its citizens? On Nov. 6, Minnesota residents will be given the opportunity to make this decision.

Presidential debates fail to provide real ideas to voters



Ben Lamers

Columnist

The first presidential debate drew 67.2 million viewers. The second pulled in 56.9 viewers. When considering the way the debates are run now, it is surprising that so many people would watch two grown men work so hard at not answering questions directed at them.

Realistically, the debates have turned into a high class, three-person version, of “Jersey Shore.” People are not watching because they don’t know who to vote for; most of them already know that. They are watching to see someone make a fool of themselves or say something funny and/or stupid.

Don’t think that’s true? What have been, for the most part, the highlights from the first two debates? Jim Lehrer’s pathetic attempt to control the first debate. Mitt Romney stating that he does, in fact, love Big Bird. Moderator Candy Crowley stepping into the second debate. And who could forget Romney’s binder of women?

Which one of these things has anything to do with the pressing issues facing, for example, the economy? Not a single one of them.

The debates have become a two-party, scripted, reality TV show. If you don’t believe that then look no further than both Romney and Barack Obama completely ignoring their time constraints on answers and never really answering the questions posed to them. Both candidates know what they are going to say, how they are going to say it and when they are going to say it.

The reason for this is the fact that the debates are, more or less, completely controlled by the Republican and Democratic

parties. If you don’t believe that, look no further than the fact that only once in U.S. history has a third party candidate been invited to a debate. That was 20 years ago in 1992 when Ross Perot was invited to one debate.

In fact, at the second debate this year, Green Party candidate Jill Stein and her running mate Cheri Honkala were arrested outside of the building where the debate was being held while trying to protest the fact that they were not allowed to be a part of the debates. Stein and Honkala will be on the ballot in 38 states.

An organization called the Commission on Presidential Debates is responsible for the travesty we see three times, and once for the vice presidential candidates, before each presidential election.

This commission states that to be a part of the debate a candidate must have 15 percent of the nation’s support based on certain national polls. Of course, we all know how accurate and unbiased polls are.

The reason, in theory at least, would be that a third candidate would do more harm than good to the candidates from the two major parties. It’s very likely that, given an equal opportunity, the third party would probably show up the other two candidates. Why? Because they would probably answer the questions both directly and in a way the average person would both connect to and understand.

However, the current structure of the debates is not going to change any time soon. And as much as I, or any other person complains about the current setup we will continue to participate in it. The ratings will probably be lower again for the third debate on Oct. 22. Yet about 40 million people will still tune in, and I will be one of them.

Ben is a journalism major and a huge Brewers and Colts fan. He plays on an intramural soccer team called the Penguins and spends the majority of his free time in the Student Voice office.

Vote in our online poll: Who will win the upcoming presidential election?

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Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor:

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Swimming team dives into season

Trevor Jones
trevor.jones@my.uwrf.edu

Though the UW-River Falls women’s swimming and diving team faces a number of different challenges in its upcoming season, a couple key members of the program have high hopes for the team.

One of those challenges that the Falcons face is the fact that only four out of the 14 swimmers on the roster are juniors or seniors. The rest of the roster is comprised of six freshmen and four sophomores.

Third-year head coach Ryan Hawke said that one of the biggest hurdles for young swimmers to overcome takes place in the weight room. “A lot of them coming in don’t have any weight lifting experience. That’s one of the challenges,” Hawke said. “We want to teach proper mechanics to stay safe in the weight room. A lot of high school programs do a lot more body weight exercises.”

Hawke went on to say that the few upperclassmen that are on the team play an important role in helping the younger swimmers understand the expectations of the program. “They do set the example, they show the hard work and they get them excited.”

Senior Sarah Koch is one of those few upperclassmen on the team. She was named the team’s Most Valuable Swimmer in 2012. Koch said that she is excited about her new teammates. “We have a pretty big freshmen class this year and we are glad to have them as a part of our family and look forward to seeing what they can do.”

She also talked about her role as an upperclassman. “We push everyone to attend practice and weight lifting and we encourage everyone to try their best. We are a team and are there for one another,” said Koch.

It is especially important for the team’s upcoming meet at UW-Oshkosh, a school that has finished exactly one spot higher than the Falcons in the WIAC Championships every year since 2006. The team did win last year’s meet against the Titans. “This is the important meet. Of all our conference rivals, this is the one we want to beat,” said Hawke.

Another one of the challenges that the team faces is that it goes more than six weeks between meets. After a Dec. 8 meet at Beloit College, the Falcons don’t have another meet until Jan. 25 at home against UM-Morris. Hawke said that he takes steps toward ensuring that athletes stay in shape over the break. “I write out workouts for everyone and send them home. It’s not a time I can really coach them. A lot go home and train with their high school or club teams.”

Every year the team also has a training trip that involves both men’s and women’s teams going away for about a week and a half to bond as a team and give the swimmers a chance to work with the coaches again. Last year, it was a trip to Hawaii. This year the team will be traveling to Missouri. Koch said that it is a good experience for the team. “A training trip gives us the opportunity to swim and train hard somewhere else and get the experience. It brings the team closer together and is a lot of fun,” said Koch

Though the Falcons have to use the River Falls High School pool, Hawke said that the pool is an upgrade from the one on



Megan Rodriguez /Student Voice
Junior Katherine Tholen prepares for the Swimming and Diving team’s first meet of the season.

campus. “The facility is much nicer at the high school. We can have a diving team, and there are eight lanes instead of five. We just have more space.” Hawke did say that it was tough to find times to practice because the pool is used by a lot of people throughout the days.

Hawke said that he thinks it will be a fun season. “I’m hoping that we get to close a little bit on our conference competition. We have a good group of girls that came in. I hope that we have a winning record this year.” He also said that he thinks three girls have the chance to break individual school records in Koch, Hannah Wiseman and Becca Skelly.

The Falcons begin their season on Friday, Oct. 19 with a meet at UW-Oshkosh.

Women’s lacrosse building momentum in fall season

Ben Lamers
benjamin.lamers@my.uwrf.edu



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice
Sophomore Courtney Hable leads the Falcons into their upcoming invitational held at UW-River Falls on Oct. 20-21.

The women’s lacrosse season doesn’t officially start until spring semester, but that doesn’t mean the UW-River Falls team is just sitting around.

“Our official season will be the week we return for spring semester, for now we just keep our stick skills by playing in a fall league on Wednesday nights in St. Paul,” said team captain and president, Nicole Hancock.

Not only does the fall league give the team a chance to build up chemistry with each other, but it also gives them an opportunity to both get an early look at conference foes as well as prepare for their annual fall tournament. The tournament will be held Saturday, Oct. 20 and Sunday, Oct. 21 at the UWRF Intramural Fields.

The Falcons are looking to build off of last season which saw the team finish 11-5 and ranked No. 24 in the nation, according to laxpower.com.

“We did pretty well,” said Hancock. “Our losses came to high ranked teams that we played in a North Carolina tournament we attended, as well as the University of Minnesota.”

After last season the team saw three contributing seniors graduate, but a plethora of returners, as well as a few new freshmen, are reasons for the Falcons to be very optimistic about this season.

“We have a couple of really good freshman that are joining this year that I am looking forward to seeing play with our returners,” said Hancock. “We did lose a couple vital players, but I am confident in our team this year.”

UWRF competes in the Lakes division of the North

Central Women’s Lacrosse League (NCWLL). Last season the Falcons finished second in the division to the University of Minnesota - Duluth.

Along with winning the division, the Falcons have their sights set much higher this season.

“I want us to make it back to Nationals,” said Hancock. “We have a very good chance this year with some reworking of our league.”

The reworking Hancock refers to is the changing of how the NCWLL works their automatic and at large bid process.

“The team that wins the division automatically wins a spot at the Div. I Nationals. If you get the at large bid, you attend the Div. II Nationals,” said Hancock. “Usually the U of M always wins our league, making it hard for all the other teams to make it.”

However, this season, the NCWLL is doing things a bit differently. To get the automatic bid the top Div. 1 team and the top Div. II must play the top Div. 1 and Div. II team, respectively, from the Central Plains Women’s Lacrosse League (CP-WLL). This means that there is the potential for a Div. 1 and Div. II team from the NCWLL to get an automatic bid to Nationals, which is something the Falcons look to take advantage of.

“It gives us a better chance, and makes the playing field much more even for us Div. II teams,” said Hancock.

The Falcons are only two years removed from making the trip to Nationals in 2011 in Scottsdale, Ariz. That season saw the Falcons finished ranked in the top 20 nationally, as well as eighth in the Quality Win Rankings, according to laxpower.com.

Six Falcons earned WIAC athlete of the week honors for their efforts in helping their respective teams.

Tennis

Tennis players Makayla Newberry and Hannah Klimek picked up two wins last week and were named the WIAC doubles Team of the Week, according to league Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.

The Falcon No. 3 team won both WIAC matches they played last week. They defeated a UW-Stout team, 8-2, and the pair beat a previously undefeated UW-Whitewater doubles team, 9-8 (7-4), to give the Falcons their only point in the match against the undefeated Warhawks.

The team has a 6-3 record in doubles play this year, including 5-1 in matches against WIAC teams.

The Falcons will play in the WIAC Tournament this weekend in Madison. Play starts at 12:40 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. on Sunday at the Nielsen Tennis Stadium.

Soccer

Falcon soccer players Alyssa Manor and Cassie Stang were named the WIAC soccer Players of the Week, according to league Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.

Manor and Stang helped the Falcons beat two ranked opponents last week. The Falcons took a 2-1 win over No. 9 ranked St. Scholastica and a 1-0 win over No. 5 ranked Eau Claire.

Manor had the assist on the game-winning goal in a 1-0 win against Eau Claire at Ramer Field. Against St.

Scholastica, she scored the game-winner in a 2-1 victory at Ramer Field. Manor is second on the team in scoring with five goals and 14 points. She has scored at least one point in three of the team’s last four games.

Stang spearheaded strong Falcon efforts in the two wins. She scored the game-winning goal with about four minutes to play in the 1-0 win over Eau Claire. Against St. Scholastica, she had the assist on the game-winning goal in the 2-1 Falcon triumph. Stang is the team’s leading scorer with a team-best eight goals and 18 points. She has scored at least one point in five straight games and has scored at least one point in four of the team’s five WIAC games this year.

The Falcons will return to action on Oct. 20 as they take on UW-La Crosse at home. The match begins at 1 p.m.

Football

Falcon football players Alex Adams and Robbie Flom have been named WIAC Players of the Week according to league Sports Information Director Matt Stanek.

The Falcons beat UW-Stevens Point, 26-15, at Ramer Field.

Adams helped the Falcon defense limit the Pointers to 180 yards of total offense. Adams intercepted three passes in the contest. His first interception came at the Falcon 14 in the first quarter to stop a Pointer drive. The second came early in the third quarter and Adams returned it 17 yards to the UWSP 46. The final interception came on UWSP’s final drive of the game. Adams made three solo and four total tackles in the contest and was credited with half a sack for a loss of four yards. This year Adams has 26 solo and 33 total tackles. The

safety leads the team with five interceptions and six pass break ups. He has also recovered a fumble and forced a fumble.

Flom helped turn the game’s momentum to the Falcons with a spectacular kick off return. After UWSP took a 7-0 lead early in the first quarter, Flom returned the ensuing kickoff 93 yards for a touchdown to tie the game. The Falcons went on to score the game’s next 19 points to secure the win. Flom, also the team’s starter at one of the cornerback spots, had four tackles and an interception he returned 15 yards in the contest. He also broke up one pass. This year Flom has returned eight kick offs for a 29.8 per return average. He has made 32 solo and 37 total tackles and has also forced a fumble, broken up five passes and intercepted one pass.

The Falcons will play at UW-Platteville on Oct. 20 with kick off set for 3 p.m. at Pioneer Stadium.

Information from UWRF Sports Information

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Rachel Responds: Ladies, say no to leggings



Rachel Woodman
Columnist

Since the inception of this column I’ve been asked multiple times to dedicate a column to a specific hated fashion trend: chicks wearing leggings as pants.

Some of you may have gotten out of the shower this morning, tunes blasting and took a while to get dressed because you were too busy dancing.

Being a boss in and out of your shower is your business. Being naked, or half-naked, in these instances is your prerogative.

It’s just a relationship between you, your loofah, stuffed bear and (if you dare) mirror.

Being half-naked on campus? That’s another story. I’m pointing the finger at you, leggings lasses.

Leggings are skin-tight, thin, crevice-baring, skin-showing, abominations to women of class. Leggings are tights with the feet chopped off and some think this means leggings qualify as pants. Guess again.

Leggings are not pants. Please take a moment to re-read the previous sentence. Leggings are not pants, you look ridiculous, everyone stares at you and it’s not because you have a badonk that won’t stop.

It’s because we all can’t believe you

think it’s acceptable.

Now, I’m not knocking wearing leggings under dresses. Even long t-shirts that could double as a dress, in some social circles, are fine with me. If your butt is covered, cool.

But footwear does not count. Wearing boots with your leggings does not make seeing every nook and cranny of your nether-regions suddenly okay.

Maybe you have a great backside and maybe that backside should be featured in magazines. Maybe every man on campus thinks you’re rad and every woman has a gigantic Jenna Marbles Level 3 crush on you.

You may have a perfect body, but you still look half-naked when those inexpensive, comfy leggings ride up your body showing off all the goodies in the candy store. And no one’s buying.

So what to wear when you must be comfy and lazy and show off that badonkadonk? How about a yoga-pants compromise?

Let’s face it, all of us own yoga pants and almost none of us have gone to yoga. They’re comfy and look less lazy than regular sweatpants. But if you are going to wear them be sure to commit to looking lazy.

You’re definitely not going to get a job offer looking like you never changed after your workout or that you just skipped the shower this morning. However, the rest of the campus community will thank you for not being half-naked.

Other trends that my readers abhor are: Crocs, UGG boots, see-through

Leggings are not pants.

shirts, saggy pants, wearing sweatpants shoved into UGG boots, socks and sandals, not dressing sensibly for winter and articles of clothing that say “swag.”

All of these trends are controversial with good reason. Some place comfort over class and others are simply trashy.

I will never understand Crocs, UGG boots, or Affliction and Ed Hardy gear. But because these styles don’t make anyone look naked I won’t rant about them.

Now see-through shirts and wearing mini skirts in winter is simply ridiculous. Distressed shirts, lace shirts, and other see-through clothing can be cute when paired with a bright-colored tank top.

Wearing see-through shirts with brightly colored bras is just classless. Wearing sexy summer clothes in the winter is just going to result in a full-body cold.

Those of you who value comfort over class must withstand a little judgement from the rest of the community. It’s common knowledge to dress for the job you want. Dressing head to toe in cotton won’t accomplish that goal.

Wearing a sweatshirt with sweatpants shoved into UGG boots does make you look unwashed and lazy. If being comfortable means that much to you then don your cotton goods after a healthy round of shower dancing. Just leave the leggings in your closet.

Send your questions, concerns, or quandaries to Rachel on her Facebook page “Rachel Responds” and follow her on Twitter.



Sonali Patel/hercampus.com
Women wearing a pair of leggings as pants has become a common trend on the UWRF campus.

Plenty of affordable Halloween costumes available for students



Amanda White
Columnist

In “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown,” Lucy Van Pelt said, “A person should always choose a costume which is in direct contrast to her own personality.”

Halloween is the perfect excuse for dressing up totally different than how you normally dress. There are many popular costumes that reference fashion or pop culture and most of them can be pieced together by finding items at thrift stores or even your closet.

Party stores and online vendors offer end-

less options of pre-packaged costumes, but they are usually costly.

Holly Golightly, the protagonist of the classic movie “Breakfast at Tiffany’s,” is a popular costume choice year after year.

Her look is easy to replicate: simply wear a black sheath dress, long black gloves, a pearl necklace and a little tiara. Put your hair up and add heavy black eyeliner on your top lash line and you’re done!

Another costume idea from a classic movie is Sandy from “Grease.” Black leggings, a black boat-neck tee or tank top and red heels are all you need for this look.

Add curled hair and a red lip, too. Since the weather is chilly in Wisconsin during Halloween, a black leather jacket could keep you warm and reference the T Birds from the movie.

One of the best costume ideas I have seen on a blog this year is Edith “Little Edie” Bouvier Beale.

“Little Edie” and her mother “Big Edie” were Jacqueline Kennedy’s relatives. They were hoarders and lived in a run-down man-

sion in the Hamptons.

In 1975 a documentary called “Grey Gardens” was made about the Beales’ lives, and in 2009, an HBO movie also called “Grey Gardens” was made about the filming of the documentary.

The HBO movie starred Drew Barrymore and Jessica Lange, and I believe they were the perfect “Little Edie” and “Big Edie,” respectively.

A “Little Edie” costume only needs a headscarf and a faux fur coat layered over black clothing. Both items are readily available at thrift stores.

Two costumes that will be especially popular this year are “Catwoman,” from “The Dark Knight Rises” and “Black Widow,” from “The Avengers.”

Both costumes are actually very similar. These are two costumes that are heavily featured in costume stores, but I would recommend just using black leggings, or even better, black coated jeans and pairing it with a black jacket, preferably a faux leather jacket. Don’t forget black stilettos!

The only difference between the costumes is the hair. “Black Widow” has red curly hair, and “Catwoman” has straight brown hair with cat ears and an eye mask, items that are cheap and easily found at party stores.

Also, might I suggest a pearl necklace for “Catwoman?” It would be a nice touch and it would separate Anne Hathaway’s “Catwoman” from the other versions of “Catwoman.”

As for me, I’ve got my costume all ready. I changed my mind several times, but once I realized I already had all the pieces for Wendla Bergman, a character from the Broadway musical “Spring Awakening,” I decided on her.

You can’t beat a costume that didn’t cost a cent! My Wendla costume requires brown oxford shoes, thigh high black socks and a white baby doll dress – all items already in my closet. So now I just need to sit back, carve the pumpkin that’s been sitting in my apartment, and watch the Halloween specials on TV until it’s time to don my costume!

Happy Halloween!



Left: Red heels and lipstick make a “Sandy” costume complete.



Right: A perfect “Holly Golightly” costume includes the right accessories: long, black gloves, a tiara, and a big pearl necklace.

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Liam Neeson entertains in ‘Taken 2’

Nicole Hovatter

Columnist

I had my suspi-
cions when I went
to go see “Taken
2,” the sequel to
the “Taken” movie
that was released in
2008.

In my opinion,
sequels usually
can’t compete with

original movies, due to a lack of originality. However, “Taken 2” did not disappoint me.

Not only did the movie introduce some new ideas, but its overall message was intriguing, along with quality stunts and acting by Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace and Famke Jansón.

The movie started where the first movie ended. Bryan Mills, a retired CIA operative, his ex-wife Lenore and his daughter Kim were finally starting to forget about the tragic events that happened on Kim’s last vacation to Paris. Bryan killed a kidnapper and saved his daughter from being intro-duced to the sex trade.

Life was continuing as normal for the family; Bryan was even starting to let Kim talk to boys again. The romance be-tween Bryan and Lenore was also starting to be rekindled, and he invites her and Kim on a trip to Istanbul.

Trouble strikes again, however, when the father of the kidnapper takes Bryan and Lenore hostage in order to avenge his son’s death.



While the movie was based off of the same story as the first, it had many original elements. The series of events were complex, but easy to follow.

I thought that the storyline was intelligent; the details of the story were thought out well, which made the movie realistic.

However, there were some elements of the story that weren’t so realistic. The Kim character was supposed to be in high school, however, the actress who played her looked much older than 17 or 18, considering she is really almost 30-years-old.

Kim was also supposed to just be learning how to drive; I thought it was comical when she served as an excellent getaway driver later in the movie.

Besides these few imperfections, the rest of the stunts and acting were excellent. Neeson, in my opinion, is an excellent actor and he delivered another excellent perfor-mance in “Taken 2.”

He also had good chemistry on-screen with Grace and Janson. The stunts in this movie were some of the best I have seen; I especially enjoyed a scene when Kim throws a grenade, in order to track her location.

The theme of the movie was the final piece that made the movie great. While Bryan has power at the end of the movie to use his force for the sake of evil, he tries to come to terms with the man who has taken him hostage.

Bryan’s life is threatened because of this decision; how-ever, the end of the movie shows that good always over-takes evil.

‘Gangnam Style’ quickly gains popularity

Cristin Dempsey

Columnist

“Snake. Snake.
Severus Snape.
DUMBLEDORE!”

There are many
YouTube videos cre-
ated over the years by
users all around the
world that we have
grown to know and
love.

This past summer, a YouTube sensation was released, ready to be familiarized by millions of viewers. The video I am talking about is the hit “Gangnam Style.” There have been numerous goofy dance videos to appear on the Internet, but “Gangnam Style” could be easily the goofiest, catchiest and most addicting music video of the year.

It can be heard blasted in rooms all around campus and, in fact, all around the world.

But just how exactly did this video come to be? What is the background of this song that will not get out of our heads?

“Gangnam Style” is a single introduced by South Korean

rapper Psy. The song was released in South Korea on July 15, 2012, as a part of Psy’s sixth record album.

In just a short time, “Gangnam Style” debuted at No. 1 on the “Gaon Chart,” the national record chart in South Korea.

As of just about a week ago, “Gangnam Style” had a total of around 470 million views on YouTube, making it the most watched K-Pop video on the site. In just the first day of being released, the video had already reached 500,000 views.

Just a month ago, “Gangnam Style” was recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the most “liked” video in YouTube’s history. This “viral” video has been shared al-ready by numerous celebrities, including T-Pain, Katy Perry and Britney Spears.

Maroon 5 and Nelly Furtado have already done their own covers of the song, in addition to several parodies and even Flash Mobs.

One parody that may be known well to students here at UW-River Falls is “Minnesota Style,” done by a group of University of Minnesota students.

“Gangnam Style” made its way to the United States on Sept. 6 of this year, and since then it has made appearances on shows such as “The Today Show,” “Saturday Night Live”

and even “The Wall Street Journal”.

“Gangnam Style” is a Korean neologism referring to the Gangnam District in Seoul. This district is known for people who are trendy, hip and classy. Psy dances in many scenes relating to the Gangnam District in the video.

However, while he is shown dancing in various locations, only two locations in the video were filmed within the Gang-nam District. Other scenes, such as the sauna, elevator and bathroom scenes, were filmed in greater districts of Seoul.

The video itself took over just 48 hours to film in July of this year.

Just a few months after the release of the video, Psy was interviewed in Beverly Hills, Calif. He mentioned that the video was meant to contain a “twisted sense of humor.”

The humor aspect stems from him saying that he is “Gang-nam Style” even though the video is “far from high class.” Psy said the video also pokes fun at wannabes - people who claim to be Gangnam Style but are actually just trying to be something they are not. Take it from Psy - don’t try to be something that you’re not. Just learn the dance.

Local bars bringing live music back to River Falls

Rebecca Rudolph

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Bookstores have entire aisles dedicated
to self-help, or “self-improvement” as it is
labeled at Barnes and Noble.

Every one of those books that line the
shelves have the secret to healthier or hap-
pier living, or whatever result that the reader
hopes to achieve by reading the book’s
pages.

For a local musician, these books’ words
are empty because the secret to life cannot
be contained to words on a page, but instead
to a rhythm of a drum or a melody running
through his head.

Paul Mavasich decided at age 10 that he
wanted to be a musician and ever since his
first professional performance after graduat-
ing high school, that is all he’s ever been.

He was raised in a family with seven
siblings and “there was always a lot of music
around the house,” said Mavasich.

He started in his elementary school orches-
tra, but today he plays in all venues, includ-

ing the international ones when he tours
abroad.

Some of these include venues like bars,
theaters, festivals and private events. He
considers himself a musician who performs
“music for hire.”

Mavasich enjoys performing at venues like
Junior’s Bar and Grill, a River Falls bar on
Main Street. He enjoys it because “You’re
not told to stick to a specific genre - they let
you do what you do.”

Junior’s Bar and Grill Owner Dustin
Hanson thinks that local music is important
because, “Unfortunately, nowadays the ma-
jority of the college students and people are
accustomed to listening to the radio, listening
to the iPod, going to the bars and restaurants
and listening to the jukebox. We didn’t want
to be that place. There are a group of college
students who really appreciate live music.”

While there may not be a universal enjoy-
ment of live music, there is an interest for
some people because there are increasing
numbers of places in River Falls that have

been hosting live music. Junior’s Bar and
Grill, Shooter’s Pub and Family Fresh Mar-
ket are just a few of the local establishments
that have been making the transition.

Hanson said that originally the transition
was partly because of the enjoyment of live
music, and partly because of the different
crowd it attracts.

Junior’s Bar and Grill hosts a variety of
genres performed by local bands and has
made a name for itself in the music world
because before the venue would search for
the talent to perform, but now the talent is
searching out the venue to perform.

Students also seem to have a positive reac-
tion to this music transition, despite the fact
that the stereotypical college student is not
the main target of the venues.

“I like live music way better than radio
music. And local better than radio music that
is really publicized because it’s a lot more
fun to know people and meet people who are
starting who are in it for the money and don’t
care anymore about music,” said UW-River

Falls senior Katelyn Kusick.

Although she said she only hears live mu-
sic at the bars once in a while, its something
that she enjoys.

For other students, while they may have
attended school all four years, they may still
have strong ties back home.

Catherine Overby, also a senior, said that
her brother is part of an Irish punk band and
she can tell it is his passion and that “he’s
really quite good at it.”

When she attends his performances, she
says that she enjoys them immensely.

Local music is a niche market that is hard
to find a spot in, but once a spot is found for
people like Mavasich, happiness is found as
well.

“They say if you love what you do, then
you don’t work a day in your life. I don’t
think I’ve worked a day in my life,” said
Mavasich.

Late night Irish adventures plentiful at the Black Box

Tyler Smith

Columnist

Those of you that have
had the experience of meet-
ing me, know that I am not
very good looking.

I look like a barnacle
on the side of a shipping
freighter. If you don’t know
what a barnacle looks like,
try and find me. I’m easy
to spot, but not easy on the
eyes.

Being that I look like
a scary sea creature, I’ve
always had trouble socializing with women.

No matter how I approach them, they are always uncom-fortable with me.

I don’t blame them, I boast a cantankerous sense of humor. Sometimes I say things that are out-of-line and that don’t ex-actly make sense. It’s who I am, for good or better, I haven’t a clue.

In January I traveled to Ireland. I showed the Irish just how ineffective I was at socializing with women. Here’s what happened:

I wheeled into a local pub and ordered a pint of Guinness. Suddenly my Guinness vanished from my glass (I downed it).

I stared like a fool into a crowd of women but had no nerve to go and dance with them. It was kinda creepy to admit, but

that is how it went.

Then I had a dose of “courage” one of the locals fetched it for me. Great stuff whiskey. It’s good for you. Well, that’s what my Irish friend said.

After the whiskey, the pub started to get lively with a local band of musicians.

I was feeling brave. I noticed a female sitting all alone, a local I guessed. She was the gazelle and I, the handicapped lion.

I went up to her and the band started playing. She couldn’t hear me but ignored me. Either way.

I started to feel absolutely fabulous, or as the Irish say, “Ab Fab.” Great music. Excellent people.

Then this bloke approached me from the corner of the bar and he invited me back to his place for a some hanky panky.

I laughed and I told him he’s not my type. He got offend-ed. He said to me, “Who is your type fat man?”

I simply pointed to the nearest available female.

He asked if I was straight.

I reassured him I couldn’t be any straighter. I am straighter than a four-by-four that has been leveled and run through a planer hundreds of times. I am like George Clooney, I said to him, but without the looks, money or sex appeal. You get the point.

Another guy hit on me.

I was shaken. In the two hours that I had been at the pub, two people had tried to woo me, both of them men, not women. That sort of ratio is detrimental to any man’s self-

confidence. I decided to leave this pub.

Not knowing the city, I looked at a local map. I decided upon the Black Box, it had a catchy name.

I took a taxi there. When I told the driver where I wanted to go, he gave me an odd look.

I entered the Black Box and ordered a pint. The bartender said, “A pint? Come now, you must be wanting something a bit more tasty than a pint?”

I changed my order to a strawberry cider (strawberries and vodka). This pub had a great atmosphere and an excellent band.

In the next 30 minutes, 10 men walked up and hit on me. I asked the bartender why the men kept coming up to me. I gasped. I had wheeled into a gay bar.

I laughed and finished my drink. I told the barman to call a taxi. While I waited, I ordered another drink. The taxi ar-rived. I didn’t get into the taxi.

To my surprise, I stayed at the bar and drank cider all night.

Let me state, on the record, I’m in full support of the LG-BTQ community. Love is love and there should be absolutely nothing keeping anyone from that.

Our society claims to not judge and qualify on the merits of race, sex and sexual orientation, but obviously we do judge. Gay marriage is not legal, and if I hadn’t mistakenly wheeled into that pub, I would have never had the opportu-nity to taste cider.