

“Politics isn’t really my thing,” said UW-River Falls student

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UW-River Falls students remain uncertain before entering polls

the perks of being a wallflower

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Young boy’s struggles finding place in life

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Senator Johnson makes UW-River Falls appearance to a political science class

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Falcon Hockey starts with ‘Red Out’

Falcon hockey season begins



The UW-River Falls Falcon men’s hockey season opens Friday at UWRF. The first game is 7:05 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 26 at Hunt Arena against Finlandia Univeristy. The Falcons enter the game ranked No. 14 in the nation amd are picked to be a favorite in the WIAC.

Billy Thao /Student Voice

Voter registration open to students

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With the presidential election just a few short days away, several students have yet to register to vote. However, there are ways that everyone can still register in time. Students can either register to vote in their hometown, or right here on campus. Student Senate President Bobbi O’Brien can provide the necessary information needed for students to register to vote, even though it is after the Oct. 17 open voter registration deadline. Students can register now through Election Day, which is on Nov. 6. If students choose to register in their hometown or on campus they are required to provide proof of residency. Students who plan on voting in their hometown must go to their hometown’s city hall with their driver’s license in order to prove their residency. Students living on campus who plan on voting in River Falls must have a form from the Registrar’s Office. This will be their proof of residency. The form is in place to show that a student has lived in River Falls for at least 28 days. For those who choose to vote on campus, there will be two different places where students can vote. Students who live on the east side of campus, which includes South Fork Suites, Ames Suites, Grimm Hall, McMillan Hall, Parker Hall, Crabtree Hall and Hathorn Hall, will be able to vote at the

University Center. The west side of campus, which includes Prucha Hall, Stratton Hall and May Hall, will be able to vote at the River Falls High School. O’Brien said that students will be receiving an email with more information as to where they will be able to vote. Student Colin Janilla said that he has registered to vote in his home state of Minnesota, but he has registered to vote on campus in the past. This means that he has the knowledge of how to register in River Falls if he so chooses. Though this does not necessarily mean that he plans to vote in the election. However, this is not true in Janilla’s case. He says that he plans on voting come Nov. 6. The same goes for student Nicole Beyer. She also has registered to vote in Minnesota, though she said that she does not have the information necessary to register here. When asked if she plans on voting, Beyer said that she most likely will not vote on Election Day because of school. As for how many students have already registered to vote specifically on campus, O’Brien says that she estimates that about 20 students a day have registered. This gives them a total of a little over 200 students. However, she said that she is optimistic about more students voting in this election. The presidential election is a bigger election and, “people don’t typically vote in other elections,” said O’Brien.

Strong opinions shown in Wis. state elections

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Sheila Harsdorf, Dan Olson, Dean Knudson and Diane Odeen are four names that will appear on the ballot on Election Day in River Falls. They are the candidates running for Wisconsin State Senate and State Assembly and they all have strong views about what the key issues are in this area and how they can best represent their constituents at the state level in Madison. All four candidates said that local government is very important and that many people may not realize its importance and, therefore, be less educated about the local issues, the candidates and their platforms going into the elections. “The local and the state elections have the most immediate impact on people and yet the national races get all the press. People really need to be aware of what the issues are and how the local level is where the most immediate effect is,” said Olson. Olson, a Democrat, is running for state senate in District 10. Although he has no experience in a government position, he has been teaching world history and government at St. Croix Falls High School for 12 years. He has also been in the Wisconsin Army National Guard since 1989 and has been deployed twice since 2004, once to Iraq and one time stateside. As a teacher he states that he is aware of the process of government and many of the issues that students and other people in the school district feel strongly about, but he really just researches and pays attention to what people want and the issues they bring forward. Olson said that he believes the big ticket issues for this area are job creation, education funding, the environment and women’s rights. “People in our area are struggling. We are very impoverished, having one of the highest poverty rates, and right now emphasis has been put on some of the major metro areas and that doesn’t really help the rural areas.” Senator Harsdorf, a Republican, is running

as the incumbent for state senate in District 10. She has served a total of three terms as senator for the 10th District and five terms as a representative for the 30th Assembly District before that. She hopes that name recognition will be to her benefit as she fights to be re-elected. “Because I’ve served, people are more apt to know who I am and that name identification could potentially benefit me greatly.” She states that every issue is important and affects us at some point in time, but the big issues for this election are the economy and jobs, as well as the cost of education for students. Harsdorf argues that local elections are very important in District 10 as it includes both the UW-River Falls and UW-Stout campuses and therefore students have the ability to vote for someone who can fight for their needs in Madison. “When we hear that 50 percent of college graduates are having a hard time finding a job, that is something that has to be a concern,” said Harsdorf. “The focus has to be on creating jobs so that when students are gradu-



Sheila Harsdorf



Dan Olson



Dean Knudson



Diane Odeen

See Opinions page 3

College graduates face unemployment rates, job search struggle

Ashley Goettl
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The unemployment rate for millennials, those under the age of 30, is pushing above 14 percent, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs report. UW-River Falls junior Sarah Bohlen is one such millennial who is still looking for work. She said it has become increasingly harder to find even a minimum wage job because there is more competition for the job. “When you go to fill out an

application, there are at least 30 other people vying for that same job,” said Bohlen. “But those who get the jobs are those who have experience. How are we supposed to compete with that?” UWRF Economics Professor Brian Schultz echoes Bohlen’s worries. He said that young people are especially hit hard by the sluggish economy because those with a college degree and more experience are also struggling. “Right now the more experienced workers are taking a

pay cut to take on lower-level jobs than what they may be qualified for, because right now all they care about is having a job,” said Schultz. “This has a trickle-down effect since they are taking the jobs that normally college graduates or young people would take to start gaining experience.” Even though these numbers alone are staggering, it does not include the 1.7 million young adults that are not counted as unemployed by the U.S. Department of Labor because they are no

longer looking for work. The Bureau of Labor statistics adds that the “real” unemployment number for youth is 16.8 percent. Real unemployment includes those who are under-employed and those workers who are not looking for work. Nearly five in 10 college graduates cannot find work in their related field, are moving back in with their parents or are underemployed according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. “That is a really scary thought to imagine,” said

Bohlen. “The reason I go to college is so that I can get a head start on life. The last thing I want to do is go back to where I was before I started college.” These numbers are also reflected in the lifestyle choices young people have had to alter on a day-to-day basis. The Wall Street Journal reported that 51 percent of young people have reduced their entertainment budget, and 43 percent have reduced their grocery and/or food budget. Nearly one out of three students have tried to find an ad-

ditional job. “If young people remain out of work, it creates long-term social and economic problems,” added Schultz. While the economic prospects have improved on the national level, it is young people who are finding it harder to find work. With the economy being the No.1 issue this election cycle, there is no doubt that jobs will be a main focus during the final stretch. Until then, college students like Bohlen will continue the search for a job in an uncertain economy.

News briefs

Adofoli selected as an Outstanding Woman of Color

Earlier this month, Grace Adofoli, a fourth-year psychology major from UW-River Falls, was honored as an Outstanding Woman of Color by the University of Wisconsin System Women’s Studies Consortium. The award ceremony took place on Oct. 6 during the Wisconsin Women’s Studies and LGBTQ conference held in Oshkosh. One recipient of the award is chosen from each UW System campus. Students, faculty, staff and community members can all be considered for the award.

Adofoli, a McNair Scholar, expressed an early interest in research and intensive study, and during her sophomore year she began to learn research techniques in biology under the supervision of professor Karen Klyczek. In the spring semester of 2010, Adofoli completed a small laboratory research project examining bacteria and viruses.

Adofoli spent a summer at the Africana Studies and Research Center at Cornell University, studying gender inequities in higher education in Ghana. As part of her research experience, she was a delegate at the Economic Youth Forum in Ghana. She is currently working on a survey examining UWRF student attitudes and experiences concerning race. Adofoli plans to pursue a Ph.D. in community and ecological psychology.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Adofoli is a well-known leader throughout the UWRF campus by students, faculty and staff. She served as president of the Black Student Union for two years and is an active member of numerous student organizations such as the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, the Society for Undergraduate Research Scholarly and Creative Activity (SURSCA), the Psychology Club and the Diversity Organizations Coalition. Adofoli has also served as a student representative on the Faculty Senate Diversity and Inclusivity Committee.

For more information, contact Andriel Dees, UWRF chief diversity officer, at 715-425-3833 or andriel.dees@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls student garden initiated by SALSA club

UW-River Falls is getting a new student garden courtesy of student organization Student Alliance for Local and Sustainable Agriculture (SALSA). The vegetable garden will be entirely student-run and is scheduled to begin production in spring of 2013.

SALSA plans to stay doubly true to its name for the first growing season by primarily producing vegetables for making and canning homemade salsa.

The club then plans on selling this value-added product as a fundraiser for the club. This will provide students with hands-on learning opportunities both in gardening skills and in marketing and business skills in a value-added localized food system.

The garden will be located behind campus in the outdoor teaching plot area. SALSA was granted the space for the garden by the UWRF Greenhouse Committee. The space already has fencing and water access and is within walking or biking distance for all students, making it an ideal location for the garden.

This student garden is one example of the great deal of momentum behind today’s local food movement. Among the crowd are students on college campuses nationwide that are voicing the importance of localizing our nation’s food system, coupled with environmentally sound growing practices, in terms of social, economic and environmental sustainability. Many institutions of higher education are choosing to lead by example on these key agricultural issues.

To learn more about SALSA and the student garden, please contact Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, faculty advisor at loretta.ortiz-ribbing@uwrf.edu or Jabez Meulemans, vice president of SALSA at jabez.meulemans@my.uwrf.edu.

“Fresh,” documentary about sustainable agriculture, opens at UW-River Falls

The Student Alliance for Local and Sustainable Agriculture (SALSA) and The St. Croix Institute for Sustainable Community Development (SCISCD) are proud to announce a local community screening of “Fresh,” a new feature documentary film by Ana Sofia Joanes that celebrates the food architects around the country who are boldly reinventing our food system with sustainable agriculture initiatives.

“Fresh” will screen at UW-River Falls at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 5, in the Kinnickinnic Theater at the University Center, followed by a question and answer discussion session. It is free and open to the public.

To learn more about the film or SALSA contact Jabez Meulemans, vice president of SALSA at jabez.meulemans@my.uwrf.edu.



Grace Adofoli
Provided by University Communications

Semester Abroad: Europe trip seeks new participants



Provided by Brad Gee

Participants in the Semester Abroad: Europe program in Paris earlier this semester. Seated (from left to right): Erin Peterson, Brittany Swanson, Elizabeth Oswood, Cyan Zengaffinen and Sarah Pecinovsky. Standing (from left to right): Brad Gee (assistant group leader), Jessica Hinrichsen, DJ Steinmetz, Phillip King, Mallory Westlund, Kristi Thompson, Kay Schultz, Sean Eberle, Nicole Pederson, Carl Lippert, Alex Swenson, Dennis Cooper (group leader).

The UW-River Falls Semester Abroad: Europe program is looking for adventurous, curious and motivated students to join the 50-year-old tradition of independent study and travel in Europe. An informational meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 30, in Davee Library room 103.

SA: Europe participants spend a semester outside of the classroom immersing themselves in topics and in countries of their own choosing. They earn a total of 12 credits: six in a major and/or minor and six in International Studies. Credits earned through the program can also satisfy the Global Perspectives and Multidisciplinary Inquiry requirements. All participants are eligible for UWRF financial assistance and scholarships.

Students in the 2012 SA: Europe group, led by Dennis Cooper, are currently investigating a diverse array of topics, such as sustainable “green” roofs in Germany, volcanic activity in southern Italy, the landscape art of Salvador Dali in Spain, teaching French to non-native speakers in France, attitudes toward sex education in Denmark, art during the Nazi period in Germany and dairy herd management in England. The students will come back together in Italy in early November. At that point they will set out for a month of individual or small group travel throughout Europe before returning to the United States at the end of the semester.

For more information contact Brad Gee at brad.gee@uwrf.edu or visit www2.uwrf.edu/sae.

River Falls Police/

UWRF Police Department

Oct. 12

- David James Voller was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at May Hall.
- Lucas Kevin Martin was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at May Hall.
- Tyler Jay Anderson was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at May Hall.
- Ryan John Connelly was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at May Hall.
- Madison Ann Dunegan was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at May Hall.

Oct. 13

- Tanner John Blomster was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Cascade Avenue.
- Bridgette Katrina Bayle was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Cascade Avenue.

Oct. 14

- Drew A. Wessman was cited \$779 for underage consumption and an ID card violation at E lot.

Oct. 15

- Computer equipment was reported stolen at the Chalmer Davee Library.

Oct. 20

- Jose Victor Sabillon was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Stratton Hall.

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

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UW-River Falls art professor displaying work in Greece

Prints from UW-River Falls Art Professor Bernice Fieck-Swenson are on display in Athens, Greece. The prints are part of an exhibition, “Ontologies: Four Visions,” which is a four-person exhibition of United States women printmaking. The exhibition, which runs until Oct. 28, is the only American exhibition held in conjunction with the 2012 Athens Print Fest.

Fieck-Swenson is exhibiting five copper plate photograves from her “Promise of Water” series, as well “Prayer Flag,” a five digital print installation on silk.

Fieck-Swenson’s fellow exhibitors are J. Catherine Bebout from New Jersey Montclair State University, Barbara Robertson, an artist from Washington State and Nancy Macko from Scripps College in California. The exhibit’s opening was held Oct. 1.

To learn more about the 2012 Athens Print Fest, visit <http://www.athensprintfest.gr/en>.

For more information, contact Fieck-Swenson at 715-425-3236 or bernice.fieck-swenson@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls students present Bachelor of Fine Arts degree exhibition

UW-River Falls seniors Nate Filipiak and Andy Rineck will be presenting their Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree Exhibition from Nov. 1-9 in Gallery 101 of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Filipiak will be displaying stone lithograph prints and paintings focusing on portraiture. Rineck will be exhibiting sculptural ceramic pieces.

Filipek, a printmaking major with a minor in painting, is from Elko, Minn.

Rineck, a ceramics major with a minor in glass, is from Hudson.

The exhibition reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7 in Gallery 101 at the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. The art may be viewed at regular gallery hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 2-4 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information, contact the UWRF Art Department at 715-425-3266.

UW-River Falls students place third in competition at the Mid-American Collegiate Horticultural Society annual meeting

Eight UW-River Falls students participated in the 40th annual Mid-American Collegiate Horticultural Society meetings (MACHS) on Oct. 11-14 in Brookings, S.D. MACHS includes the collegiate horticulture clubs from 12 mid-America states.

The MACHS meeting offers students the opportunity to network with their peers and industry professionals, visit horticultural points of interest in the region and participate in a series of competitions against their peers from other institutions. The UWRF team came in third place overall in the competition and multiple individuals received awards for individual events.

The four students that comprised the UWRF team were Lindsay Heggemeyer of New Prague, Minn., Jesse Read of Belle Plaine, Minn., Joel Sehloff of Malone and Jacob Kluz of Oshkosh.

In the individual awards, Read placed second in both the exam on overall knowledge and the herbaceous plant identification competition. Scott Dzimian of West Bend, Wis. took third place in the herbaceous plant identification and Heggemeyer took third place in the woody plant identification competition.

UWRF will host the 41st MACHS event in 2013.



Team members starting in back from left to right: Jacob Kluz, Lindsay Heggemeyer, Joel Sehloff and Jesse Read.



Scott Dzimian placed third in herbaceous plant identification.

Both photos provided by University Communications

Student Senate Inclusivity and Diversity director position open for UWRF student

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The Inclusivity and Diversity director position is vacant on the UW-River Falls Student Senate.

The Senate website states that part of the position description for Inclusivity and Diversity is to promote “awareness and education surrounding issues of inclusivity, including diversity in all forms, equal opportunity, social justice, gender inequality, and nondiscrimination by working with campus organizations, students and staff.”

Another expectation of the position is to address concerns with diversity and inclusivity within not only members of UWRF, including faculty and administra-

tion, but also the UW System Administration, UW Board of Regents, Wisconsin Governor, U.S. Congress and other areas across the nation.

According to Amy Graham, an at-large Senator, and the only minority student on Senate, without the position filled it is more difficult to have diversity issues and concerns addressed.

“As much as there is great diversity on this campus, I think people get nervous when people talk about diversity and race,” said Graham. “But I think it’s very important to talk about these issues although they don’t always feel comfortable.”

The collegeboard.org website estimates that 88 percent of college students are

white, 4 percent are Asian, 4 percent are mixed race or other, 2 percent are African American, and 2 percent are Hispanic or Latino.

Since there are several diversity organizations on campus, Senate encourages anyone interested in the Inclusivity and Diversity director position to apply.

“The group that is on Senate right now is doing a great job at making people feel welcome and making sure that they are a part of something bigger than just themselves,” said Graham.

She explained that although the current Senate staff is encouraging and accepting, she would love to see a more diverse staff on Senate also.

“The past three years I’ve been here, the only person of color that I’ve seen on Student Senate is myself,” said Graham.

The senator agrees that diversity can be a touchy subject because many people are afraid of offending someone or having something taken out of context.

But it is a topic that needs to be dealt with; having someone on Senate to address the concerns and needs would make it much easier.

Student Senate is not the only organization on campus addressing issues and needs of diversity.

Graham explained that she is pleased with how Falcon Programs and Student Life are addressing this topic.

“They have been doing a great job holding all kinds of events and speakers on campus that deal with inclusivity and acceptance,” said Graham.

For example, Graham mentioned Ally Training, which was hosted by Student Life earlier in October.

She said it was a great way for students on campus to learn more about the LGBT community and how to support members by forming an alliance.

Other events like this open up an opportunity for students on campus who may not necessarily know a lot about other diversity groups to get involved and educated.

Graham explained that by being in the Inclusivity and

Diversity director’s position, one could get involved with events, such as the Ally Training, and branching out more on campus.

Graham encourages minorities and other diversity groups to get their voices heard even if it isn’t by applying for a position on Senate.

“Be more involved in general on campus. Get involved with organizations or even just discussing topics and issues that are important to you will get your voice heard.”

To apply or learn more about the Inclusivity and Diversity director’s position email Senate President Bobbi O’Brien at bobbi.obrien@my.uwrf.edu

Student Senates state-wide discuss unifying constitution

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On Oct. 6, 2012, representatives from 17 of the 26 University of Wisconsin System Schools met in Eau Claire to discuss a unifying constitution.

This constitution has been stuck in limbo since 2007, mainly because of an amendment that would have given Student Senates across the state the ability to oversee the work of United Council (UC), a lobbying organization for the UW System Schools.

Although the oversight amendment was struck down, a new amendment gives student representatives from Senates across the state the ability to endorse or reject proposals that UC brings to the UW Board of Regents.

In attendance at this meeting were Student Senate President Bobbi O’Brien and Vice President Matthew Hobbs. Both voted in favor of the new constitution, which gives student representatives more say in matters regarding students.

“The constitution is more to legitimize student repre-

sentatives and to say to the Board of Regents, ‘hey, we are a serious group,’” said O’Brien.

Student Representatives for Student Senate and UC have been in contention with each other at UW-River Falls since last year, when former Senate President Tyler Halverson issued an executive order banning the organization from campus.

“What I found odd is that [Halverson] supported many of our campaigns, but was not in favor of a United Council body,” said UC Communications Director Matt Guidry.

The executive order issued by last year’s president is still in effect today, and the sentiment of association with UC is still somewhat of a difficult sell for the Student Senate.

“Their leadership is elected by a much smaller percentage of students,” said O’Brien. “The work they do is somewhat the same as ours.”

Twenty UW schools are members of UC, a voluntary organization. However, UWRF is not a member of the organization, in part because of the complaints of their election procedure and also because of the fees asso-

ciated with the organization.

Each student in member schools pays an additional \$2 every year for the school to be a UC member. According to UC Student President Geoff Murray, that fee can be refunded to any student not interested in being a part of the organization.

“We don’t want to cram membership down anyone’s throats,” said Murray. “We just want to provide students with as much information as possible.”

Murray plans to make outreach to both UC member schools and non-UC member

schools a priority during his term as president. He is planning on making stops across the UW System within the next few months and is working with O’Brien to open talks between the organizations.

“I guess we’re really just working towards the same goal,” said Murray. O’Brien shares that sentiment, “I don’t think they’re a bad organization by any means, UC is just taking away from the purpose which we were elected to serve.”

Opinions: Local elections have direct impact on UWRF

From page 1

ating they have a place for employment.”

Representative Knudson, a Republican, is running as the incumbent representative for Assembly District 30.

He has a history of positions held in government serving as the mayor of Hudson from 2008 to 2010 and as the state representative for District 30 since 2010.

He said that name recognition and his knowledge of the area will be beneficial to him in this election.

Knudson said he believes that the No. 1 issue in this election is the economy. He argues that we have got to create a more improved business climate in this area so that businesses will want to grow, invest, expand and move here and entrepreneurs will want to start businesses here.

Knudson has two children in college and he understands that the burden put on students with the cost of tuition is one of the big issues for students.

“Education is a passion of mine. I served on the assembly education committee and as the vice chair of the college and universities committee. We work hard to try to improve educational

opportunities in a very challenging budgetary environment.”

Odeen, a Democrat, is running as Knudson’s opponent in the 30th Assembly District.

While Odeen has not held a previous position in government, she is a lawyer and hopes that her experience as a litigator will help her to bring civility and cooperation to Madison.

Odeen’s opinion of what the big issues are for this election are similar to those of the other candidates: the economy, job creation, women’s equality and cost of education.

Her husband is a professor at UWRF and she said that while it is important for him to be neutral, it definitely gives her an advantage.

“I really have an indoor window to students’ views on issues. Through some of the things my husband tells me I can better understand what life is like for students so that I can determine what they need.”

She believes that we have a really great, strong, University of Wisconsin System and that as the education system has taken a huge hit. She will fight for better funding for public education.

All four candidates have

been campaigning all over their districts by knocking on doors, attending events, participating in forums, etc. The local candidates focus on meeting as many people as possible as they know that every vote matters.

Ben Plunkett, a local political activist, said that the local elections are close this year.

He said that he believes student registration and interest are high and, with the student support, it is quite possible that UWRF students could be the deciding voters in more than one of these elections if they do get out and vote.

Knudson explained that it is crucial to the system that people are being active citizens in the election process.

“It isn’t enough to just vote. The system relies on citizens being actively involved in the process.

You might go to open hearings, talk with neighbors about issues, research, write letters to the editor, call and talk to your elected officials or maybe you can even run for office yourself.”

For more information on the candidates, visit their websites at www.deanknudson.com, www.dianeodeen.org, www.harsdorf.com and www.olsonforsenate.com.

VOICE your opinion at:
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EDITORIALS

Preparation key to having successful class registration

It’s that time of year again. Time to register for classes.

Registering for classes can be a terrifying experience, but it doesn’t have to be. Being completely prepared can be the difference between getting through registration smoothly and having it be the most stressful period of the year, after midterms and finals of course.

Take some time to print off, and actually read, your Degree Audit Report (DAR). More importantly, be sure to understand what you’re reading when you look at the DAR. It may be daunting, but taking the time to figure out, as best you can, the various symbols on the DAR could make your life so much easier.

Also, take note of what classes you need to take. On the surface that comes across as an obvious statement. However, don’t just think of the classes you need for next semester, but ones that will help you graduate in four or five years depending on what track you’re on.

Look to take classes that double or, if you are really lucky, triple count towards your DAR. Sure, you will still need to take 120 credits, at least, to graduate, but finding courses that double count can allow you to take more classes that you enjoy in the future.

However, understanding your DAR is only part of the battle when it comes to tackling the process of registration. Knowing what you can handle is key to making this a smooth process.

Taking the step up from 15 credits to either 17 or 18 credits is something which one should think about before jumping right in. For some, taking upwards of 18 credits could be a great decision. It can help one potentially get done with college a semester early. For others, taking a credit jump could result in lower grades and worse performance in school.

Keep in mind this decision is not solely based on class load. Remember, college is more than just classes, there is social life, work (if you have a job), time to eat and, most importantly, sleep. Increasing credit load could result in lowering how much time you can devote to non class time.

All in all, the key to a successful registration, and future school year, is preparation. It you prepare and know what you can accomplish then registering for classes, and the ensuing school year, will be a breeze.

STUDENT VOICE

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

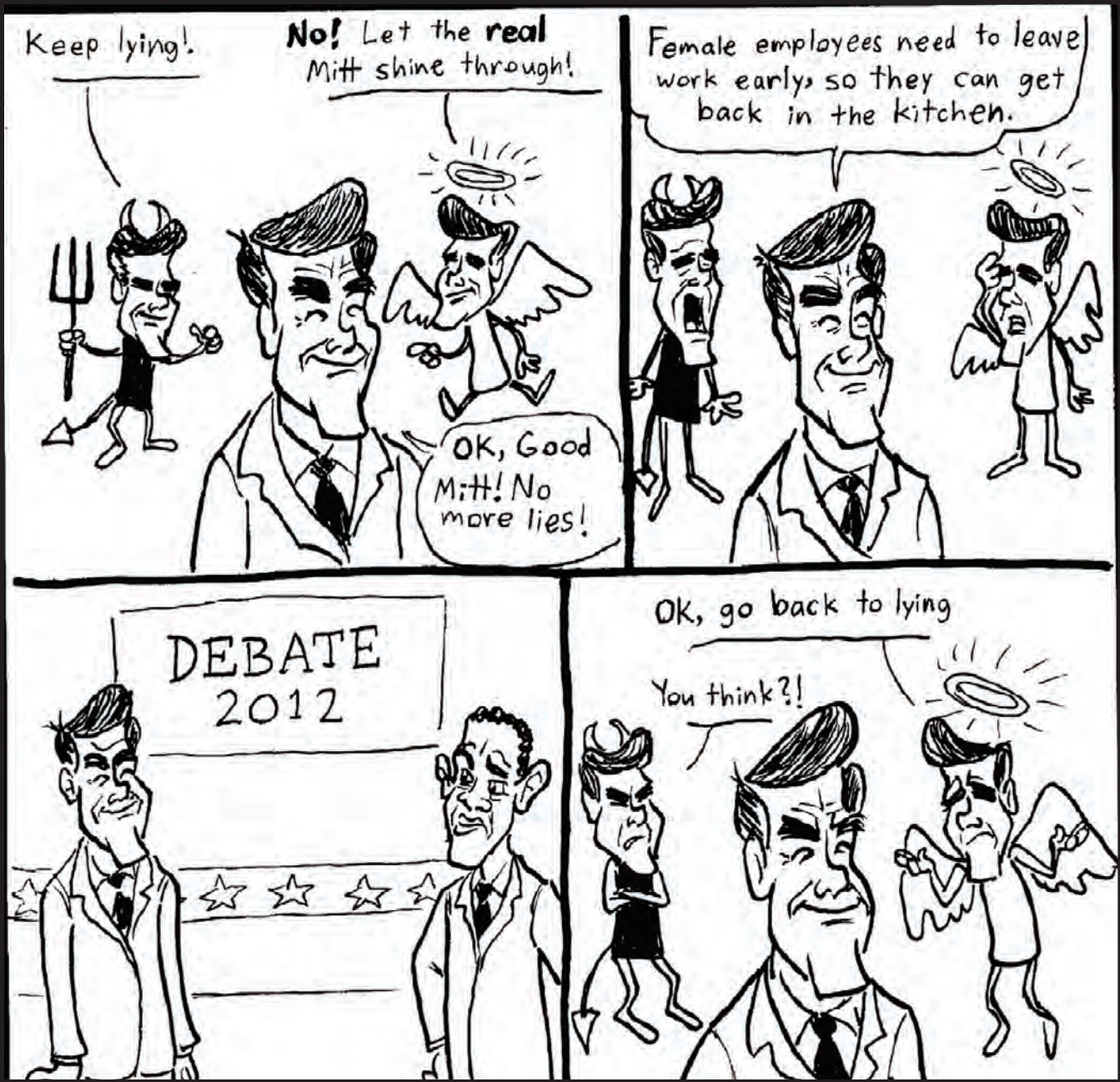
The *Student Voice* is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Fridays during the regular school year.

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

Making positive changes to special education programs



Emma Wagner

Columnist

Disabilities and academics might not go together in the minds of educators. Seeing someone who has a disability, such as difficulty walking, might lead educators to think that the student is not academically strong.

The field of special education can be tricky because what classifies as a disability might not be easy to determine. Unlike a condition, such as cerebral palsy, a disability might not be easily seen. This type of disability is called an invisible disability. An example of an invisible disability is a learning disability.

There is more to education than just learning disabilities. A student might be academically strong in areas such as writing and language, but have a learning disability in math - known as dyscalculia.

It is unfortunate that while general education students are encouraged to excel in their strengths, students who are in special education courses have to spend more time on their academic weaknesses than on their strengths.

The Individualized Education Program (IEP): a layout of academic goals and educational services students who have disabilities. Students who have IEP’s are given tests before their IEP

meetings. The tests examine students’ aptitude in areas such as reading, writing and math.

The IEP meetings summarize students’ academic progress and goals they need to reach in order to be on the same level as their general education peers. IEP meetings are held shortly after pre-IEP tests are given. The goals are based on students’ pre-IEP test results. Depending on students’ academic progress, reaching IEP goals can be difficult because strengths and weaknesses likely stay the same.

The meetings also include discussion of what special education services students need, such as occupational therapy, to help with dexterity issues.

Educational services can be helpful, but it is important that the services do not take up a significant amount of students’ class time. Students could fall behind on their general education studies if they have to leave general education classes to receive special education services.

In order for students to keep up on their general education, educators could plan for special education services to be given off the clock, such as before school in pre-school and elementary school or, in the case of secondary school, during study hall time.

Students can request the amount of time spent on special education services to be decreased. That can give them a chance to work on general education studies.

It is a good idea for IEP meetings to have a light and positive feeling. This

can include a casual atmosphere and discussion of students’ academic strong suits. It can help students relax, since the meetings are about them. Talking to students during their IEP meetings will help them as well. This will help them feel included in the discussion. If they are sitting at the table, it is not nice to talk about students as if they are not in the room.


It is also important for special education professionals to emphasize students’ strengths and not focus on weaknesses too much. An IEP meeting setup of a casual atmosphere in which educators talk to students, there is discussion of strong suits and not too much focus on weaknesses.

This does not make academic difficulties sound unique, which can help students feel good about their academic situation.


Bottom line: special education services can be beneficial to students who need them, but they should not take up too much of students’ time. Students need to work on their strong suits as part of their general education.

It is important for educators to look at and emphasize students’ academic strong suits. This will help students feel they will succeed in their education even if they have disabilities.

Emma is a senior majoring in psychology at UW-River Falls. She attended meetings on her Individualized Education Programs and appreciates the issues regarding students’ desires to have a balance of focus on their educational strengths and weaknesses and wanting to be treated like students in general education classrooms.



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!

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

Congratulations to last week’s winner

Chris Liermann

Personal connection lost with social networking

Morgan Stippel
Columnist

One of the biggest trends in media today is the increased use of social networking sites. Facebook, Twitter and other similar websites have taken off over the past decade, and, in today’s society, one would be hard-pressed to find a person who does not use some type of social networking site. While these websites have numerous advantages, they are creating a problem that can’t possibly be ignored. This increased communication via the Internet is diminishing face-to-face interaction and deteriorating the social skills of members of our society.

The chat capabilities these websites have made it easier than ever to connect with family and friends in a matter of seconds. Facebook has even added a video chat capability so you can “see” the person you are speaking to.

The 24/7 access people have to these chat devices often causes them to rely on social media websites to communicate with others as opposed to calling them on the phone or meeting with them in person. This heavy reliance on technological communication is damaging because it prevents human beings from communicating on a deeper level.

It is understandable that one may use these social networking sites to keep in touch with family members and friends whom he or she is unable to see on a regular basis. However, it is not uncommon to see a person turn to these websites to communicate with someone who is literally in the room next

door. Although this image may seem ludicrous, it is something I have experienced first-hand on a number of occasions.

It appalls me that many people will no longer take 10 seconds to walk down the hallway to hold a face-to-face conversation with someone. If this pattern of behavior continues, human beings will be sorely lacking the interpersonal communication skills that are required to be successful in our world today.

In addition to the chat features, many social media websites allow users to post pictures and status updates to keep their friends and family up to date with the latest details of their lives. This constant stream of information gives people the false allusion that they are building and strengthening their relationships with friends and family by staying updated about their recent activity. However, in reality, they are likely becoming more distant from these people.

Because users have constant access to these updates, they deceive themselves into believing that no further communication is required with their friends and family since these notices tell them all they need to know. This belief could not be further from the truth. Receiving daily bits of information does not constitute a friendship or any other type of human relationship. The false impression this information gives to

users ultimately causes them to distance themselves from those closest to them because they no longer feel the need to connect with them on a more personal level.

Although the features of social networking sites previously described pose major problems for society, the games these websites offer to their users are arguably the most dangerous feature of all.

People can sign up to use applications and play games for free through websites such as Facebook. These games suck players into an unhealthy cycle that constantly pulls them farther away from reality.

Those who participate in these games can play with other users who are online. This type of interaction is yet another reason why people no longer feel the need to interact outside of the Internet.

Playing a game in a virtual world with “friends” causes one to truly believe that his or her virtual world is reality. This idea is terrifying beyond belief.

Relying too heavily on social networking websites is a danger to our society as a whole. This trend causes human beings to become consumed by a virtual world while they are simultaneously pulled further away from reality.





These websites not only decrease the number of face-to-face interactions we have with one another, but they greatly deplete the social skills that are vital to being a functioning member of society. If we continue on this path of social network reliance, the results will be nothing short of detrimental.

STUDENT

Voices

What is the most important issue for you in the presidential election?

Compiled by Megan Rodriguez

Sarah Baierl freshman	Josh Limberg freshman	Cole Sandstrom junior	Mike Nollan sophomore	Jessica Duellman sophomore
				
“To get out of debt and gay rights to be allowed.”	“To make sure I get a job out of college.”	“Student loans and how students will pay for tuition.”	“Debt, student loans and grants.”	“Jobs and providing them.”

NEWS

Student voters undecided, unaware, unsure about upcoming elections

Rebecca Rudolph
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Multiple UW-River Falls students are remaining undecided on who they choose to vote for in the upcoming presidential elections.

The focus of this year’s election has been on Democrat President Barack Obama and former governor, Republican Mitt Romney.

One student, UWRF junior Stephanie Kempf, said that she does not think she will vote, not because she does not want to express this right and privilege, but because she does not know enough about the candidates to make a decision.

“I feel like it’s hard to find unbiased information about the candidates and I didn’t get to watch the debates, which doesn’t help,” said Kempf. “I feel like (the debates) are a lot of arguing and then you see people on Twitter or Facebook saying what they feel - I feel like I can’t make a good decision.”

This is an issue that Political Science Professor Davida Alperin mentioned as a deterrent for student voters.

When people, specifically students, watch television talk shows and hear that discussion, or when they go onto social media, the disrespectful talk in these media tend to alienate people.

Lauren Burger, a UWRF freshman, said that she does not think she is going to vote because of the campaign negativity.

Burger said that every candidate comes into office with something they want to do, but the other party does not respect that.

“It doesn’t make sense for me to vote because I probably wont like either one in the end,” said Burger.

She added that she knows she should vote, but it does not appeal to her.

To prevent this alienation, there needs to be “more civil discussion about those who disagree, (then) more young people will get involved,” said Alperin.

This will be the first presidential election in which most students will be able to participate.

UWRF freshman David Bergs labels himself as not completely sure on who he will vote for, but fairly certain he will be voting one way, which he chose not to disclose.

He said it is important to look into issues, like abortion, the economy and international policy and how they impact people from all perspectives.

“It’s a patriotic thing to do. I felt it’s important that our voice is heard no matter what age you are,” said Bergs despite the last bit of uncertainty in his decision.

“Sometimes it’s (why students don’t vote) because their vote won’t matter,” Alperin said.

Bergs disagreed with this, saying that history has proven that it is important to speak up and “get your voice heard.”

Rachael Heins, a UWRF freshman, said that she will be voting in the upcoming election even though, “politics isn’t really my thing.”

Heins said that she would probably be voting just like her parents always have, and probably for the same party as her parents have in the past.

The tradition of voting for the same party, also known as party allegiance, has been around since the New Deal time period after the Great Depression. But what is unique about recent years is that there have been less people who have a party allegiance, said Alperin.

Instead, people have had a party allegiance, but voted for the candidate that best represents issues or needs of the particular voter, said Alperin.

Even with voter uncertainty, Alperin said she encourages students to learn about the different candidates and vote for whom they would like to see in office.

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Senator Ron Johnson visits UWRF campus



Photo Submitted by Jennifer Hagemann

Senator Ron Johnson spoke to the Political Science Senior Seminar class on Wednesday, Oct. 23. He spoke on economic policies and the current economic situation in the U.S.

Vote in our online poll:
Who is going to win the presidential election?

Visit uwrfvoice.com to cast your vote!

Men’s hockey ranked high as season opens

Trevor Jones
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Preseason expectations from outsiders are high for this year’s UW-River Falls men’s hockey team, but Steve Freeman, the team’s head coach, said his teams are used to dealing with the demands of big expectations.

The Northern Collegiate Hockey Association’s (NCHA) preseason coaches poll predicts that the Falcons will place second in the seven-member conference behind only a St. Norbert College team that has won back-to-back NCAA national championships. D3hockey.com has UWRF ranked No. 14 in their preseason top 15 poll.

“We have high expectations for ourselves every year. I think we’re going to have a real strong hockey team,” said Freeman.

Last season, the team won the regular season WIAC championship. It is their third WIAC title in the past five seasons.

Freeman said that it helps that players coming into the program know that there is a certain level of expectations for them to live up to.

“There’s a long, rich tradition of success and winning here at UWRF. There is pressure on the coaches and players, but it’s a good kind of pressure. That’s what competitive players want, a chance to win championships,” said Freeman, who has been coaching for 17 years.

He said that the winning atmosphere is cre-

ated by the veteran members on the team. “It comes a lot from the older players. Realizing that developing the consistent effort that you have to have to win, it starts in practice, and it carries over to the games,” said Freeman. “We’re working on getting some real structure in our game while getting new players on the same page.”

The Falcons have eight seniors on this season’s roster including the team’s leading goal scorer from last year, forward Geoff Shewmake.

Five out of six starting defensemen from last season’s team are also returning.

Another player is junior goalie Scott Lewan, a 2012 All-NCHA selection.

“Really, that’s the key to the whole thing,” said Freeman. “He’s a very important player to us. He takes a little bit of the

“There’s a long, rich tradition of winning here at UWRF. There is pressure on the coaches and players.”

pressure off of everybody.”

A main theme this year for the Falcons is team speed. Freeman said that this level of team speed didn’t just happen this season; it has been years in the making.

“That’s been kind of a theme in our recruiting the past couple of years. Assistant Coach Bob Ritzer has done a great job on the recruiting trails for us. Our team will be very fun and entertaining to watch.”

This will be the final season in the NCHA for the Falcons as they will leave the conference and play in only the WIAC after this season.

While the WIAC champion isn’t guaranteed an NCAA tournament bid like the NCHA



Billy Thao/Student Voice

Junior goalkeeper Scott Lewan is preparing before opening weekend at Hunt Arena.

champion is, Freeman said he thinks that the WIAC champion will be in the running for an at-large bid most years.

The Falcons will begin their season this weekend with two home games.

They play Finlandia University Friday, Oct. 26, and Marian University on Saturday, Oct. 27. Both games start at 7:05 p.m at Hunt Arena.

Red Out

All fans are encouraged by the marketing communications club to wear red to the hockey game in support of the Falcons.

Falcon sports at a glance

Danielle Gibbemeyer

Gibbemeyer is a senior from St. Paul, Minn. and has been a key part in helping the Falcons to a 21-10 record so far this season. Currently, she ranks fourth on the team with 158 kills, third in ace blocks with 31 and second with 223 digs.

She became the 11th Falcon volleyball player to reach 1,000 kills throughout her career. Gibbemeyer needed only four kills going into the Oct. 19 match against UW-Whitewater to reach the prestigious milestone, and she did just that. Since then, she has added 17 more to bring her four-year total thus far to 1,017.

Information from UWRF sports information



Cassie Stang

Cassie Stang

The junior midfielder played every minute in two double overtime games last week. Stang scored her team-best ninth goal of the season on a penalty kick in the team’s 1-1 tie with UW-La Crosse. She has scored against six WIAC opponents this season.

UWRF sports information

Lucas Hetzel

The sophomore swam well in two season-opening meets. In the meet against Carroll College on Saturday, Oct. 20, he won the 1,000 free with a time of 11:19.92 and the 500 free with a time of 5:32.43. At UW-Oshkosh, Hetzel won two events and placed second in a third. He won the 1,000 free in 11:12.63 and the 500 free in 5:26.47.

UWRF sports information



Lucas Hetzel

Tennis sixth in WIAC tournament

After traveling to Madison for the WIAC tournament the Falcons finished sixth place overall. They recorded seven total team points.

Makayla Newberry and Hannah Klimek placed fourth for the teams best doubles finish.

Jodi VanDeRiet placed third in singles for the teams best finish overall.

Courtney Swanson was named to the WIAC All-Sportsmanship team.

Cross country WIAC meet ahead

Both men’s and women’s cross country will be traveling to UW-Platteville for the 35th Annual WIAC Championship. The race will be held at Cole Acres Golf Course in Cuba City, Wis. There are five men’s and two women’s WIAC teams ranked in the top 35 nationally.

The men’s race will be at 12:00 p.m. and the women’s at 1:00 p.m.

Volleyball nearing end of season

With the season winding down, the Falcon volleyball team finds themselves with a 21-10 overall record and a 4-2 conference record in the WIAC.

The 4-2 conference record has them second behind UW-Stevens Point. The team has been led by a strong senior core and is looking to make the NCAA tournament. They also have a chance to host the first round of the WIAC tournament.

The Falcons will be on the road for conference games against UW-Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater on Oct. 26 and 27.

Football

With three games left in the season the Falcons football team sits seventh in the conference with a 1-3 WIAC record and a 1-6 overall record on the season. They are coming off of a 31-0 loss at No. 20 ranked UW-Platteville. Recently the Falcons have received strong play from junior defensive back Alex Adams who added another interception to his six total interceptions. Sophomore wide receiver Matt Woller grabbed a team high six catches for 43 receiving yards agianst UWP.

The Falcons will be on the road Saturday, Oct. 27, for a conference game against UW-Stout with kickoff set for 1 p.m. at Nelson Field.

Men’s swimming

Early in the season the Falcons are off to a 1-1 record. Their win came against Carroll College with a score of 117.5 -80.5. The team had seven individual first place finishes, including two from Lucas Hetzel in the 1000 free-style and the 500 freestyle.

Women’s swimming

Two meets into the season the Falcons find themselves 1-1 on the season. They are coming off a 125-86 win over Carroll College. Sophomore Candy Hoelzel helped the 200 medley relay team to a first place victory along with an individual first in the 100 breaststroke.

Falcons swimming will return to action this Saturday, Oct. 27, at Luther College set to start at 1 p.m.

Soccer

With only one regular season game left, the Falcons have a overall record of 8-6-3 with a 3-2-2 conference record. They are coming off a 2-0 shutout against St. Mary’s University. In that game Carlin Bunting recorded two assists.

The final regular season game of the year will be at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27 at UW-Whitewater.

www.pureradio887.com

LIVE

FALCON BROADCASTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26
FALCON MEN’S HOCKEY
HOME VS FINLANDIA
7:05 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
FALCON MEN’S HOCKEY
HOME VS MARIAN
7:05 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
FALCON FOOTBALL
AT UW-STOUT
1 PM KICKOFF

Rachel Responds: Tricks, treats on Halloween


Reader Lancelot Evenson wants this week’s column to be dedicated to Halloween, touching on the history of the holiday.

Thank you for the suggestion, Lancelot. I agree that this time of year begs for this topic.

Oct. 31 is a fun day for many people in the United States, and definitely in River Falls. For me it is an opportunity to be perpetually star struck.

When I go out and see all of the costumes, I’m more excited than a kid on Christmas. Although, it should be noted that I’m more excited on Christmas than anyone who has ever lived, ever.

Halloween gives us all the chance to meet any celebrity or character



Rachel Woodman
Columnist

we adore and overdose on chocolaty sugary goodness. What more could a holiday have? Well, history, for one. And Halloween certainly has that.

The earliest related activity to trick-or-treating began, according to trueghosttales.com, with the Catholic Church during the dark ages when it approved “souling.” Souling was an event that allowed beggars to ask for food in exchange for prayers. The prayers would increase the chance of a dead person’s spirit being allowed into heaven. Trading oats for eternal happiness? Sounds like a bargain to me.

A festival – which I can only describe as “Where’s Waldo” meets Casper’s evil twin – was celebrated by the Celts 2,000 years ago. According to tlc.howstuffworks.com, the ancient Celtic clans of Britain celebrated a festival known as Samhain on Nov. 1.

They believed that the dead came home to visit the night before Samhain and so they would dress up in disguises in the hopes the ghosts would not recognize them.

Costuming in the United States has only been around for about 70 years.

According to timeanddate.com, “The commercialization of Halloween started in the 1900s, when postcards and die-cut paper decorations were produced.” Costumes began being sold in the 30s and trick-or-treating began in the 50s. Commercialization is what has driven this holiday to the popularity it has today.

But Halloween isn’t about trick-or-treating for everyone. For Jennifer Asare, mother to McKenna, trick-or-treating isn’t allowed in her household. Asare feels that telling her 3-year-old daughter not to take candy from strangers and then taking her out to collect candy from strangers is misleading. Asare and her daughter celebrate the holiday by dressing up, but do not travel door-to-door as many others do.

Poisoning is a concern for many parents. The scare of candy-tampering began in the 70s and, according to recipes.howstuffworks.com, the scare reached an all-time high in 1982.

Tylenol was laced with cyanide, killing seven people in

“The only kind of poison I’m interested in is served best with a side of Bret Michaels.”

Chicago during this time and people began worrying candy would be tampered with too. Many communities banned trick-or-treating all together and today many parents have their children’s candy x-rayed at a hospital or other community designated locations.

Rare incidents of poisoning that have occurred weren’t even by strangers. Ronald Clark O’Bryan poisoned his son’s and daughter’s candy with cyanide to cash in on a large insurance policy. The son died, but the daughter lived. He was convicted and was killed by lethal injection.

Although the chances of poisoning are slim to none, people remain concerned. Today parents who want to celebrate this holiday with safe candy-getting often do so at malls, churches and schools.

Edina Realty, located at 400 Second St. S. in Hudson, will be hosting their second annual Trick-or-Treat event from 3-5p.m. on Halloween. The event is free, open to the public and offers a safer alternative to treating around unfamiliar neighborhoods.

The only kind of poison I’m interested in is served best with a side of Bret Michaels, but for kids my age, free trick-or-treating is just a distant memory.

For students like me, costumes, contests, candy, and camaraderie is still something we look forward to, even if we’re dishing out the funds ourselves.

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

Study abroad in China offered to students in spring 2013

Emma Wagner
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UW-River Falls is offering an opportunity for students to study abroad in China in the spring semester of 2013.

The options are to spend a semester in China from February through May, or spend a year abroad.

Students of any major can study in China. The program is also open to students working on their global perspectives general education requirement. It can also fill a multidisciplinary requirement. Meeting with advisors can help students decide how studying abroad best fits into their major.

Classes are being offered at the Zhejiang International Studies University and the credits go toward majors at UWRF. There is no specific major that travels to China; students

in any major can travel abroad.

However, for the 2013 spring semester, popular fields of study are global business and society and merchandise planning and control. Students can also study modern east Asian literature and cinema.

Required classes to be taken at UWRF are Experience China: Society and Cultural Immersion and Experience China: From Ancient Culture to a Modern Global Force.

Coming from abroad, UWRF students are also required to take a class at UWRF - this includes things such as the customs and norms of China.

This can familiarize students with Chinese culture and give them ideas about customs and norms before they arrive.

Learning about the culture, customs and

norms of China, including the Chinese language, can help students prepare for a semester or a year in a country they might not have been to before. Preparing can be helpful in terms of customs and what is culturally acceptable. Not knowing some of the differences in culture might make traveling abroad difficult, so preparation is important.

As well as studying the subject of their major, traveling abroad can give students something that they might not learn in their home country, such as experiencing diversity of the culture in China and the differences in schooling. This can be helpful because much of students’ time will be spent studying in China.

Preparing can be helpful in terms of customs and what is culturally acceptable

Learning a new language can be difficult, however.

Prior knowledge of the Chinese language will be helpful for students.

Studying for the subject of a major in China for a semester or a year can give students the opportunity to explore the customs and culture of the country, and experience the differences in the study of their subject between China and the United States.

Courses in immersion can help students prepare for their time abroad.

Depending on their field of study, students can learn about the difference in study of a given subject.

Students planning to spend a semester, or an entire year, abroad in China can gain a new experience.

Countries around the world celebrate Halloween with traditions, customs

Cristin Dempsey
Columnist

Halloween in the United States is well known for costumes, frightening ghost stories and of course, trick-or-treating. People look forward to Halloween every year to dress up as a different character and have an excuse to eat piles and piles of candy.

While we Americans have our own traditions, other countries are well known for other ways of celebrating. They have their own unique traditions that they look forward to every year; just as many Americans like to get scared or dress up.

But what exactly can be different on Halloween? Why doesn’t everyone all just do one thing? While it is relatively similar, special celebrations are what make this a holiday one to look forward to annually.

Ireland celebrates the spooky holiday very similar to the U.S. Many Irish people love to draw attention to their homes with pumpkin displays and dress up as creatures from the underworld, such as ghosts and goblins. It is also a custom to play a bobbing for apples

game at a party, go trick-or-treating and have a bonfire while they watch the annual fireworks display.

Halloween is a huge celebration in Ireland and the city of Derry even has a large street carnival and their own fireworks display.

Many Irish enjoy a traditional Halloween cake, called barmbrack, which is a type of fruit bread. Each piece of the bread would have items like a pea, a piece of cloth, a stick, a small coin and a ring. Each item would represent what the person is supposed to expect in the coming year. Many of these predictions are concerned with marriage.

Halloween in England is not as widely celebrated as it is in North America or Ireland, but people still observe it on a religious basis. The English observe All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day. On All Souls’ Eve families stay up late and eat a traditional food called a “soul cake.”

At the stroke of midnight, several homes reach a solemn silence. The homes have candles burning in each room of their home as to guide the souls back to their earthly homes. In addition, a glass of wine would sit on the table to refresh them.

Soul cakes stem from an activity called “souling,” similar to trick-or-treating. Children go door to door singing songs or saying

prayers for the dead in exchange for these small cakes or money.

Some celebrations in England include bobbing for apples and making toffee apples or apple tarts. Some of the apple tarts are known to have had coins or a special kind of nut inside of them.

Many European countries actually did not celebrate Halloween until recently. In several countries, such as Greece and Bulgaria, the Orthodox Church does not recognize Halloween as a holiday. Therefore, most celebrations in these countries are unofficial.

Greece observes Halloween by showing Halloween-related programming on television, otherwise they do not hold many special traditions.

Like Mexico, Bulgaria instead recognizes Halloween as “The Day of the Dead.” It is used to honor the dead and there are no costumes or parties. However, teenagers will still often go out trick-or-treating.

Many countries follow the example of the United States: dressing up and going door to door. The commercial aspect and television programs are what made Halloween emerge at all in these areas.

Many countries in Asia and South America, such as Japan and Columbia, celebrate Halloween widely. They have also recently

started to observe the day as a holiday thanks to American traditions and pop culture.

In Japan, costumes are usually worn in the confines of one’s home or a party and trick-or-treating is not normally practiced. Instead, many Japanese people will eat themed snacks, such as pumpkin soup and flavored corn puffs. They also enjoy decorating homes and theme parks with jack-o’-lanterns.

Colombia celebrates Halloween in an almost identical way to the United States, though the Catholic Church frowns upon it. They are concerned with children finding happiness in ghosts, witches and goblins. They have expressed before that it would be ideal to keep the holiday but remove the “sinister” Halloween symbols.

While many countries are still new at celebrating the holiday and have adopted American traditions, some countries take pride in their unique traditions. Whether people like it or not, it is still a fun holiday every year to get creative, scared and eat a lot of candy.

Though many traditions will be present for a long time, one tradition will never be accepted; do not give trick-or-treaters toothbrushes and carrots. Because seriously, carrots just taste like water.

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Find Freddy's Feather

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Email the Voice at
editor@uwrvoice.com

First person to respond after 10 a.m. Friday wins two FREE movie tickets!

‘Perks’ highlights adolescent struggles



Amanda White
Columnist

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is the best movie I’ve seen since Oscar season. The movie was adapted from a novel of the same name and it stays remarkably true to the book, something I at-

tribute to the fact that the book’s author, Stephen Chbosky, is also the film’s screenwriter and director.

For a novel’s author to have this amount of control over the writing and directing of a movie adaptation is rare and exciting.

The vision Chbosky had in mind while writing the novel is the same vision achieved with the movie.

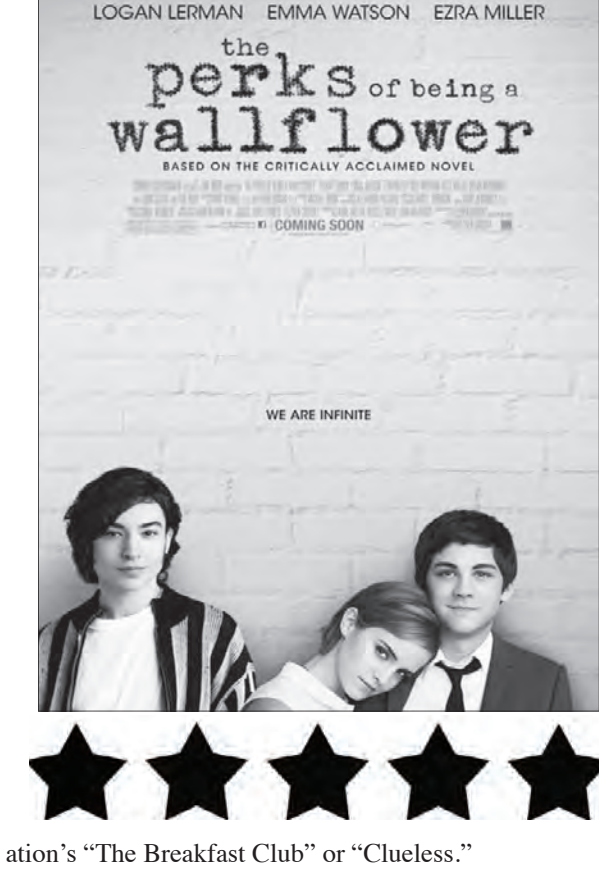
As a fan of the book, which was written in 1999, I was ecstatic to learn that Chbosky was going to do the novel justice. “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is the coming-of-age story of Charlie, a boy who is awkward, lonely and not cool. His only friend committed suicide months before Charlie started high school.

When Charlie starts high school, he begins writing to an anonymous person, only addressing them as “friend.”

Charlie eventually finds two friends in Sam and Patrick, a stepsister and stepbrother duo. They are seniors, but they still welcome Charlie into their fold.

Charlie goes through many experiences through the course of the movie, some bad, some good. He is “both happy and sad at the same time” and that is what makes Charlie and his struggles so relatable for teenagers and young adults.

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is our gener-



ation’s “The Breakfast Club” or “Clueless.”

Perhaps the most perfect part of the movie is the cast. Logan Lerman plays Charlie, Emma Watson plays Sam and Ezra Miller plays Patrick; I don’t think better people could have been chosen.

I was originally a little wary of the casting of Lerman as Charlie, simply because Charlie is a character with a dark, melancholy personality, and I’ve never seen Lerman in such a role. I needn’t have worried. Lerman pulled off sad, sweet

and naïve perfectly.

Watson as Sam was a good decision on Watson’s part. It is a perfect role for Watson to shed her “Hermione” persona. Sam is an ex-bad girl with a few secrets of her own, and she is the light of Charlie’s world. Watson plays Sam with a fragility that was rarely seen in the “Harry Potter” films.

Before “The Perks of Being a Wallflower,” I had never seen Miller in any other film.

He certainly looked the part of Patrick, who is dramatic and larger-than-life.

Miller is the gem in this movie and my favorite of the three. He was so much more than I was expecting.

I am looking forward to seeing the film again so I can focus on his performance.

Perhaps a star in its own right, the soundtrack to “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is not one to fade into the background.

Music is an important aspect of the novel as well; the songs “Heroes” by David Bowie and “Asleep” by the Smiths might as well be Charlie’s anthems.

I am not familiar with that era of music, but it certainly fit the bill.

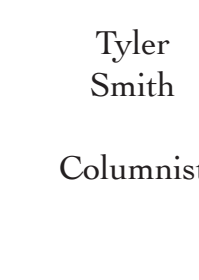
“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is terrific. I might be biased because I love the book so much (it’s worth a read if you haven’t read it yet).

However, reading the novel isn’t necessary to appreciate the movie.

Chbosky does a fine job of telling the story of one teenager’s life in a way that resonates with anyone dealing with the difficulties of growing up.

Amanda is a junior majoring in journalism. She appreciates good books, good style and good conversation.

Differences between college, high school are numerous



Tyler Smith
Columnist

A buddy and I were in the mess hall on Monday and we started reminiscing over the high school years. We got stuck on the topic because my buddy’s roommate broke up with his girlfriend over the weekend.

When he told me this, I didn’t know what to think. Relationships are complicated.

Relationships, to me, are like the iPhone 5, I don’t have one.

I brought up the high school “it girl” and how she changed boyfriends quite often, just for fun. This “it girl” changed her relationships as often as she changed her clothes: everyday.

She changed her relationships so much, it was as if watching a daytime soap; if you miss one episode, you’re lost for the rest of the season.

As I sat there with him, I couldn’t help but chuckle a little inside; I was picturing another high school “it girl.”

This other “it girl” was on the Honor Roll. And, being she had never missed it, one would expect her to have a higher level of intelligence than the average dunder-head. In most cases yes, but there is always the exception.

This girl once had a bunny; her parents had purchased it from a pet store for the girl’s birthday. The girl hadn’t had the bunny more than three months, when a terrible accident occurred.

A car went by the house and the bunny disappeared.

Gotcha.

The bunny didn’t get run over.

The bunny had jumped out of the girl’s arms and into a pool of water. The girl quickly pulled the rascal out from the water and took him in the house to dry off.

She first grabbed a towel, but she soon grew impatient with the bunny’s still-wet fur.

As any Honor Roll student would inevitably do, she placed the bunny in the microwave to dry off.

Sadly, I do not know the fate of said bunny. Later that night however, the family

had “chicken” ala king for the evening meal (they ate the bunny).

I hazard to guess, the “chicken” ala king had to be the weirdest microwavable meal ever.

After I quelled my laughter inside, my friend and I started talking pros and cons of high school versus college.

In high school we could take final exams and ace them, mess with teachers without getting into trouble and best of all, have homemade meals every Friday made by the geography teacher. I took multiple classes with that geography teacher.

In college we can feel free to be ourselves without parents telling us to behave. We can stay up until the bleakest hours of the morning. College is self exploration.

College is unique in other ways. Sometimes, in the dead of night, you can smell the unbearable odor of a family of skunks passing by.

To be honest, it’s not a family of skunks, it’s the marijuana users across the hall.

While at a party in River Falls this past summer, this guy asked if I smoked. I said I did; I was under the influence of alcohol at the time.

The guy held out a marijuana cigarette, I asked what it was. I was told it was marijuana and I waved it off defiantly.

“I thought you smoked, bro?” said the guy.

“Not that stuff, man,” I said. “I smoke cheese, man.”

“What bro?”

“I smoke cheese, man,” I said. “Have you ever had smoked cheese, man? It’s really good stuff.”

The guy began to laugh hysterically and through his laughter he tried to tell everyone else what I had just said, no one understood him.

College is weird like that, and trying to determine the pros and cons of high school versus college is no contest. College is better. It’s self exploration and self discovery.

College is about pushing the boundaries.

The onset of college can be a daunting experience; it is the moment in our lives, when most of us must say goodbye to the ‘little kid’ inside of us, and begin working for real.

I am asking you today, don’t discard your ‘inner child.’ Keep it alive and well, that way, life will always seem big and exciting.

Watch *Focus On U*
at 9 a.m., 5 p.m. and
9 p.m.
on Channel 19



Falcons VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6

- ☒ **NO VOTER ID REQUIRED**
- ☒ **REGISTER TO VOTE**
Already registered? Check the status at <http://myvote.wi.gov>. Visit your Clerk’s office to register or register at the polling place
- ☒ **EARLY VOTING**
At your Clerk’s office October 22nd - November 2nd. Still haven’t registered? Bring your Proof of Residence.
- ☒ **MAKE A PLAN**
What time do you plan to vote? Have you registered? Do you know where your polling place is?
- ☒ **VOTE: POLLS OPEN @ 7AM TO 8PM ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6TH.**
Find your polling location at myvote.wi.gov

Still haven’t registered? Bring a Proof of Residence.

- A university, college or technical institute identification card (must include photo), ONLY if the bearer provides a fee receipt dated within the last nine months.
- Any official identification card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit with current address.
- A residential lease which is effective for a period that includes election day (NOT for first-time voters registering by mail).
- A utility bill (including gas and electric) or a cell phone bill with current address from the period 90 days or less before election day.
- Bank statement with current address.
- Paycheck with current address.
- A check or other document issued by a unit of government or the university with current address.

These Documents can now also be shown in electronic form on your phone, tablet or laptop. For a complete list of Proof of Residency see <http://myvote.wi.gov> .

For questions or more information
call 1-866-OUR-VOTE or visit
866OURVOTE.org

