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Women’s golf shows improvement over the past three years.

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Ag Day presents opportunity for students to learn more about their food.

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‘Evil Dead’ succeeds as horror film.



University of Wisconsin

River Falls

STUDENT VOICE

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Sam Tauchen elected Senate president

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Next year, the Student Senate will see a new leader take the helm. While President-Elect Sam Tauchen comes from a family of leaders in state and local politics.

Tauchen said he ran because he had something to offer the student body.

Tauchen defeated Dominic Riel 351-121 in the final election tally, and while Tauchen is humbled by the results, he wants to “hit the ground running” and get started working for the students.

“I’m very humbled, honored, to serve in this high leadership position. This is only the beginning. It’s time to move past the election and start working to represent the students who elected us,” Tauchen said.

Tauchen’s family has a history of serving Wisconsin.

Sam’s dad served as township chairman for Hartland, and his uncle is currently a representative in the Wisconsin State Assembly.

“They are strong leaders and I’ve always looked up to them,” Tauchen said. “They’ve been very supportive to me.”

Tauchen started at UWRF in the fall of 2009, and has been involved in various organizations, which he said will help him bring a wide-range of backgrounds to help the student body.

“I have the perspective of being involved here and in Madison, so it helps me know how campus works,” Tauchen said.

Tauchen has been involved in the Ag. Ed. Society, Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Tau Alpha, the Knights of Columbus, an intern at the state capitol, an FFA official and has served on Senate this past year.

“I want to be accessible to students and I want to be amongst the students,” Tauchen said. “I didn’t run for the title, I ran because I wanted change.”

The focus Tauchen would like to begin his term with is to start assigning people to committees and to appoint directors and chairs before the summer. Forms to apply for committees can be found on Senate’s Org Sync page under forms. One of Tauchen’s goals is to make Senate more visible to the students.

To do this, Tauchen wants to plan a summer retreat with the newly elected Senate to develop group dynamics and leadership skills so Senate knows what they need to know, like who to contact. He also suggested that Senate may try to reach out to student organizations by picking events to attend and give feedback.

“Having students come to Senate hasn’t worked, so I want to go to the students,” Tauchen said. “I want to be an open book and I want the feedback, I love to listen.”

The first meeting under Tauchen’s direction will be April 30, when current President Bobbi O’Brien will turn over the gavel and the 76th session of Senate will begin.

After serving for a year, O’Brien is proud of the relationships Senate has built, particularly with the administration and Board of Regents. She said that has helped them to come up with solutions together and has paved the way for future Senates to work with the administration as well. But she had a few words of advice for Tauchen.

“You can never start planning too early,”

See Senate page 3



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice

Sam Tauchen has been elected as the new Student Senate president for 2013-2014. He is preceded by outgoing president Bobbi O’Brien. Tauchen defeated Dominic Riel 351-121. His term as president will begin on April 30.

AFAB budget receives approval

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With spring weather comes the end of the UW-River Falls Allocable Fees Appropriations Board (AFAB) year. AFAB chair Kayla Edstrom said this year went well, although there were some challenges as can be expected.

After student organizations submitted their budgets for next year, it was the job of AFAB to take these budgets and cut them down so that the pool of money that AFAB was given could best serve each group.

“I understand budget cuts and realize that AFAB is trying to do their best to see that every org gets their share,” said Ashley Som, a co-president for the Asian American Student Association (AASA).

AASA received less money than they asked for, which resulted in them appealing with Edstrom.

“We did appeal because we feel that the events that are most important to our organizations were not being properly allocated or did not receive any funding toward it,” said the other Co-President Nick Moua.

What makes their appeal unique is that they asked to shift around the money in their budget they were given. The Newman Club on campus also chose this route. Typically, groups that appeal ask to present before Student Senate to ask for more money.

WRFW was the only organization to go with this route this year.

What makes WRFW unique is that since they are a news organization at UWRF, Senate is required to fund the radio station’s basic running costs. This is something mentioned in the Senate’s bylaws, which are the rules they agree to follow when they become part of Senate.

Senate agreed to increase WRFW’s

budget after their presentation, but not enough to cover all of aspects the organization hoped it would.

“I think its just kind of the nature of where things are going with the way that Senate budgeting is,” said Jon Lyksett, the promotions director for WRFW.

WRFW Music Director Arianna Schultz said that even though AFAB may be going in that direction, WRFW cannot keep functioning on cut budgets.

“The problem that they’re facing is that... we are a working machine,” she said. “We have federal laws we need to abide by, and then on top of that we have to do things like training and we need to do things the right way.”

She said WRFW operates like any other radio station. The difference be-

See Budget page 3

Self-service options now available on eSIS

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The UW-River Falls Registrar’s Office announced the availability of a new, free, Student Self-Service to save students trips to the office and give them a more hands on experience.

The new services are now available through eSIS, and, according to an email sent to students at the beginning of April, the service consists of being able to print enrollment verification certificates so students are able to send them to health insurers and other organizations that require proof of enrollment.

Being able to check deferment forms and electronic notifications sent to lenders, being able to obtain a list of student loan lenders and link to real-time loan information, students can view their enrollment history and enrollment verifications that are provided to student service providers

by request.

“My guess is that we’ll have less foot traffic into our office,” said Registrar Daniel Vande Yacht. “Everything else will probably stay the same.”

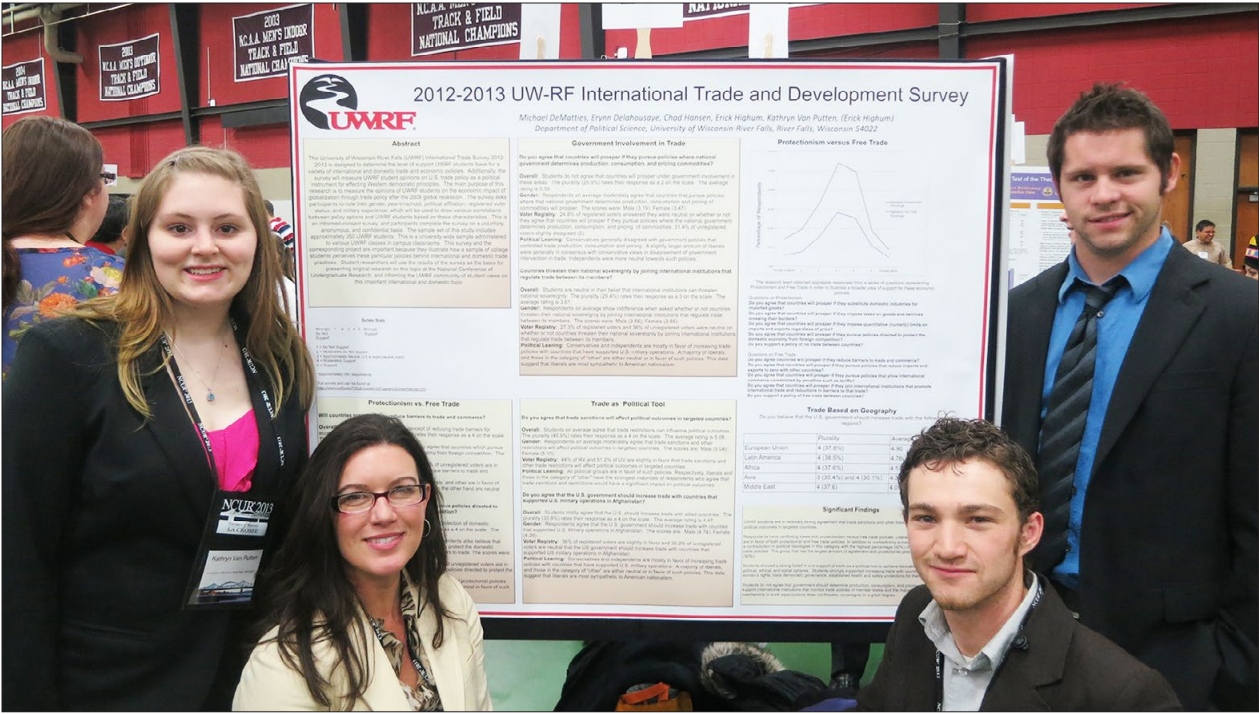
Although the idea of the new services is to give students a chance of doing things themselves, there are also some behind the scenes changes being made that this new service will help with.

“We’ve had a reduction to our staff so this will help maintain our ability to do everything that we have been doing,” Vande Yacht said. “This is to help alleviate the work load.”

The Registrar’s Office has also made some physical changes as well as technological ones. The office has changed the layout around due to the addition of a new kiosk to be able to assist stu-

See Registrar page 3

Students showcase research at national conference



Submitted by Michael DeMatties

From left to right: Kathryn Van Putten, Erynn Delahousaye, Michael DeMatties and Chad Hanson, UWRF students, presented their research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research held at UW-La Crosse on April 10-14. Their research shows findings from student surveys on the level of support that UWRF students have for policies regarding the issue of international trade. The complete survey results can be found on the political science website. Not pictured: Hannah Carlson.

UWRF loses student, professor



Donovan Campbell, the UW-River Falls student who had been missing since April 5, died Saturday, April 13, in Utah, according to the Falcon Daily. Campbell, 19, was a sophomore mathematics major at UWRF.



Dennis Robert Cosgrove, a professor in the UWRF Plant and Earth Science Department since 1988, died unexpectedly at his home in rural Spring Valley on Friday, April 12. He was 57-years-old.

Bicycle-sharing program sparks community events

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On the UW-River Falls campus a bicycle-sharing program is now being offered in a new way that will be offered to more than just students.

Beginning the week of April 8, the Kinni Outdoor Adventures (KOA) will be offering basic bicycle tune-ups for gears, breaks, changing inner tubes and more. That’s just the beginning. On Earth Day, April 22, the bicycle-sharing program will take off with a celebratory bike ride around the city of River Falls though We Bike River Falls.

We Bike River Falls is a joint project through the St. Croix Institute for Sustainable Community Development and the UWRF Office of Student Life. Together they promote bicycle friendly transportation and recreation options through education and awareness programs for a safe, healthy and sustainable community.

Ian Johnson, campus sustainability coordinator and member of We Bike River Falls, explained how the tune-ups will continue over the summer into the fall school year and that there will be about 10 bikes for rental. The bikes range from hybrids to cross over bikes to meet different needs of the community.

“There isn’t another place in town for access to tools and open stand time that rent bikes out to the public, it’s all very exciting,” Johnson said.

The rental program will be free to students living on and off campus, and only a small fee will be applied to the general public, as well as faculty and staff.

Tiffany Gaulke, assistant staff director for campus recreation, came up with the bicycle-sharing idea on her own by looking at the staff time and budgets. Gaulke is new to the campus as of last fall and is also part of the We Bike River Falls program.

“Start-up equipment and tools needed to begin bike service would be purchased for KOA

by grant funding provided by We Bike River Falls. The equipment would be purchased at a discounted rate from Crankworx Bike Shop,” Gaulke said.

Three KOA staff members, including Gaulke and the KOA Coordinator, will be trained in bike mechanics through a four week/12 hour course. Having properly trained staff will allow for providing optimal service and program sustainability through the internal training of additional hires each academic year. During the week there will be four times when people will be able to pick up and drop off their bikes for maintenance, assessments and service.

The bicycle rental plan alone is expected to vary from \$2,000 or less. A full-blown campus/city bike share program would cost \$75,000 or more, according to the Sustainable Campus-Community Plan, which is expected to take place somewhere in the future.

The second part of the bicycle-sharing program is that a network of on-campus roads, major pathways and recreational paths are being planned with the future expansion of the campus. This is specifically directed toward a more sustainable transportation method besides walking and driving to and from classes, work and back home. The development of a bicycle plan to coincide with and address the master plan of projects taking place is anticipated to cost between \$6,000-\$8,000.

“I think this program is a great thing, it offers more services to students. Also it will hopefully spark interest for students to bike. I think once word gets out about the program I think students will find interest in it,” said Becky Gruening, a senior at UWRF.

For more information about the bicycle-sharing program or other sustainability projects planned for the University, you can find a copy of the Sustainable Campus-Community Plan by visiting <http://www.uwrf.edu/Sustain> or also referring to Gaulke or Johnson with any questions or comments.

Wyman Series at UW-River Falls presents Julia ‘Butterfly’ Hill



Photo by University Communications
Julia “Butterfly” Hill will be speaking at UWRF at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, in Abbott Concert Hall. Hill lived in a redwood tree for just over two years.

The Wyman Series at UW-River Falls will present “What’s Your Tree? Believe in Your Dreams and Your Power to Change the World” with featured speaker Julia “Butterfly” Hill at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, in Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. The event is free and open to the public.

For 738 days beginning in Dec. 1997, Hill lived in the canopy of an ancient redwood tree, named Luna, on the California coast to make the world aware of the plight of ancient forests.

Her actions gained international attention for the redwoods as well as other environmental and social justice issues.

Hill’s story is chronicled in her book, “The Legacy of Luna: The Story of a Tree, a Woman, and the Struggle to Save the Redwoods,” which will be available for sale at the lecture. The evening will include a question and answer session as well as a book signing.

For more information about Hill or her books, visit her website at <http://www.julibutterfly.com/en/>.

For more about the Wyman Series at UWRF, visit <http://www.uwrf.edu/StudentLife/ActivitiesAndEvents/WymanSeries.cfm>.

Continue the conversation at a Talking Circle event with Hill surrounding the topic, “What’s Your Tree? Believe in Your Dreams and Your Power to Change the World,” from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 25, in the St. Croix River Room of the University Center. Free and open to the public.

For more information or for special accommodations, call the Office of Student Life at 715-425-4444.

Submitted by University Communications

River Falls Police/UWRF Police Department

- March 14**
- Nathaniel T. Washington was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption in Ames Suites.
 - Kyle Lee Johnson was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption in Ames Suites.
 - Kayla Ann Worden was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption in Ames Suites.
- April 14**
- Dakota James Steves was fined \$263.50 for underage consumption in McMillan Hall.
 - Jace Allen Marek was fined \$389.50 for a second offense of underage consumption in Grimm Hall.

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

Check out the Student Voice online at uwrfvoice.com

News briefs

UWRF to offer new bachelor’s degree completion program

UW-River Falls will offer a new bachelor of applied science degree with concentrations in computer science, geographic information science and criminal justice beginning in August 2013.

The new degree will provide a way for individuals who have associate’s degrees in one of these areas to continue their education and obtain a bachelor’s degree.

Research has shown that individuals with a bachelor’s degree have increased earning potential and better career opportunities. This degree is the newest of several degree completion programs offered by UWRF to meet the higher education needs of working adults throughout western Wisconsin and the Twin Cities.

Market analysis predicts strong job growth among all three occupational areas.

“There are several schools in our area that offer associate degrees for individuals who want to get started in a career in information technology, law enforcement or urban planning,” said Katrina Larsen, UWRF outreach director. “After working for a while, these individuals realize that their job opportunities and salaries could be much improved if they had a bachelor’s degree.”

The Bachelor of Applied Science is an applied baccalaureate that includes advanced technical training in sciences in combination with liberal arts courses. Previously obtained college credits from an accredited school may

be applied toward the bachelor program.

Students may be admitted to the program if they have earned an associate’s degree in computer science, criminal justice, geographic information system or a related field. Individuals who have made significant progress toward completing a degree from an accredited higher-education institution and have work experience in a related field may be enrolled as space permits.

Students will have access to specialized labs, state-of-the-art facilities and experienced faculty, a class schedule that is convenient to working adults, and a single tuition rate of \$300 per credit, regardless of residency. Students will gain specific skills in areas where increased jobs are expected and can complete their degree in as few as three years while working.

For information on admissions requirements and how to apply, visit the UWRF website or contact the Pamela Bowen at 715-425-0653 or 800-228-5607 or email pamela.bowen@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at <http://www.uwrf.edu/ContinuingEducation>.

Take Back the Night rally to raise awareness of sexual violence

Turningpoint shelter for victims of domestic violence is partnering with the St. Croix Sexual Assault Response team to raise aware-

UWRF Dance Team finishes ninth at national competition



Photo by Carleen Diggins
The UW-River Falls Dance Team travelled to Daytona, Fla., to compete in the national dance team competition. The UWRF team finished in ninth place at the competition.

ness concerning sexual violence by hosting their second annual Take Back the Night march, rally and inter-faith candlelight vigil starting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, at St. Bridget’s Catholic Church.

Admission is free and the public is welcome. There will be T-shirt, poster making, music, an open mic and other activities offered.

Take Back the Night is a powerful national movement started in the 1970s to combat sexual violence and abuse on campuses in communities around the world.

Take Back the Night is a community wide march and rally intended as a protest and direct action against rape and other forms of sexual violence.

Take Back the Night inspires men and women to take a stand against violence and illuminates the darkness of sexual violence offering the victims a chance to heal.

For more information, contact Turningpoint at 1-800-345-5104 or www.turningpoint-wi.org and St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team at 1-877-572-6313 or www.stcroixvalleysart.org.

Senior art student presents one-day art installation at River Falls Yard Waste Site

UW-River Falls senior Spencer Cleland will be presenting a one-day, site-specific installation for his BFA Degree at the River Falls Yard Waste Site, 901 W. Locust St., on April 26. Cleland’s sculptures will highlight his new found process of coupling hand-carved log molds with hot glass.

Cleland, of Mounds View, Minn., has been blowing glass for eight years, creating func-

tional vessels and decorative objects. He started working with hot glass at Anoka-Ramsey (Minn.) Community College and transferred to UWRF in 2008 to finish his BFA degree. Over the years, Cleland has had six different glass instructors and has worked with countless established artists who have influenced both his creative talents and techniques.

This year Cleland had been exposed to the process of casting hot glass into a log mold that has allowed him to expand his creative dialogue with glass art.

Cleland has chosen the Yard Waste Site for the installation because it is the source of the raw materials, and the area lends itself to the aesthetic of his new work.

An installation reception will be held from 5-8 p.m. on Friday, April 26, at the River Falls Yard Waste Site. The event is free and open to the public.

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

Parking permit sales to begin next week

Parking permits available online for the 2013-2014 school year will become accessible to UW-River Falls students starting next week.

Seniors who have obtained 90 or more credits will be eligible to purchase parking permits beginning on April 22. Juniors and sophomores with anywhere from 59-89 completed credits will be eligible from April 29.

Returning freshman who have completed 29 or less credits will be able to purchase permits beginning May 6.

Finally, incoming students will be eligible starting June 24.

Hall manager positions removed for fall

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The Department of Residence Life at UW-River Falls will be undergoing a major change with the hall manager (HM) position in the residence halls starting this summer.

Currently, HMs have been in charge of making sure each residence hall runs smoothly. Starting this summer, however, the HM position will cease to exist and will be replaced by a complex director.

“In some cases they will have two halls. In the smaller halls, for example Crabtree and Parker, and they (the complex director) will live in one of them. There will be an assistant complex director in the other one,” said Director of Residence Life Sandi Scott Duex.

The assistant complex director will be an undergraduate student at UWRF while the complex director will be a graduate assistant enrolled through the UW-La Crosse online program.

The complex directors will be enrolled in UW-La Crosse’s online graduate program

working toward receiving their student affairs administration degree. UW-La Crosse is not currently running this program with any other school.

According to Scott Duex, UWRF had students with a master’s degree managing the residence halls before making the switch to HMs.

“Our hall managers have done an amazing job,” Scott Duex said. “But there are certain things that we just can’t have hall managers do as undergraduate students.”

Scott Duex said one of the things which the undergraduate students struggle with is having one on one conversations with residents who are their peers.

She said that the graduate students are going to school to prepare to work with certain scenarios which undergraduate students may have, such as: dropping out, switching roommates, etc.

“There are certain things that we just can’t have hall managers do as undergraduate students,” said Director of Residence Life Sandi Scott Deux.

An additional change that will be made will be the resident-director relationship. Currently, HMs do not talk to residents involved with policy and conduct violations.

The complex director will talk about these violations with the residents who have committed them.

The role of the assistant complex director will be to focus mainly on paperwork as well as occupancy related issues, or the administrative aspect. They will also be the advisor to each building’s hall council.

There will be a total of four assistant complex directors starting next year.

Current Ames Suites Hall Manager Max Dalton said that the change is for the better.

“From a student standpoint, there is a lot that people can learn from working with graduate students, and the graduate students

can also bring a lot to the table,” Dalton said.

“From a manager standpoint I also think that it is a great opportunity because the type of work that I currently do is what the graduate students often time want to go into professionally or at least some aspects of it.”

While the graduate students will be coming from UW-La Crosse, Scott Duex said there should not be any major issues for them transitioning over to UWRF.

She said that the graduate students will start over the summer which will be enough time to get them acquainted with the campus and their job before the residents arrive on Aug. 31, Move-In Day.

However, Scott Duex said there is always uncertainty about what will happen when undergoing a change like this.

Dalton agreed, “The thing that has to be remembered is that every process isn’t perfect when it is first set into place but with a little work and some troubleshooting along the way, the end result can be something very new and exciting for everybody that is involved.”

Budget: WRFW only org to appeal original decision

From page 1

tween other radio stations and WRFW is that WRFW relies on money given to them by AFAB.

Schultz said in the next year they will not have an operating budget that allows them to replace technology that breaks, the directors of the station will not be paid and the events that the station hosts might not be a reality on campus next year.

The realities of a smaller budget have also hit the Commissioned Composer Project that UWRF has had for over 40 years.

“When we started, AFAB really wasn’t around,” said Jacob Myer, the president of the project. “The organization got its money from cigarette machines, which is kind of cool history, but obviously that’s not really realistic anymore.”

The money the group receives goes to paying the composer who “does that for a living,” housing and food for the composer and the every day costs of playing music, like paper and music rights, Myer said.

“We can make the money we have work, we feel,” he said. “We’ve had low numbers before. We can probably make something work.”

At the same time, he said that “it’s going to be difficult.”

Gender and Sexuality Alliance also received money, but not the money they asked for. The group plans to use the money they received on the two drag shows for next year.

“It seems like campus really enjoys the drag show, so we really want to be able to provide that every semester,” said Austen Edman the co-chair of GSA.

“It’s hard right now for everyone. It’s hard when enrollment is down, when tuition is up and that turns people away. It’s just difficult for everyone,” he said, adding that he would not want to be the one making the decision of who got what money.

There are many rules that the committee of students has to follow when breaking up the money, including viewpoint neutrality.

The purpose of viewpoint neutrality is to prevent discrimination against different student organizations based on how big the group is, how long it has been around at UWRF, how they have spent money in the past and even their previous budgets.

“That stuff is designed so that groups don’t get discriminated against. The ideas behind them are really sound.” Lyksett said. “When some of them get put into practice it gets frustrating.”

“Viewpoint neutrality is good to a point,” Edstrom said.

She added that it would be good to be able to look at the groups’ history of spending and what the presence of their group is like, but it is something that cannot be looked at with the current rules in place.

“When we get our budgets at the beginning of each school year, we are told by the Student Senate to spend all of our money yet there are always groups sending money back,” said Luke Affolter, the secretary for College Republicans. “I can only speak for the College Republicans, but we make sure to spend every cent we are given.”

Edstrom said if she could look at an aspect like that it would be beneficial when distributing the money so they could give the groups more money if they needed it.

“Every student organization needs a budget that allows them to be productive,” said Affolter.

Edstrom said over the summer, if she is re-appointed to the AFAB chair position that she would like to meet with Paul Shepherd to see how big of an impact viewpoint neutrality had on the decisions made during this budget season.

Of the 64 student organizations that asked for money, 52 received part of their proposed budget.

Senate: Tony Sumnicht wins VP race

From page 1

O’Brien said.

She also said she wished she had been more assertive early on.

“Sometimes it is easy to get caught up in public opinion, but I learned it is OK to take a stance.”

That is one of the biggest challenges Tauchen forsees.

“Being president is a huge responsibility. We have to try and balance what is right for the entire student body. We can’t please everyone, and I’m not looking to please, be-

cause we also have to look at the big picture and for future students,” Tauchen said.

Tauchen’s running mate, Tony Sumnicht was elected to be vice president through a ballot not connected with Tauchen’s (each position is elected separately). He received 323 votes, while current Vice President Matthew Hobbs received 139 votes. In all, 499 students voted in the election.

However, both Tauchen and Sumnicht campaigned together and share many of the same ideas and goals for Senate. But for now, Tauchen will share in his family and Senate’s tradition of public service.

President: *Sam Tauchen 351 Votes Dominic Riel 121 Votes	Vice President: *Tony Sumnicht 323 Votes Matthew Hobbs 139 Votes
CAFES: *Tanner Johnson 166 Votes	CBE: *Stephen Middlemiss 15 Votes Dominic Riel 14 Votes Matthew Shutey 11 Votes Jeremy Schotroff 9 Votes Christopher Post 7 Votes
CEPS: *Hannah Klingfus 89 Votes	
CAS: *Matthew Stewart 46 Votes Mariah Cooper 37 Votes Mohammad Battah 20 Votes Amanda Young 17 Votes Joseph Norby-White 9 Votes Non-Traditional: Christopher Post 432 Votes	At-Large: *Riley Haynes: 220 *Matthew Hobbs: 196 *Dominic Riel:193 *Mariah Cooper: 146 *Amanda Young: 133 *Matthew Shutey: 92 *Mohammed Battah: 90 *Nicholas Vanden Huevel: 88 Jeremy Schotroff: 81 Joseph Norby-White: 48

Above: Results from the Student Senate general election in which 499 students voted. The new Senate will take office on Tuesday, April 30.

Registrar: New services provide ease of access

From page 1

dents when they come in, and a new printer.

Students are still welcome to come when they need assistance and the staff will walk them through the steps to access the information that they are looking for.

Senior biology major Spencer Theis said that he usually goes into the Registrar’s Office about once a year just to make sure everything is going smoothly with his enrollment at UWRF. He also said that the changes that are being made will be helpful to all students.

“It’s always a hassle trying to call the school, so that will be nice to be able to do that (enrollment verification) yourself,” Theis said. “It will make students more confident.”

Theis said that it would also be less stressful for students to be able to do more things themselves with their enrollment and loan information.

Another change that will be coming to UWRF within the next couple of months will be a new program called U.select that will assist students that are looking to transfer to campus.

Future students will have the opportunity to create a DAR that will allow them to see what classes will transfer over and what classes they would still need to take.

Minnesota schools already use the U.select program and UWRF will be either the third or fourth Wisconsin school to use it as well.

“I hope that the students can find it and use it,” Vande Yacht said. “We are here to help serve the students.”

The changes being made to the Registrar’s Office are expected to be active within the next six to nine months, but there has yet to be a set completion date.

However the new Self-Service is now available and ready for use on eSIS under “Enrollment Verification” located in the academic drop down box under Academics.

tion.

Another change the Registrar’s Office is hoping to make within the next year, or the next few months, is an upgrade to the Degree Audit Reports (DAR).

The staff at the Registrar’s Office is currently working on an interactive DAR to make it easier for students to figure out classes and their major.

“I would use them (DAR and eSIS) more if they were more user friendly and interactive,” said Melanie Becker, a junior and communicative disorders major.

Although Becker is a junior, it is only her second semester here at UWRF and she admits that she has not had to stop into the Registrar’s Office very much yet. However, the few times she has stopped by, her experience has been a good one.

“I went in there and said this is what I need and they were able to help me,” Becker said.

Another change that will

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EDITORIALS

UWRF students encouraged to attend first Ag Day

For the first time ever, UW-River Falls will be hosting an Ag. Day on campus. The event will take place on Thursday, April 25, and will have various events, food and speakers throughout the day. Frankly, all students should come to this event, if they have a chance, and not just because there is a free meal. Agriculture and farming is a very large dynamic on the UWRF campus, but a lot of people simply don’t understand what that entails. One only need look at the UWRF Confessions page to see that there is a disconnect between the “farming culture” and the “city culture” on campus. Most, if not all of that, stems from lack of knowledge.

To be on campus and hear, every once and while, a person say that farming is not important because our food comes from the grocery store is simply appalling. Honestly, where do you think that food comes from? A wizard who sits in the back of the grocery store?

In addition, it is not uncommon to hear people, who do not have a farming background question the importance of farming. That is simply absurd.

Anyone who has driven I-94 in Wisconsin has no doubt noticed that outside of a few major cities, there is not much to see other than farms. Did it ever occur to you that just maybe there is a reason we have so many farms? It’s because they are important.

Ag. Day presents an opportunity for all students to be able to experience and learn more about the agriculture background, which many students on campus have.

From dairy production to poultry farming, Ag. Day will help to showcase where the food on our plates come from.

Remember, just because you may not come from a farming background, or because you don’t understand it, doesn’t mean it isn’t important.

Next time you are eating in Riverside Commons, or anywhere for that matter, take a look at your food and remember that most of it, if not all, has come from a farm somewhere. It was not produced magically in the grocery store.

Again, if the confessions page is any indication, there is a huge disconnect between two cultures on the UWRF campus. The biggest part of said disconnect is simply the lack of understanding. Ag. Day presents a great opportunity for everyone on campus to learn about the various aspects of agriculture and farming.

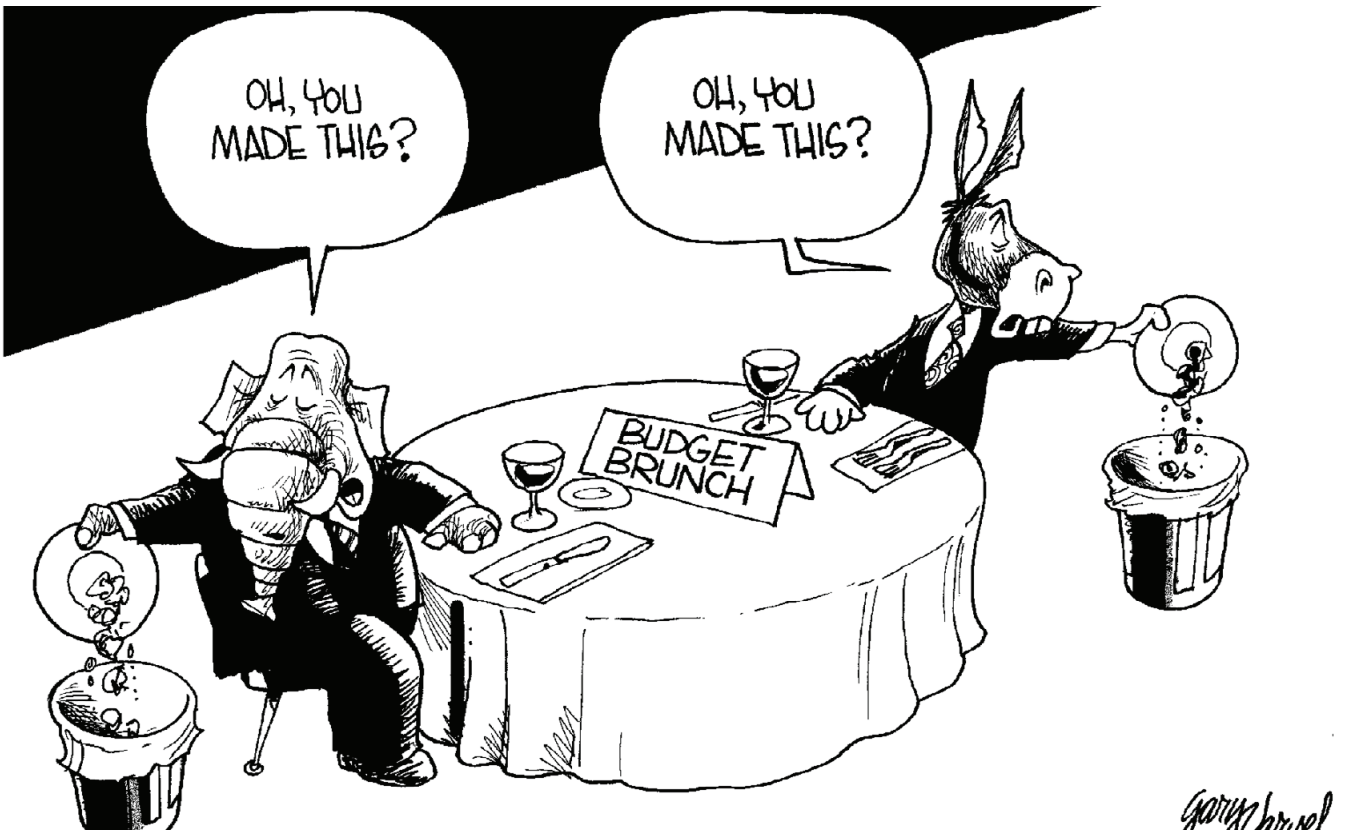
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USBICEF College Cartoons

Bombings bring perspective



Amanda White
Columnist

I was going to write this week’s column about my weekend trip to see my aunt and her family, but then the explosions in Boston happened and I didn’t feel much like writing about seeing a musical and shopping. You see my weekend trip was partially spent in Boston. It doesn’t mean much as I left early in the weekend, but I couldn’t help but get shaken up. New York City is a world hub of commerce, politics and journalism, not to speak of entertainment. These are the very reasons why I have always wanted to move here. But people who mean harm are attracted to New York City, too. Sept. 11, 2001, opened eyes to terrorism and the horror it can create. I was frightened of terrorists then, and I’m frightened of terrorists now. Not to make light of a serious situa-

tion, but I am also terrified of a zombie apocalypse, if only because I know I wouldn’t be much help to others and myself.

Anyway, I knew moving to New York City would mean increased risk of harm. However, what is the point of life if I live in fear of something that may never happen? Living outside one’s comfort zone often results in the best experiences that would not have happened if that first step hadn’t been taken.

Needless to say, when I read about the Boston Marathon explosions, all the fear of terrorism I had worked to conceal came rushing back to me. Every time I checked CNN or refreshed my Twitter feed, a new wave of tears threatened to spill over.

I am angry that these explosions happened, and my heart is broken for the broken bodies of the victims. But testimonies of heroism continue to pour in. After the explosions occurred, footage shows spectators running toward them, not away. They jumped in to

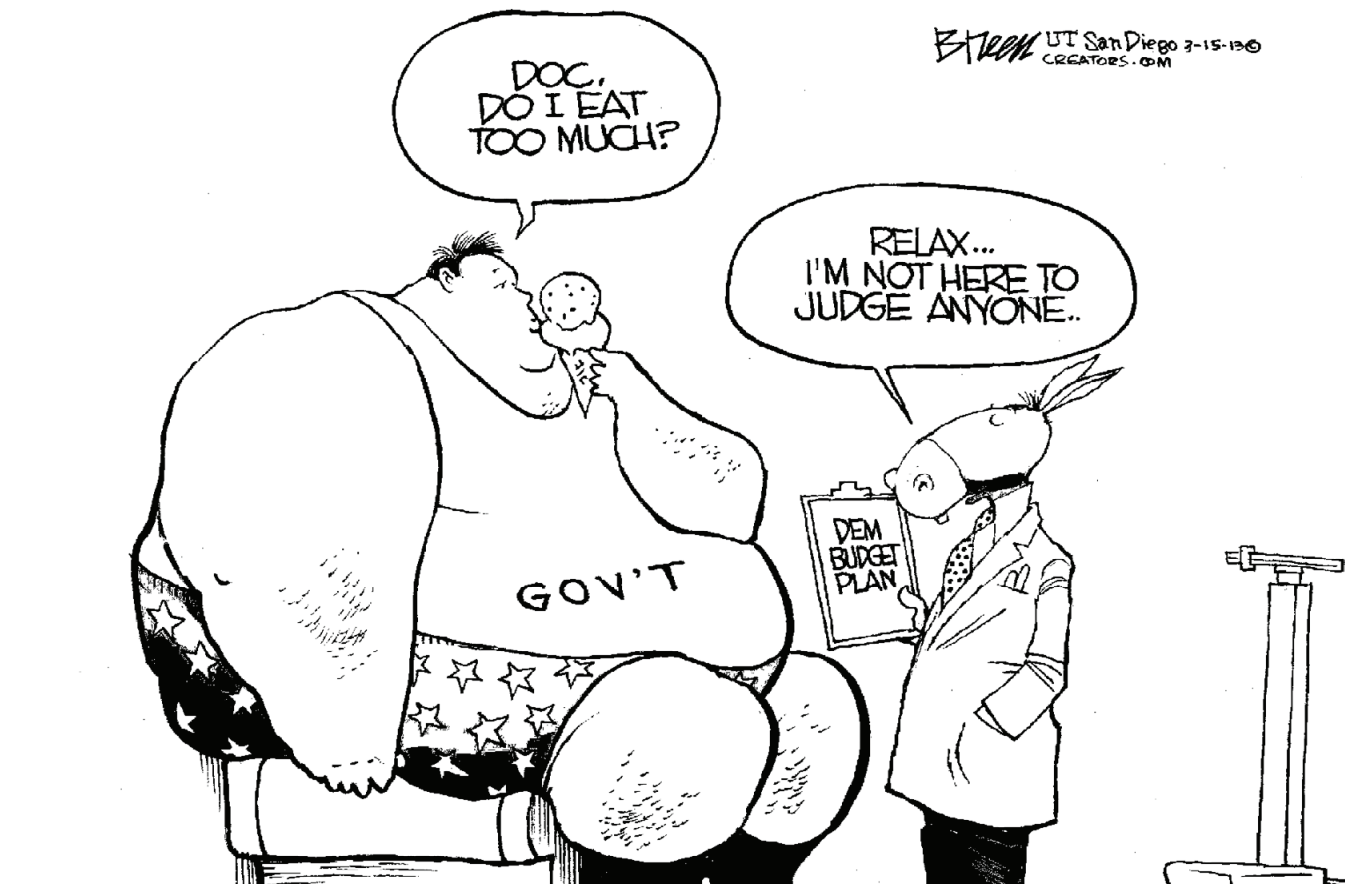
help, with no regard to the fact that there may be subsequent explosions and they are putting themselves at risk.

Not to make light of a serious situation, but I am also terrified of a zombie apocalypse, if only because I know I wouldn’t be much help to others and myself.

Many marathoners were reported to continue running past the finish line right to the hospital to donate blood, and area businesses and residents offered free services to runners and spectators alike.

These tales warmed my heart and reminded me of the overwhelming inherent goodness in people on a day when everything seemed awful and scary. That’s the point of terrorism, to instill fear and panic. Mourn, but don’t stop living your life to the fullest. Watch the news, but know when to turn it off and take new information with a grain of salt. And hug everyone you love. I really wish I could hug my parents and sister, but I’ll have to wait until May. Until then, here’s a written hug.

Amanda is a junior, majoring in journalism. She is currently studying in New York City. She enjoys entertainment fashion and public transportation.



USBICEF College Cartoons

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, Carolyn Derksen.

Report the find to editor@uwrfvoice.com AFTER 10 a.m. Friday.

Community invited to attend Ag Day on campus

Morgan Stippel

Columnist

There are many people in our nation who do not know or understand where their food comes from. Due to the way the industry operates today, it is not uncommon to hear someone say, “I get my food from the grocery store.” This lack of knowledge about the source of our food is dangerous to society. It is important for citizens to be informed about where their food is coming from.

Agriculture has undergone many changes throughout the years. Two-hundred years ago, 90 percent of the United States’ population lived on farms and produced their own food to eat. Today, only about 2 percent of the U.S. population produces food for everyone to eat. This change seems upside down when one analyzes the trend in population growth.

Currently, there are about 7 billion people living on our planet. This number is expected to reach 9 billion by the year 2050.

There are fewer people in the U.S. involved in production agriculture. The agriculture industry has responded to this immense population growth through the implementation of major technological advancements. These advancements have allowed the industry to produce enough food to feed the ever-growing number of people in the world. While these advancements have greatly improved production rates, they have distanced consumers from their local producers.

There are far more “middle men” involved in the distribution process than ever before to ensure that consumers have enough food available to them. The food that is produced

by local farmers is sent to local processing plants to add value to the products. Grocery stores order food from these processing plants. When a grocery store orders this food, it is delivered and put on shelves for consumers to purchase.

The evolution of this complex process means that consumers rarely have face-to-face interactions with their local producers like they once did in the past. However, it is unrealistic for consumers to expect farming to go back to “the way it used to be.” If producers were to grow food in the same manner they did 200 years ago, people would be starving left and right. As consumers, we are responsible for learning and understanding where our food comes from.

One way to take initiative in this learning process is by attending the first annual Ag. Day on campus. This event will take place on Thursday, April 25. There will be a variety of events taking place throughout the day to inform students, faculty, and the community members about agriculture.

From 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. there will be booths set up along the University Center mall featuring 14 student organizations from the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences. In addition, eight businesses will be coming to campus to further educate students about agriculture.

Each booth will feature something different that is designed to support a general understanding of agriculture. The booths will be diverse and cover a wide range of agricultural elements, so there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Many of the booths will have animals, free food, interactive activities and more.

In the society we live in today, it is vital for consumers to take it upon themselves to learn about where their food comes from.

Dairy Club will be bringing calves to campus for students to view and pet. In addition, they will share facts about the dairy industry, have a cow to milk and offer free root beer floats. Similarly, the Poultry Club will be bringing chickens to campus for a portion of their booth.

Another booth run by the men of Alpha Gamma Rho will revolve around the theme “Rethink Your Drink.” They will provide students with nutritional information about popular beverages and offer free milk. The Crops and Soils booth will be serving “dirt cups” while providing information about soil.

At 6 p.m., everyone is invited to enjoy a free meal served by the UWRF Collegiate Farm Bureau in the Agricultural Science building on campus. There will be pork sandwiches, hamburgers, chips, cookies, milk, and many other local foods. After dinner at 7 p.m., Charlie Arnot, CEO of Center for Food Integrity, will be speaking in the Agricultural Science building in room 200. Arnot will be discussing the topic of “Building Trust in Today’s Food Systems.”

The ultimate goal of Ag. Day on campus is to educate the River Falls community about various elements of agriculture. In the society we live in today, it is vital for consumers to take it upon themselves to learn about where their food comes from. Attending Ag. Day on campus is a great way to take the first step in this process.


Morgan is a junior majoring in political science and minoring in professional writing. When she graduates from UW-River Falls, she wants to become a state prosecutor and specialize in domestic violence cases.

STUDENT VOICES

What do you think the minimum wage should be?


Compiled by Brianna Samson

Andrea Sorenson
Senior




“\$10.25, so people could have a better chance of living off of this wage.”

Allison Chapeau
Sophomore




“\$7.75.”

Rome Gonstead
Senior



“Minimum wage would need to be raised slowly in order for smaller companies to adjust. A good starting point would be \$1.75.”

Emily Dierberger
Junior



“\$8.50.”

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Positions available include 

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Applications are available outside of room 304 in North Hall.

Applications are due by April 24.

Golf showing improvement under Cranston

Ashley Goettl
ashley.goettl@my.uwrf.edu

Head Coach Matt Cranston has high expectations for his golf team this spring. But after coming off the team’s best finish since 2005, the third-year head coach has every reason to be optimistic. Last season, the team placed fourth in the WIAC.

This is a huge improvement from when Cranston started as coach in 2010 when the team finished seventh and in 2011 when they placed sixth.

However, what has Cranston excited is that the team of nine women return it’s top performers from the fall campaign, including freshman Gillian McDonald.

In her first season with the Falcons, McDonald earned All-WIAC honors and shot the second lowest round in school history at 78. She was the only freshman named to the All-WIAC squad and has already written her name into the Falcon record book.

Out of the top seven rounds, McDonald holds five of those spots, according to the UW-River Falls Athletics website.

Last fall, she averaged 82.5 per round, leading UWRF. Teammate Paige Cook holds the fifth all-time score of 79.

“Gillian will be one of our leaders once again,” Cranston said. “She’s got a nice, solid, sweet swing. Her, along with Abby Lucas and Lauren Schweppe are coming off their best seasons and they keep improving.”

Lucas averaged 94.9 and Schweppe a 99.2. As a team, the Falcons tied the 2005 squad with the best team two-day total of 686 at Wartburg College. This bested the 2011 squad’s record of 693.

Even though the spring season is shorter than the fall season for the Falcons, McDonald said the team is ready to compete.

“We have a strong group of golfers coming back for this spring, as well as a new addition, Chloe Kinsel, to the team. Based on last season, we definitely have a chance to compete for a solid team finish in every tournament. We also have several individuals who are capable of finishing in the top 10 every time,” McDonald said. “Hopefully we’ll all show improvement from match to match and finish with a strong team score at the end of each tournament.”



Photo by Kathy Helgeson
Head Coach Matt Cranston attends a golf meet this past fall season. The team is preparing for its spring season with the first tournament scheduled for April 20-21, at Bethel University.



Photo by Kathy Helgeson
Gillian McDonald takes a swing at the River Falls Golf Course this past fall. She was the No. 1 golfer on the team in the fall season.

McDonald, Schweppe and Kinsel all also play on the Falcon women’s hockey team, which is coached by Cranston’s brother, Joe.

“Joe and I share many of the same philosophies. I feel the relationship that we have will help me make the Falcon golf program successful,” said Cranston in his coaching biography on the UWRF Athletics website.

The first tournament for the Falcons is scheduled for April 20 and 21, at Bethel University, but Cranston said that will probably be cancelled due to the weather.

However, he is not concerned about the team getting it’s season in, because he said he usually adds a few extra tournaments to the schedule for the very reason the spring weather in Wisconsin is unpredictable.

While the weather would seem to put a damper on the season and hurt the Falcons’ chance of competing, Cranston said he’s not concerned because “everybody’s in the same boat.” McDonald concurred, but said the weather has mainly affected the team’s preparations.

“The weather has had a big effect on our spring season. We haven’t been able to practice outside at all, so instead we have been hitting balls into nets in Knowles. The recent snowfall is definitely a setback for us because we would like to play a few practice rounds on the course before our first match on April 20, assuming that the golf courses will be open by then,” McDonald said.

Even though the weather has forced changes for the team, Cranston said the biggest key to being successful in golf is the mental aspect.

“You can have all the talent, but if your head’s not in it, you won’t go far. That is always the biggest thing. When you’re out there competing and the crowd is quiet and you have to concentrate so hard, it can be mentally draining,” Cranston said.

Cranston was named the 2010 WIAC Coach of the Year and is a former Falcon himself.

He played golf and lettered for the Falcons in 1983, 1984 and 1985, and earned his undergraduate degree in agriculture economics in 1985, according to UWRF Sports Information.

Track and field athletes of the week

The women’s track and field team competed last weekend at Winona State University for the Warrior Open meet. This was their first outdoor meet of the season. Senior Katie Rydeen won the 5,000 meter race with a time of 17:46.16. Stephanie Walek was the team’s top performer in field events, winning the javelin throw with a toss of 119-10.

Katie Rydeen






Stephanie Walek

The men’s track and field team competed last weekend at the University of St. Thomas for an indoor meet. They did not compete outdoor due to the weather. Junior Matt Shutey ran a personal best in the 60 meter dash with a time of 8.19 and won the meet. Cole Lubinski jumped his personal best in pole vault with a 14-3 1/4, finishing seventh in the event.

Matt Shutey





Cole Lubinski

Updates in Falcons sports schedules

Track and field:

The Falcon track & field teams will still compete in the Phil Esten Challenge at UW-La Crosse, but the meet will now be held on Sunday, April 21. Action is set to start at 12 p.m. at the Roger Harring Stadium at Veterans Memorial Field Sports Complex.

Softball:

The softball games against UW-Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater will now be played at Williams Stadium at UW-Stout instead of Ramer Field at UW-River Falls on April 20-21. The double header against UWO on April 20, starts at 3 p.m., and the double header against UWW on April 21, starts at 10 a.m. As of now, the team is still scheduled to travel to UW-Eau Claire on Wednesday, April 24, for a double header. The home game scheduled against Bethel University on April 26 has been cancelled.

Tennis:

The tennis team has three home matches scheduled for this weekend, April 20-21. Saturday, April 20, they are scheduled to play at 12 p.m. against St. Catherine University. Sunday, April 21, they are scheduled to play at 9 a.m. against St. Mary’s University and at 3 p.m. against UW-Stout.

Golf:

The golf team has their first tournament scheduled for this weekend, April 20-21 at Bethel University.

Information from UWRF Sports Information

To stay updated on any changes that could occur due to weather this weekend and all UWRF sports updates follow @uwrfvoicesports on Twitter.



www.pureradio887.com

LIVE

FALCON BROADCASTS

UWRF SOFTBALL

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH	SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24
VS	VS	AT
UW-OSHKOSH	UW-WHITEWATER	UW-EAU CLAIRE
DOUBLE HEADER	DOUBLE HEADER	DOUBLE HEADER
3 & 5 PM	10 & 12 PM	4 & 6 PM

Earth Day conference brings new insight to global issues

Elsa Litecky

Columnist

To celebrate Earth Day, I went to a conference at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison, Wis., hosted by the UW-Madison Nelson Institute on April 15. The Nelson Institute is named after the late U.S. Sen. and Wisconsin Gov. Gaylord Nelson who was the founder of Earth Day. Steve Pomplun, director of external relations at Nelson Institute, remembers being at the first Earth Day.

“I was in high school when the first Earth Day happened in 1970. Our school did community clean-up projects, and I was part of a group that helped pull junk out of a local creek. That simple act really left an impression on me. We had been hearing about water pollution and other environmental problems in class, but the Earth Day activities brought it home to our town and our backyards. I can honestly say that Earth Day in 1970 turned me into an environmentalist.”

Pomplun has also been an organizer for the conference since it began in 2007. When asked what had been his most memorable moments at past Earth Day conferences, he responded, “There have been so many amazing speakers, panels and exhibits that it’s hard to choose one. But what really stands out for me are the human interactions that happen each year. People asked great questions of the speakers, exchanged business cards, talked excitedly over lunch and told us that the conference was a meaningful experience for them – that’s

all extremely gratifying.”

While at the conference I experienced this. I saw 2,000 people listening to speakers, asking questions, discussing topics and taking part in the conference. The air crackled with their excitement and energy and the speakers fed off this excitement and returned back to the crowd. The director of the Nelson Institute, Paul Robbins, got the conference off to a quick start. His main point was that conservation is everywhere and he set the tone for the day by encouraging his listeners to think about conservation and living sustainably in their everyday lives because everything is connected.

Robbins was followed by Celine Cousteau who had more to add to living sustainable every day. Cousteau can be called many things: explorer, environmentalist, activist, filmmaker, daughter and granddaughter of famous oceanographers Jean and Jacques Cousteau, and also fierce mother which she fondly referred to herself as at the conference. Regardless of what she is called, her message remained the same: that we are all connected through water, air and the people we meet.

During her presentation she made references to the Amazon rainforest, and something I found memorable was when she talked about interviewing some Amazon natives. She had asked them how they lived sustainably and that was when she realized that “sustainability is a word we created, they live it every day because it’s the only way to live.” I had the pleasure of having lunch with Cousteau and some other students, I asked her what Earth Day meant to her and she took a moment and then said, “It’s a symbolic day, but more of a way of thinking, more of the way a community should be and how everyday should be.”

Later when I asked Jane Goodall the same question, she

mirrored Cousteau’s thoughts, “We have to move to a time when Earth Day is every day, where April 22, is every day.”

Goodall had an overwhelming presence in that small press-room she commanded the questions with the dignity of royalty, the wisdom that only an elder possess, and the deep passion of someone talking about what they loved to do.

I posed the question what had been one of the biggest lessons she had learned throughout her life. She paused and then looked me straight in the eye and said, “The biggest lesson I have learned, I suppose, is to try to act in a way that complies with what you believe in, to walk the talk as much as possible.”

This is what I feel was the belief of every speaker at the conference: they didn’t just talk they all were also taking action in some way. They were all proof that single people and groups could make a difference everyone from Tia Nelson, who talked about her father Nelson to Ken Bonning, who talked about Kohl’s sustainability projects. I can truly say I agree with Goodall in her closing words of the final presentation of the conference.

“These groups of dedicated people fighting for our planet every day give me my greatest hope.”

This is what Earth Day is about: people fighting to live in harmony with nature, because “every single person makes a difference and each day we choose what kind of difference we make,” said Goodall.

Elsa is a sophomore majoring in field biology with a minor in conservation, from Forest Lake, Minn. She enjoys writing, track, skiing and swing dance. She hopes to go on to graduate school for conservation or a wildlife related field. Afterwards, she would like to pursue research or humanitarian efforts in relation to the environment.

Focus, care for environment stays with planet throughout world’s history

Cristin Dempsey

Columnist

It is finally that time of year again. The time when the snow melts and it begins to get warmer outside as everything thaws out. The snow on the trees soon becomes replaced with budding leaves and flowers, and the grass turns from that disgusting brown into a sharp, luscious green. At least we hope that will happen soon. While this seasonal change is widely appreciated by many people, it is not often that people will put aside a special day to appreciate the environment and all of the nature around them.

That is what Earth Day is for. Worldwide, now in April, this day is used to increase awareness and appreciation of Earth’s natural environment. It is never too late to become aware of the natural environment around us and appreciate what there is.

Earth Day has only been recently added to the yearly calendar; it was just added in 1970. John McConnell in a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Conference in San Francisco proposed the concept of Earth Day just a year earlier in 1969. He also proposed that the first day of spring officially be March 21, in the northern hemisphere, a day after the spring equinox, which was the original date of observance. The name was chosen simply

because the unanimous decision was that it was an obvious name that stuck.

In 1970, United States Sen. Gaylord Nelson, from Wisconsin, founded a separate Earth Day, observed on April 22. This was the date of an environmental teach-in that same year. This teach-in came about after Sen. Nelson, an environmental and conservational activist, had witnessed the extreme devastation from the 1969 Santa Barbara Oil Spill and inspiration from student anti-war campaigns.

These teach-ins were also inspired by the huge success on the Vietnam War teach-ins. Over 20 million people participated in the teach-in that year.

There are many ways to observe Earth Day and stay aware of the natural environment.

Originally, Earth Day was only observed in the United States, but before long that changed. The original national Earth Day coordinator Denis Hayes and his organization turned Earth Day into an international holiday in 1990.

This included organized events pertaining to the day in 141 different countries. In addition, numerous communities not only celebrated Earth Day, but they made it into Earth Week. Earth Week consisted of week activities focused on environmental issues. Today, Earth Day is observed in more than 175 countries and by more than 50 million people.

People used the Internet as a principal Earth Day organizing tool for the first time in 2000. It was approached with the ambitious spirit of the first Earth Day and the activists in 1990. This was useful for organizing events around the world. Kelly Evans served as the 2000 campaign’s national director, and Leonardo DiCaprio hosted the event. Despite

Earth week gives students opportunity to get involved in community, campus activities

Molly Breitmün

Columnist

Earth Day is officially Monday, April 22. At UW-River Falls though, we have eight consecutive days of meaningful events to celebrate and care for our planet.

1. Kick off Earth Week with a clean up of our favorite river.
- From 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, at Glen Park join the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (KRLT) and the UWRF Resource Management Club in the 19th annual Kinni River Clean up. You can help protect the health and beauty of the Kinni by volunteering your time to collect refuse along its banks. KRLT is expecting an even bigger turnout this year than last years’ nearly 100 volunteers.
- Meet at the Glen Park Main Shelter (near the tennis courts) at 9 a.m. to sign in, get a map and assignment. The clean up is from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
- KRLT recommends wearing work gloves and boots and other protective gear as well as bringing a water bottle and snack. Lunch will be provided by the River Falls Rotary and The West Wind from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-registry for this free event is appreciated. For details, email info@kinniriver.org or call (715) 425-5738.
2. Do the Math.
- At 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 21, in the UC Trimble River Room. Fossil Free Falcons will be hosting a one-hour film of Bill McKibben’s “Do the Math” tour explaining climate change, followed by a 30 minute live stream discussion with a panel of national experts. If you’ve wanted a straightforward explanation about climate change and what we can do to change our future, this film is for you. Student officer and founder of Fossil Free Falcons, Danny Saunders, will be available for any additional questions.
3. Learn more about the Fossil Free Falcons’ campaign.

- From 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. on Monday, April 22, in the UC Theater a knowledgeable panel composed of students, faculty, and staff will discuss the fossil fuel divestiture campaign that is active on campus. Learn more about UWRF’s current investment in fossil fuels and how this may conflict with the University’s strategic plan that aims to “catalyze economic and sustainable community development.”
4. Engage with a world-renowned environmental activist.
- At 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, in KFA Abbott Concert Hall, Julia “Butterfly” Hill will be speaking on campus as part of the Wyman Series. Hill is most famous for her ecological activism that led to living 738 days in an old-growth California Redwood referred to as “Luna.” Hill was successful in preventing Luna from being logged as well as garnering national and international attention for the vulnerability and importance of old growth forests. Since 1999, after descending Luna for the first time in over two years, Hill has worked as a motivational speaker, writer, and mentor for people seeking social and ecological justice.
- Meet this inspiring woman at 7:30 p.m. in the KFA Abbott Concert Hall. A Q&A session and book signing will follow.
- Hill will also be part of a Talking Circle the following day (Thursday, April 25) from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the St. Croix River Room of the UC. Both events are free and open to the public.
5. Experience “Ancient Wings: A Crane’s Story.”
- The play can be seen at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 25-27 and May 2-4, plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Saturday, April 27, in KFA Blanche David Theatre. This play, featuring puppets, dance and projected scenery, is not simply a play. Created by professor Robin Murray, “The Crane Project” has worked collaboratively with hundreds of people from the campus and within the St. Croix Valley community to develop the performance and to raise awareness about this very special bird.
- Additionally, Jeb Barzen, director of Field Ecology at the International Crane Foundation, will speak at a brown bag lun-

- cheon at 12 p.m. on Friday, April 26, in the UC Trimble River Room. Barzen’s talk is free and open to the public. Barzen will also lead a public discussion following the Friday night performance of “Ancient Wings.”
- Tickets to “Ancient Wings” are \$5 for students.
6. Attend the Outdoor Film Festival.
- From 7 p.m.-11 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, at UC Fire Pit: Kinni Outdoor Adventures (KOA) is hosting their second annual outdoor film festival. The event is free. S’mores, yard games, a bonfire and slack-line will be provided (slack-lining is like a loose tightrope balance challenge).
- KOA is featuring some short films as well as Seth Warren’s documentary “Nature Propelled.” Warren and his crew traveled in an eco-friendly fire truck to follow the life cycle of water while also engaging the public in discussion about outdoor sports, renewable energy and lifestyle changes that can mutually benefit the earth and the people that make them.
7. Partake in pedal power.
- From 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. on Friday, April 26, at Veteran’s Park: We Bike River Falls’ first community bike ride of the year will end up at the Kinni Outdoor Adventures Bike Garage Grand Opening at the Knowles garage.
8. Get dirty in the brand new student garden.
- From 5 p.m.-7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30, the Student Alliance for Local and Sustainable Agriculture is breaking ground in the first-ever UWRF student garden. All students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome in sharing in this opportunity.

You are invited to help stake out the garden plots, weed, and plant early season vegetables for the garden. This first season’s goal is to grow vegetables to make salsa to sustainably fulfill the operating costs of the garden.

Rain or shine, follow the signs on campus to the student garden, just beyond the amphitheater on the path to the athletic fields.

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Find Freddy’s Feather!

Be the first to find the lost Freddy the Falcon Feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie tickets.

Email the Voice at editor@uwrvoice.com

Gruesome new twist to ‘Evil Dead’



Ryan Funes

Reviewer

The movies are rough with undead witches and plenty of gore in “Evil Dead,” the remake of the horror-cult classic, and I was relieved to find this horror film didn’t stink.

In a cabin in the middle of the woods lies dark secrets, residue from a dark ritual, and a book bound in human flesh with strange writings and warnings all written all across it. This cabin happens to be the place where five friends will come together to help one of their own, but this getaway trip may prove to be their last.

When one friend reads aloud from the skin-bound book all hell breaks loose. The spirit of an ancient witch is awoken and possesses one of the friends.

With the witch inside her, these friends will need to ban together against the vile force that haunts the cabin to find a way to end this vicious and evil cycle, and free their friend from the supernatural forces that persist.

Horror is not something I am very passionate about, usually because it doesn’t hold my interest, but I admit to at least seeing the classic “Evil Dead” trilogy and loving it for all its campy horror goodness. If you have not seen the classics, definitely check them out for a good shoddy, horror time and for a major laugh in “Army of Darkness.”

As for the remake, I am very thankful that not only is it decent, but it’s a fairly good horror film for someone who has not indulged his gory side for a while.

The film hits pretty much

For those who are squeamish at the thought of a cut finger, this definitely isn’t the movie for you, but if you’re the gore fan, then this movie will be like a breath of fresh air to you.

all of the main points of the original: friends go to cabin, find book, book is evil and brings dead witches to life, they fight them off and get a few good lines in. “Evil Dead” takes that original concept and goes with it, which

reluctantly feels well put together by the end, with no characters coming off as too whiney or irrational, a problem I have heard many horror film characters go through.

One thing the movie does better than the original is in the gore department. For those who are squeamish at the thought of a cut finger, this definitely isn’t the movie for you, but if you’re the gore fan, then this movie will be like a breath of fresh air to you. If you’re OK with blood spraying everywhere, “Evil Dead” uses it to a satisfying level for horror fans.

The direction of the movie also helps with relating the picture to the original, if only slightly. Fast close up shots and pan outs accompany the gore and horror that help make it feel as campy as the original, to an extent. The music also uses nice horror stings that parallel the original “Evil Dead” which set the mood pretty well. For the most part, the movie does its own thing while trying to be relatable to the original, which I can respect and

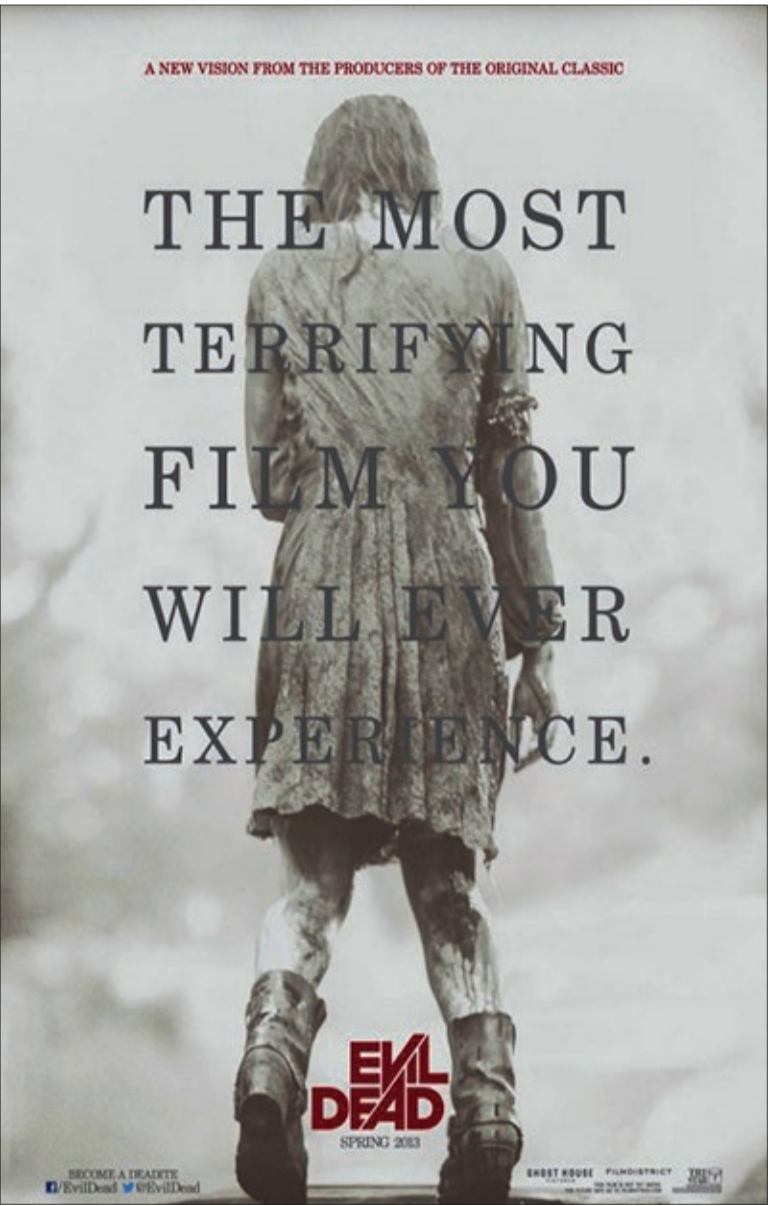
enjoy at the same time.

Despite how much I actually enjoyed a horror movie for once, there were, as always, some problems. The film did an OK job with establishing the characters, but near the end the flick seemed to have trouble keeping the focus on who the hero/heroine was. In all, the ending was the part that felt the most jarring to me, as it ups the gore factor to 11, changes the character focus and made me feel uneasy. Oh the gore didn’t do that, but the whole ending did feel like the movie was self-indulging itself with its special-effects.

For the rest of the flick, it does succumb to other horror tropes, like jump scares and tactics, which don’t scare, but rather annoy the audience member.

In general, while it was at fault, it was also in the right place for most parts as “Evil Dead” manages to be an OK horror film, and that is saying a lot for horror movies today. So rev up your chainsaws and ready your one liners for “Evil Dead” in theaters this week.

Ryan is a lover of all things movie, TV, video games, and stories and wants to become a television writer someday. In his spare time he enjoys hanging with friends, tapping into his imagination and watching cartoons of all kinds.



Queer Prom raises awareness against violence

Rebecca Rudolph
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For the first time at UW-River Falls, a Queer Prom was facilitated. Residence Life and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) supported the Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) in funding the event.

“The idea behind a queer prom is back in the day when high schools didn’t allow same sex couples go to the prom, community members in the community would put on a queer prom,” said Austen Edman, the current co-chair of GSA.

Before the 1980 Aaron Fricke v. Richard B. Lynch case, it was legal for a high school to tell its students that they could not bring dates of the same sex to their high school prom. As a result, queer proms were created as an alternative to the traditional student proms. In 1980 that changed, but Edman said that some students still feel uncomfortable or discriminated against for being part of the Lesbian Gay Bi Transgender (LGBT) community.

Edman said that the point of hosting this Queer Prom was to educate campus about GSA, to make people feel welcomed on campus and to create a fun, “comfortable atmosphere that shows, hey, this is about you.”

Tracy Gerth, the advisor to RHA, said this is exactly why RHA unanimously voted to sponsor the event.

“It’s an event meant to support every single student here on campus,” she said. “[it creates a] safe space to come and

dance and bring the date of your choice.”

Contrary to its history, this event was not organized to create an alternative prom. Edman said he does not feel that any of the local high schools, like River Falls High School and Hudson High School, which had been invited to the event discriminate on sexual orientation.

Instead, the education piece is a key for Edman and for the former co-chair of GSA, Alex Swenson, in creating the event.

“Have fun, educate, be excepting, those are our goals,” Swenson said.

During the well-attended drag shows that GSA hosts twice

“It’s an event meant to support every single student here on campus. [It creates a] safe space to come and dance and bring the date of your choice,” said RHA Advisor Tracy Gerth.

a year, those who attend are shown a piece of what the LGBT community is like, said Edman. He said it also educates them on how diverse the world around them is.

At the Queer Prom, that diversity experience will be present, but Edman said that other community organizations, like Turning Point Domestic Abuse Shelter, St. Croix Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbian and Gays (PFLAG), also will be present.

Erin McNiff is the Client Services Coordinator of St. Croix Valley SART. She said even though River Falls is known as a more “country” university, that the community is still educated about differences in sexual orientation.

Nonetheless, she thinks it is good to show “presence and support” to the group because assault does happen.

“Domestic abuse happens amongst homosexual couples just as it does heterosexual couples. People are people,” Edman said. “The same problems that heterosexual couples face, homosexual couples face the same thing.”

“Pairing with them will show that there is a team that’s on their side that will help them if they need it,” Swenson said.

“We don’t have those judgments [on sexuality],” McNiff said. “Anyone can be assaulted so we won’t turn anyone away.”

She said she did not think anyone should ever fear that they will be turned away from emergency services if assault happens, but that St. Croix Valley SART was making this partnership visible.

With that said, Edman stressed, “If they want to come and just dance, they can dance. But if they want to learn, then that’s what we’re here for.”

GSA is a campus wide student organization that brings awareness to different causes. Take Back the Night, organized by St. Croix Valley SART, is one example. The You are Loved chalk campaign the GSA has every year is another. This campaign was started when awareness was brought to the teen suicides as a result of being bullied because of their sexual orientation.

The purpose was to remind students that, “you need to understand that there are people that care about you regardless of who you are, who you love, or what you identify as,” Swenson said.

“Our mission is to educate campus and just have them be more aware of LGBT issues and how they impact non LGBT community members,” Edman said.

Edman said that these events, including the Queer Prom, try to serve that mission.

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