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UWRF researchers study brain stimulation to help those with aphasia

Katie Galarno
Falcon News Service

Two UW-River Falls professors are testing whether electrical brain stimulation can improve the communication skills of people with aphasia, a disorder that impairs one’s ability to process language.

Speech-language pathologists Naomi Hashimoto and Sharyl Samargia have combined their areas of interest and are working with a participant who they asked be identified only as “G.” G’s abilities to name objects accurately and say the right words became limited after she had a stroke that affected the left hemisphere of her brain, where the language section is held. Hashimoto said that G can understand most of what is said to her but struggles to respond coherently, which has been a challenge for her.

“She was a nurse, so this is a big loss for her because she was a really very verbal, very educated person,” Hashimoto said. “I think she feels keenly that she doesn’t get perceived that way anymore.”

Approximately 1 million Americans have aphasia, according to the National Aphasia Association, and nearly 180,000 Americans acquire it every year, most often as the result of a stroke.

For 20 minutes Monday through Friday, G receives an electric current of two milliamps from a transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) unit, administered by Samargia. The current is of low power and has had no adverse effects associated with it except for the occasional itching or tingling sensation reported by the participant. G then sits down with Hashimoto for traditional behavioral therapy, where Hashimoto talks to G and asks her to describe what is happening in an image. The idea behind this approach is that the brain will still be excited from the electrical current and improve G’s working memory, allowing her to remember and say the correct words.

The research is ongoing and the professors are looking for more participants.

The process of filing the paperwork, applying for grants, getting approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to use the tDCS for aphasia research, finding a place to do the research and finding participants for the study took almost two years. The research is happening without any grant funding, and Hashimoto and Samargia are working out of a University of Minnesota’s laboratory and using its equipment for free.

Hashimoto and Samargia said that they plan to work with three people for the current study and then use the data to request grant funding for a larger study, because getting grant funding is easier when the researchers can prove that their work is feasible or effective. Hashimoto said that the real challenge is going to be finding participants who meet the specific qualifications.

“The thing is that the folks cannot have defibrillators, they can’t have metal implants of any sort and they can’t have had seizures recently,” Hashimoto said. “People who have had strokes and who have aphasia typically will have defibrillators or pacemakers, so that’s ruling out a lot of people.”

Samargia said that, for this kind of study, they’re looking for people who can understand what is said to them but who struggle to communicate, which limits the range of candidates even more.

“We need them to be cognitively able to make decisions and follow directions and that kind of stuff,” Samargia said. “Sometimes if their stroke is pretty large or has impacted their cognition, that puts them out of the pool, too.”

Hashimoto and Samargia said that they currently have a second participant interested in the study, and they hope to have the third by the summer of 2016.

New beef building at UW-River Falls to increase space, safety for students



Tori Schneider / Student Voice
Britt Painter (background), a UWRF maintenance employee, and Dave Skamp (foreground), a plumber with UWRF facilities, work together in the new addition to the beef facility at the Mann Valley Farm March 7.

Natalie Howell
Falcon News Service

A new beef building is under construction at the Mann Valley Farm, one of the two lab farms owned by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Construction started in October and is one the results of a \$733,672 grant awarded to the UWRF Department of Animal and Food Science by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for research.

The “Strategies to Improve Reproductive Performance in the U.S. Beef Cattle Industry” grant was awarded in 2013 and had the overall goal to “develop educational opportunities and nutritional strategies from improving beef cow reproductive performance,” according to a UWRF press release.

The grant was awarded to two faculty members: Justin Luther, associate professor of animal and food science, and Amy Radunz, assistant professor of animal and food science. The grant contributed to the development of a bovine reproductive management course and the funding of six undergraduate research internships in beef cattle reproduction and nutrition.

Radunz said that she believed that UWRF had a good chance of receiving the funding due to the way the grant was set up and what it focused on.

“This was kind of exciting to have a grant program focused on a university setting such as ourselves that has a very strong agricultural program,” Radunz said. “In some ways what helped is (the grant) was new and we decided we had a pretty good chance, probably a better chance than we would have through other funding programs.”

For facilities for beef research, \$45,000 of the grant went toward the construction of the new beef building to allow for more space and a safer environment for research, according to Associate Director of Facilities Management Alan Symicek. The rest of the budget for the new building, about \$134,000, came from the state.

“When we go to Madison to ask for funding projects, if we can come with some money in hand, that leverages or im-

proves the chances of getting some funding for some of these things,” Symicek said.

The need for a new beef building to house UWRF courses and the research funded by the grant came down to space, safety and the outdated facilities, according to Radunz. At the current location, there is only one palpation chute in which students can observe one cow, whereas at the new building there will be six. Other important changes include more space for workbenches and storage for supplies when dealing with the cattle.

According to Radunz, 50 percent to 60 percent of students she works with don’t have experience with beef cattle. That is why the increase of cattle space for hands-on experience is so important.

“I have students that have a sincere interest in being a part of the beef cattle industry, don’t necessarily come from a beef cattle background or a very small operation,” Radunz said. “And it allows them to, especially in a facility like this and under teaching circumstances, to gain some experience and some confidence in working beef cattle and working around beef cattle.”

It also was important to have a location set up strictly for handling cattle in a safe manner, said Symicek said. This included having areas where students can be where the animals can’t and having a climate-controlled area for expensive equipment.

UWRF animal science courses that will be housed in the new beef building include beef cattle production, meat animal production, bovine reproductive management, and perhaps reproductive physiology and introduction to animal science, according to Radunz. The building could also host the St. Croix Valley Bull Test.

Construction for the new beef building is scheduled to be finished up by the end of March, with classes being able to utilize the building for the upcoming fall semester.

“I am very excited to use it this fall,” Radunz said. “It’s just going to be very good for our students and for our teaching capabilities, and so I’m very excited.”

UWRF College of Arts and Sciences to face harsh changes after \$1.5 million cut

Katie Galarno
katie.galarno@my.uwr.edu

The UW-River Falls College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) will be seeing a reduction in the numbers of courses and faculty for the 2016-2017 academic year as a result of trimming \$1.5 million from its budget.

Dean of CAS Bradley Caskey said that when the budget cuts for the 2015-2017 biennial were announced, the College of Arts and Sciences planned to reflect the necessary cuts in the 2015-2016 budget. However, the numbers changed and faculty left the university, both through retirement and simply going elsewhere, leaving an unexpected amount to be taken out of next year’s budget.

Provost Fernando Delgado said that the impacts on students could include larger class sizes, fewer options for courses, classes not being offered on the usual rotation, faculty teaching courses they don’t usually teach, and some courses not being offered at optimal dates and times. He said that both CAS and the university as a whole simply don’t have enough money to do everything that they want to do.

The impact for faculty will land partially on instructional academic staff (IAS), the faculty on campus who are not tenured or tenure track. Caskey said that at least six full-time positions will likely not be renewed, but it is still too early to know for certain. Because of the number of IAS within each department, some will be hit disproportionately harder than others.

One faculty member is already planning on leaving. At the Student Senate meeting on Tuesday, March 8, President Christopher Morgan read aloud an email from Kris Butler, chair of modern language. In the email, Butler said that she will be resigning at the end of the current academic year.

This loss of faculty is nothing new for CAS. The college has lost 21 full-time faculty members over the last two years, according to Caskey. He said that he doesn’t like it, but he’s seen people being let go every year since he became the Dean of CAS.

CAS has been hit particularly hard in recent years. Delgado said that this is because of a decrease in students enrolling at UWRF and a decrease in students with majors in the college while other colleges within the university have grown.

“What we have as an institution is a declining pie,” Delgado said. “Inside of that declining pie, what the college is faced, is their proportion of the pie is shrinking because other college’s pie slices are growing, and so they feel a double pressure.”

Caskey said that the specific implications of the cuts will become more obvious after the fall schedule is finalized and he can compare numbers such as the amount of sections offered for particular courses and how many seats are contained in them.

Delgado said that while the students get to leave the campus for spring break, he and others will be on campus working on finalizing everything. A series of meetings and decisions will happen over the next week, and more will be known for certain after the break is over.

Due to the fact that decisions are still being made concerning how exactly this will impact the university, a more in-depth article will be published in the March 25 edition of the Student Voice.

Provost Fernando Delgado said that the impacts on students could include larger class sizes, fewer options for courses, classes not being offered on the usual rotation, faculty teaching courses they don’t usually teach, and some courses not being offered at optimal dates and times.

Check out the
Student Voice
online at
uwrvoice.com

News briefs:

Service dog training program initiated at UW-River Falls

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls has initiated a service dog training program under the umbrella of the Animal Science - Companion Animal emphasis program. Similar programs are offered on at least 12 major campuses across the U.S., but this is the first of its kind within the University of Wisconsin System.

The primary goal of the program is to provide hands-on educational opportunities for students in the companion animal emphasis, comparable to what UW-River Falls offers for students in the meat animal or equine emphases in animal science.

UW-River Falls is partnering with Coco’s Heart Dog Rescue of Hudson in this effort. All dogs entering the program will be evaluated and must be socially mature, free from illness or health issues, and have a good temperament.

The first dog was accepted into the program last month. A group of four students will be providing socialization, habituation and foundational training for this service dog-in-training, with the hope that the dog will be able to enter an advanced level service dog training program. Dogs that do not enter service will be available for adoption as a quality companion animal.

Service dogs are different from therapy dogs or emotional support dogs. They are individually trained to perform specific tasks as required by a disabled person. Examples of tasks include guiding a blind person, alerting a deaf person, or calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack. Service dogs are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and are allowed to accompany the disabled individual anywhere the general public is normally allowed. It is up to individual states to set the guidelines for a service dog-in-training; both Wisconsin and Minnesota allow dogs-in-training full access as if they were a service dog.

“We see this program as a bridge between dogs facing euthanasia and entering service. Even though great care is taken in selecting the dogs to enter the training program, approximately 70% will not qualify to go on to the advanced level of service dog training,” said Beth Rausch, assistant professor of animal science. “I compare this to the training to becoming an astronaut. A lot of individuals enter the training program, but very few actually end up at NASA on a spaceflight.”

The program itself fits within the curriculum of the companion animal emphasis, however, financial support for the care of the dog while in the program will be covered through donations. A service dog fund has been set up with the UWRF Foundation specifically for this need.

Questions about the program should be directed to Beth Rausch at beth.rausch@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls offers Praxis Preparation workshop for aspiring teachers

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is offering a half-day workshop to prepare aspiring teachers for exams required to obtain their Wisconsin teaching licenses.

The free Praxis Preparation workshop, held at the UWRF Hudson Center, 2501 Hanley Rd., Hudson, on Saturday, April 9, is open to current students, alumni and community members interested in a science or math teaching career.

“Participants will learn how to create a study plan and prepare for taking their Praxis II exams,” said Diane Bennett, associate director of the UWRF STEMteach graduate program. The Praxis II is one of the exams students may take to demonstrate knowledge in their desired teaching area, she added. A qualifying score on the Praxis II or a similar content area test is a requirement to obtain teaching licenses in Wisconsin and some other states.

The workshop will begin at 10 a.m. Prior to the workshop, participants can attend an informational session at 9 a.m. to learn more about UW-River Falls new STEMteach program. This graduate initial licensure and optional master’s degree program is designed for recent graduates, career changers, and veterans who wish to teach science and math in middle or high

schools. Faculty and current students from the STEMteach graduate program will provide information about courses and answer general questions about the application process.

Participants may register in advance for this free event by visiting the website at go.uwrf.edu/stemteach. Individuals unable to attend but ready to pursue a career in teaching should send an email to diane.bennett@uwrf.edu to schedule a personal consultation.

The STEMteach program is based on the UTeach model of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) teacher preparation developed at the University of Texas at Austin and replicated at 44 universities across the country. UW-River Falls accepts candidates who already have expertise or training in mathematics, engineering, biology, physics, geology, chemistry, or other STEM-related discipline and provides them with the preparation and hands-on experience to be licensed to teach in secondary education classrooms. More information about the STEMteach program, including a list of classes and admissions criteria, is available at go.uwrf.edu/stemteach.

UW-River Falls is an accredited institution offering a variety of degree and certificate programs designed to meet personal and professional educational goals. The UWRF graduate programs provide intensive, reality-based learning experiences, which often serve as a steppingstone to professional and career advancement. Browse the complete list of graduate programs online at www.uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls horse show team members move to contest semi-finals

Five members of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Western Equestrian Team have advanced to the IHSA Western semi-finals competition in Findlay, Ohio, March 19-20.

The students qualified for the semi-finals by finishing first or second in their category at the IHSA Zone 7 – Region 3 finals in February. At the semi-finals, the students will be working to qualify for the IHSA National Championships held in Lexington, Ky., in May.

Students who advanced to the semi-finals are:

- Isabella Groover, business administration major from Delavan, Regional Grand Champion in Advanced Horsemanship.
- Emily Lehmann, animal science major from Chipewa Falls, Regional Reserve Champion in Novice Horsemanship.
- Morgan Pliszka, biology major from St. Paul, Regional Reserve Champion in Advanced Horsemanship.
- Alyssa Tomei, animal science major from Ortonville, Mich., Regional Reserve Champion in Open Horsemanship.
- Melissa Warne, biology major from Minneapolis, Regional Grand Champion in Beginner Horsemanship.

For more information, email janie.huot@uwrf.edu.

Hosted by the St. Croix Basin Team and the St. Croix River Association, the 2016 St. Croix Summit will take place at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls on March 22-23. The Wild and Scenic Film Festival will show 10 short films focused on environmental issues and the outdoors in conjunction with the summit on the evening of March 22.

2016 St. Croix Summit scheduled at UW-River Falls

This year’s theme is Resiliency in Action: Communities and Resources. Speakers will share their expertise and insight on everything St. Croix from K-12 education to phosphorus reduction strategies, from growth development planning to invasive species management.

A community engagement workshop, “Getting Down to the Nitty Gritty: A Candid Discussion about Sediment Issues and Research within the Lake George and Lake Louise Impoundments along the Kinnickinnic River,” will include a presentation of the Kinnickinnic watershed’s current research findings and small and large group discussions about the research methodology and relevance as well as the direction of future research. The workshop will be led by UWRF students in the Community Decision Making and Collaboration class.

The summit is open to the public and to UWRF students. Registration is \$75 for March 22, \$60 for March 23 and \$120 for both days. UWRF students may apply for a scholarship to attend one or both days by emailing Monica Zachay atmonicz@scramail.com or calling 715-483-3300.

Poor Benny to play Saturday barn dance in River Falls

The old-time string band Poor Benny returns to the River Falls Saturday barn dance series in the gym of the River Falls Academy (the former Meyer Middle School) at 439 West Maple Street in River Falls on Saturday, March 19 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Poor Benny features talented players from the Wisconsin-Minnesota border area. The group, which includes a well-known Twin Cities clog dancer, brings lively musical accompaniment to line and circle dances, reels, waltzes, and square dances.

A dance caller will teach steps to new and more seasoned dancers alike. All ages are welcome, singles, couples, and families. Family dances suitable for children are featured during the first half, with more advanced dances in the second half.

The final dance in the 2015-16 season will feature Grit Pickers on Saturday, April 16. New dates are pending for fall 2016. The barn dances are a joint project of River Falls Community Arts Base and River Falls Parks and Recreation. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for 12 and under. Inexpensive refreshments are available.

Have something to say? Write a letter to the editor. Email us your thoughts at editor@uwrfvoice.com

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River Falls Police/UWRF Police Department

Wednesday, March. 2

- Police responded to a hit and run incident around 2 p.m. at 605 Spruce St.
- Police responded to a drug complaint at Parker Hall

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

Campus computer experts suggest ways to battle phishing, malware

Ryan Odeen
Falcon News Service

Members of the UW-River Falls campus community needs to be more aware and educated about phishing and scam attempts that often get trafficked through email, according to the Department of Technology Services (DoTS).

According to OnGuardOnline.gov, phishing is when Internet fraudsters impersonate a business to trick a person into revealing personal information. For example, a person receives an email from someone claiming to be with their bank and demanding a reply with that includes a Social Security number, or else the person’s account will be closed within 48 hours.

As for combating against phishing emails, Varghese offered many of the same techniques that Solland suggested. He advised never clicking on links in unexpected emails. Hover the cursor over the link, Varghese said, and check that the link in the email matches the actual link address.

Professor Anthony Varghese of the UW-River Falls Department of Computer Science and Information Systems teaches courses dedicated to improving information security. The classes focus on a variety of types of attacks and how to defend against them.

“There are a lot of them. One of them is like password attacks, you just repeatedly try passwords,” Varghese said. “Then we look at specific vulnerabilities in an operating system and how you can use a program to attack a vulnerable operation system.”

As for combating against phishing emails, Varghese offered many of the same techniques that Solland suggested. He advised never clicking on links in unexpected emails. Hover the cursor over the link, Varghese said, and check that the link in the email matches the actual link address.

Sometimes phishers will provide phone numbers to call in order to verify the information. Solland says students should cross check phone numbers provided in the emails against the actual phone number of the place the potential phisher claims they are from.

“They are ‘phishing’ for people to provide that information. Once they have it,” Solland said, “they do bad things with it.”

Students should never share personal information with anyone via email, Solland added, even if the email does look legitimate.

“Because as soon as someone has access to your username and password,” Solland said. “They would be able to get into your email, and look through and get even more valuable information.”

Microsoft Office 365, the software used for UW-River Falls campus email, sets up filters that help pick out potential phishing emails. However, a filter can only block the types of phishing emails it recognizes, and phishers design new ways to get past the filters before the filters learn the new techniques.

“They’ll change settings on people’s computers to allow remote access to those computers,” Solland said, “and now you’ve got yourself in a world of trouble.”

DoTS even receives phishing telephone calls, Solland said, with someone acting as a Microsoft employee and claiming there is a computer problem.

“They’ll change settings on people’s computers to allow remote access to those computers,” Solland said, “and now you’ve got yourself in a world of trouble.”

However, Solland said that neither the university nor Microsoft would call or ask students via email to verify any personal information.

“Emails are probably the most important thing to watch out for,” Varghese said. “If you get an email saying it’s someone from the IRS wants to find out this information, you just don’t want to reply to those things.”

Also, Solland advised caution when opening certain email attachments. Certain file types are blocked by the filters through Microsoft Office 365, because those files often contain viruses that are then downloaded to computers. She said to only open attachments once you know the email is legitimate. GetSafeOnline.org is a great resource to being safer online, Solland said.

“There’s usually no preventing receiving the email. What you do with the email is really important,” Solland said. “So when you see it, just delete it.”

As for securing a personal computer from intruders who code malware designed to attack the most common operation system, Microsoft Windows, Varghese suggested that anyone who is serious about being more secure with their information should use Linux.

“Nobody bothers to write malware for Linux,” Varghese said. “Hardly anyone.”

Linux is not as widely used as Windows, Varghese said, but it also comes with better default security settings.

UWRF Student Senate, SART plan events for sexual assault awareness

Paul Langfellow
Falcon News Service

The UW-River Falls Student Senate and the St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) are working on a joint project called “Take Back the Night,” an annual event to raise awareness about domestic abuse and violence, specifically towards women.

On April 28, Student Senate will hold a kickball tournament on the intramural fields that will involve a number of campus organizations. In addition, live music from local bands and food will be available at the event.

The “Take Back The Night” campaign began about a half century ago in Europe when women from different countries began meeting in public to discuss women’s safety, most notably at night on public streets.

Student Senate is holding the event as part of its “It’s On Us” campaign, which is a nationwide effort to create awareness about violence and sexual assault directed at women.

Jessica Knapp, the inclusivity student senator, said it is important to get students involved in the campaign.

“Really, just to get more people involved and aware of the campaign, we don’t want it to die, we want to get even more discussion going before the end of the semester and get people pumped so we can bring it back next year in full force,” she said.

The “Take Back The Night” campaign began about a half century ago in Europe when women from different countries began meeting in public to discuss women’s safety, most notably at night on public streets.

SART will hold several events off campus, including a march on Main Street in downtown River Falls, a candlelight vigil and a fundraising dinner. The events are scheduled from 6-9 p.m. April 21. Brooke Marlow, a client service advocate for SART, said the events will help the organization.

“We are the beneficiary of the dinner… The ‘It’s on Us’ campaign is for victims of violence and because we serve that demographic, our presence is going to be at the dinner talking about our services and also raising money for our organization,” she said.

The “Take Back the Night” events and kickball tournament are part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which occurs in April.

Annual festival to highlight arts, culture in River Falls

Ryan Funes
Falcon News Service

The sixth annual River Falls Roots and Bluegrass Festival, which will feature a number of bands from Wisconsin and Minnesota, is fast approaching.

The festival is scheduled from Friday to Sunday, April 8-10, at various venues along Main Street. Among events will be a singing and songwriting contest from 2:30-4:30 p.m. on April 9, musical demonstrations throughout the weekend, a beer and wine tasting featuring local brews, and an antiques appraisal from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 10.

This will also be the first year to feature a band competition open to acoustic groups of at least three members. Up to six bands will be able to compete. The winner will get a cash prize and a professional recording session at Brickhouse Music in River Falls.

The music festival is organized by the River Falls Chamber of Commerce. Maranda Mahr, the chamber’s event and program coordinator, said the festival highlights the art scene in the

community.

“I think River Falls is unique in that we really love to celebrate the arts and culture here and we really don’t have our own music festival, so we wanted to bring that to River Falls,” she said. “The folk (music) is a very popular theme and interest to the people of River Falls, so we wanted to bring that out.”

Among the bands performing at the festival will be Milwaukee-based Dead Horses, who play a range of songs that reach from gospel to folk.

Band singer Sarah Vos has had fond memories in the three years the band has attended the festival.

“The festival has been special to me because I have some memories that go back to when I was first figuring things out, about how I wanted to do this,” she said about her music career. “River Falls is a really cool town, and when the festival is going on the whole town really embraces it. It makes it fun to come into town.”

The festival also has proven to have a positive economic influence on River Falls.

According to surveys taken at the events, the 2015 festival saw 3,500 people in attendance and brought in a total of \$178,384.

This will also be the first year to feature a band competition open to acoustic groups of at least three members. Up to six bands will be able to compete. The winner will get a cash prize and a professional recording session at Brickhouse Music in River Falls.

For the restaurants and bars that host the bands, the festival has been of great importance. Jeff Wesley is a festival committee member and the co-owner of Junior’s Bar and Restaurant, which has been the main

venue since the festival was created.

“We definitely see a significant increase in sales during the festival,” he said. “I can only assume the other bars and restaurants see a benefit also, as the same venues have been involved year after year.”

One new thing he is happy about is the beer sponsors the festival has acquired for this year. Among them is the Fulton Brewing Company from Minneapolis, which Wesley said is one of the larger breweries in Minnesota.

This will also mark the second year that attendance for the festival will be free, with only the beer and wine tasting having an admission cost. The beer and wine tasting is scheduled from 5-8 p.m. Friday, April 8, at Junior’s Bar & Restaurant, 414 S. Main St. Admission is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Tickets are available for purchase at Junior’s and the River Falls Chamber of Commerce, 215 W. Maple St. For further information about the festival, visit its website, riverfallsbluegrass.com.

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EDITORIAL

Social media users ought to be avoided as sources of legitimate news

In the past week, there has been a lot of stress and worry about the current budget issues facing the UW-River Falls College of Arts and Sciences. Information has been circulating, mainly by word of mouth, about how much money the college overspent by and the cuts that will be the result of that. Faculty are worried about losing their jobs while students are concerned about possibly not being able to finish their majors or minors due to the cutting of classes and department funds. Everyone seems to be stricken with worry and lost in a confusion of misinformation.

With worry setting in, students have flocked to social media to voice their concern and spread their ideas and information that may or may not be accurate. Especially prevalent at UWRF is the anonymous world of Yik Yak. On a recent Yik Yak post, someone began to spread the rumor that the whole political science department was going to be cut and, therefore, political science majors would have to transfer to another university if they hoped to complete their major. In another, someone asked why the College of Arts and Sciences didn’t just take money from the football team to avoid cuts, which just isn’t sensible or feasible. The misinformation when it comes to how budgeting works and the repercussions of this mistake has led to a further feeling of uncertainty throughout this university as people worry about their future.

While not always the case, social media is often not an ideal place for the gathering of information. All people owe it to themselves to seek out developments from reliable sources, whether that be officials involved or legitimate meida. The very least one should do is to “like” or “follow” and keep an eye on their favorite and most trusted news organizations on social media. Sometimes, though, these methods of keeping informed only scratch the surface.

Although a flow of information can bring to light news and opinions, in a situation where nothing is set in stone, the spread of false information in a format where nobody is responsible for what they say and credibility is shot will only cause more panic and trouble. Our advice? Take a breath and stay tuned. Things are still being decided, and the correct information will present itself. Don’t rely simply on social media and unverified sources for information on something as important as this. Stick to social media for gossip about Kim Kardashian and leave it at that. Chances are the anonymous person posting is just as confused as you are.

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

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‘A Happy Death’ is a quick, interesting read with lasting theme of mortality

Brady Johnson	
Reviewer	

While many of us are familiar with the novel “The Stranger” by Albert Camus, less know the book that it was originally supposed to be. “A Happy Death” is the novel that Camus had written originally. The novel was nearly lost, as Camus did not publish it after writing it, instead opting to leave it alone. While it was written between 1936-1938 it was not published until the year 1971, more than 10 years after the death of Camus.

It is not entirely known why the book was not published; most likely Camus was not pleased with the final result. “A Happy Death” may be seen as semi-autobiographical as it draws upon the life of Camus.

Camus, was a Pied-Noir, or Frenchmen born in French Algeria and his life there is clearly what modeled the main character in the novel. While the subsequent world war and later war of independence, turned Algeria into a more dangerous place, a reader can almost imagine being there with the main character, Patrice Mersault, on the beach in Northern Algeria.

“A Happy Death” can almost be seen as a draft of “The Stranger,” as there are so many similarities. One main similarity is the main character; in “The Stranger,” he is known only by his surname Mersault, however in “A Happy Death,” the main character is named Patrice Mersault. There are several other characters by the same name in the two novels as well. “A Happy Death” does an excellent job of painting a portrait of life in French Algeria. It shows that Algeria is more than a former pirate colony, but a land of beauty and thought.

Lauren in Paris: French food for the soul

Lauren A. Simenson	
Columnist	

When I think of Paris I tend to think of food first. I think of chefs in tall white toques that have studiously learned classic French techniques in culinary schools whose names I cannot even pretend to pronounce properly. Then, I’ll think of duck; even before I consider French desserts and pastries.

My first night back in Paris after a three-year hiatus began in a tiny, very French café with plenty of outdoor seating and a stern French waitress dressed from hair to shoes in black located in the Montmartre region. As you may or may not know, this is where Sacre Coeur and the Moulin Rouge are. The menu, tall and skinny, like French people, took up all the space on our little Formica tabletop, its sharp corners darting out over the edge. When opened, the menu practically cast the tiny table into shadow, and every last word was all in elegant script, but mostly unreadable, French. Even though my conversational French may be lacking, or nonexistent anymore, if you stick a menu in front of my face, I usually will not have any trouble finding something to eat. Near the bottom of a long litany of French food, with French explanations, came a dish that was a great first act on my opening night of a week and a half back in Paris.

Duck confit is the epitome of seemingly complex, but always exquisite, French food. It is a dish and a technique where the duck, usually its legs or the thighs as they are the fattiest parts, are preserved and then cooked in its own fat. If it were not for all the cigarettes which the French are always smoking, I would not know how they stay so skinny. My duck leg was deep golden brown and crisp, resting atop of a nest of al dente haricot verts (French green beans), which have been placed over a scribble of balsamic vinegar. The food on my plate was almost too pretty to eat, but I quickly got over it. My fork pierced the outer crust of seared and rendered duck fat and slid into the soft and tender meat with a satisfying crunch. I savored it as if I were hearing a well-tuned orchestra. I may have even done a little wiggle of

The central theme of death and existential thought is the same between the two, however “A Happy Death” focuses more on happiness and mortality, where “The Stranger” is about morality and judgement. Both are examples of the absurdist philosophy. Absurdism can be paraphrased as the struggle of man searching for the meaning of life, and the inability to do so.

Much of what Camus saw in his life could be described as absurd, especially World War II. Camus saw the senseless destruction and wholesale murder — never before had anything of such magnitude passed. It is impossible to find meaning in all that happened; for Camus it is merely absurd. While the essay “The Myth of Sisyphus” is the chief example of absurdism from Camus, the influences are clearly seen in “A Happy Death.”

“A Happy Death” can be seen as cheerier than “The Stranger,” which was written in 1941 during the Nazi occupation of France. It is natural that the wartime book would be more pessimistic, and it is an example of how time period and setting can affect the novels being written. It is fortunate that the novel was found, otherwise it may have been lost to time. I would recommend this book to anyone with an interest in Camus, philosophy, absurdism or someone who is looking for a good, quick read. At the time of writing, the book is available at the Chalmer Davee Library for all UWRF students interested.

Brady Johnson is a junior at UW-River Falls with a double major in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) and Spanish. He has a passion for literature and hopes to teach English abroad in the future.

happiness right there in my seat in that little café, right next to a Frenchman enjoying his dinner with his own kind of restrained and dignified French enthusiasm – something that I clearly lack.

All too soon my plate of food was empty, with just a hint of balsamic vinegar still left smeared to the outer perimeter of my plate. I always think food is kind of ironic, French food even more so; the amount of skill and time invested into French food is oftentimes arduous, all for someone to sit down and consume it in a few minutes. In that same way thinking that you can see much of Paris in a week and a half is funny and maybe even a bit foolish. Like learning classic French techniques such as cooking duck, taking advantage of all Paris has to offer requires time and skill. When coming back to Paris for a second time I was surprised by the number of details I remembered: the streets, the smells, the language, and I treasured it now as I do not think my 17-year-old self could have last time.

My stay in Paris began and even ended with duck, but on my last night in Paris my duck was cut into thick ovals floating on a fluffy cloud of mashed potatoes, while the potatoes were suspended in a thick, dark brown sauce. I delighted in the duck as I had on my first night back in Paris while taking in the the atmosphere of this new café which was packed with other members of my International Traveling Classroom group rather than other French diners. The duck was different and this time my stay in Paris was different, but in the best possible way. I wonder how different my next visit to this magical city will be. Meanwhile, I will soon be exploring a country and city I have never been to before, where new experiences, new foods and new accents are just waiting for me to discover.

Lauren A. Simenson is a sophomore majoring in communication studies. Her interests include eating dark chocolate, on-line window shopping and reading anything she can get her hands on. While not at work, at school, taking naps or doing homework, she likes to cook, canoe, fish and write.

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Death of George Martin brings back Beatles memories

Matthew Clark

Columnist

In a year that has seen the deaths of many musical giants, music fans all over the world are struggling to keep up with the grieving. On Tuesday night, fans were shocked with

Unlike others who worked in the background of music, Martin’s legacy was built by working as close to the music as possible while also staying as far away from the limelight.

yet another fallen giant, Beatles producer Sir George Martin. Unlike many of the other

musicians who have died this year, Martin did not have the luxury of album covers and posters to promote his name and presence. However, after a tweet from Beatles drummer Ringo Starr, the news of his death spread all over the Internet and social media newsfeeds were littered with memorials and remembrance. Unlike others who worked in the background of music, Martin’s legacy was built by working as close to the music as possible while also staying as far away from the limelight.

Although Martin’s impact on music started way before the 1960’s, his greatest impact began when he gave four kids from Liverpool, England the chance that no one else would. In the early 60’s, rock ‘n’ roll had reached its first moment of uncertainty. With the death of Buddy Holly and Elvis enlisting in the Army, it appeared as though rock ‘n’ roll was on the way out. So when John, Paul, George and Ringo, otherwise known as The Beatles, tried to land a record deal, few would listen. And then there was George Martin. Martin saw potential in

the group and enjoyed their tightknit feel. Martin signed the band to EMI records in London and gave them their first shot in a real recording studio. As the old cliché goes,

With Martin’s hands-on approach, he destroyed the accepted role of a music producer at the time and created something entirely different yet entirely needed.

the rest is history. As the band grew in their sound, Martin was right there providing the guidance and musicality that The Beatles needed. With Martin’s hands-on approach, he destroyed the accepted role of a music producer at the time and created something entirely different yet entirely needed.

There are several stories one could tell about the musical magic of Martin and his studio trickery, but as a music fan myself, I see something more in the story of Sir

George Martin. Martin was a must-have in the music business and without him, the evolution of music would be completely different. Since Martin retired from making music, the industry has missed something that it desperately needs back. The music industry needs people like Martin to take a chance on the untested, mess with the typical formula and move the art of music. Although Martin’s voice in the forefront is silent, his presence is louder than any pop artist out there today. May Martin’s touch on music stand forever.

Matthew Clark is a junior journalism student/ On campus, he is an active DJ at WRFW as well as the news editor for the Student Voice. In his free time, he is an active guitarist, playing in successful rock bands in the Midwest. Matt hopes to one day become a music journalist and work in radio.

STUDENT voices

If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

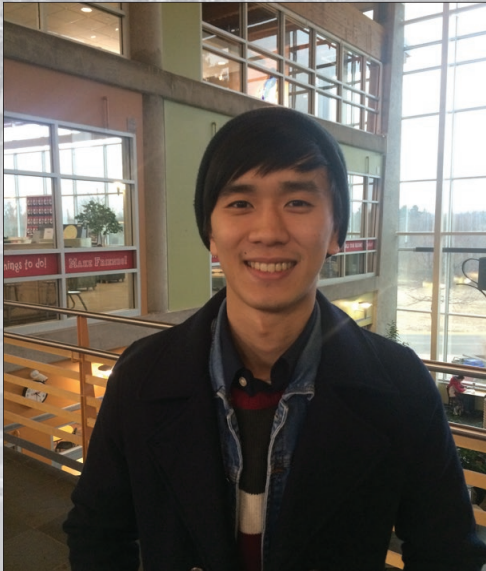
Compiled by Tori Schneider



Rashmi Magnani
Grad student from India
“Butter chicken with chapati.”



Olivia Lambert
Freshman
“Fruits.”



Ken Ning
Senior, International student from Taiwan
“Small dumplings from Ding Tai Fung Dumpling House.”



Megan Gallaway
Freshman
“Pizza.”



Jenna Amey
Freshman
“Pizza.”

Find Freddy’s lost 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@uwrvoice.com** AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins!

The winner will be announced on the Voice’s Twitter and Facebook accounts:

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Now Playing: Zootopia

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Women’s basketball season ends with loss to St. Thomas

Zach Dwyer
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The UWRF women’s basketball team advanced as far in the NCAA tournament as they ever have in the program’s history, but ultimately fell to St. Thomas 46-67 Saturday night at the Karges Center.

UWRF hosted the first two rounds of the Division III NCAA tournament and were dominant in their first round victory on Friday, March 4. Behind an enthusiastic home crowd, the Falcons crushed the Wheaton College Thunder 81-56 to advance to the second round.

The Falcons were firing on all cylinders Friday night, shooting 56 percent from the field and 46 percent from the three point line. Katie Messman knocked down three three-pointers and Brynn Liljander added 13 points and three assists to build a 44-26 halftime lead. A 20-9 Falcon run in the second quarter put them firmly in the driver’s seat entering the third quarter.

Head Coach Cindy Holbrook said, “We worked the ball a lot better on Friday and kept the offense moving. When we don’t stall our offense really comes together.”

Wheaton fought back in the third by outscoring UWRF 21-20 in the quarter. But Kate Theisen and Taylor Karge became the focal point of the offense in the third, with both mixing post moves and strong finishes at the basket. Theisen finished the night with a game-high 21 points on 70 percent shooting, while Karge added 10 of her 12 points in the second half.

“Our shooters hit some big shots for us early which really stretched the defense. That helped us play our strong inside-outside game. They couldn’t stop our shooters and our post players at the same time,” Karge said.

The Thunder were shut down by the Falcons in crunch time, and managed only nine points in the entire fourth quarter. The Falcons continued to play their brand of basketball and came out on top by 25 points in a battle of 22-5 teams.

St. Thomas had to come from twelve points down in the closing minutes of their opening

round matchup, but eventually prevailed over Loras by eight points in overtime. The Tommies only dropped three games on the season, but knew they’d be in for a tough matchup in a hostile gym for their second round game versus UWRF.

Holbrook said, “To get to host an NCAA playoff game was a huge deal and the support for our team was fantastic down the final stretch of the season. It made it a lot more fun for the players.”

The Falcons came out strong for a second straight game, taking a 16-13 lead into the second quarter. Richell Mehus and Taylor Karge both added two field goals apiece to put the eighth ranked Tommies on their heels.

But St. Thomas put together a run in the second and third quarters that would leave no doubt in what team would move on to the next round. The Tommies outscored the Falcons 40-14 in the second and third quarters to go up 53-30 entering the final quarter.

“St. Thomas made us stall the ball and made us tentative to pass the basketball. It also was a much more physical game than it should’ve been, which never works in our favor,” Holbrook said.

St. Thomas didn’t shoot lights out, but did manage to hold the Falcons to only 37 percent shooting on the night. A mediocre 44 percent free throw percentage didn’t help matters for the undersized Falcons.

6’3 Junior Kaitlin Langer dominated in the post for the Tommies, shooting 11-19 and knocking down all six of her shots in the second half to add 25 points to her 12 rebounds. The Tommies took 10 more shots than the Falcons and forced 14 turnovers to break down UWRF’s offense.

“She is just a really good player in all aspects of the game. She was finishing really well against us and went hard to the offensive boards,” Karge said.

No Falcon players scored in double figures, with three starters tallying nine points and Mehus adding nine rebounds. It was a disappointing ending to a historic season, where the 2015-2016 Falcons tied the school record of 23 wins that were last totaled in the 1988-1989 season.

Mehus said, “We had a complete turn-



Kathy M. Helgeson/University Communications
Brynn Liljander handles the ball during the game against St. Thomas March 4.

around from last year and so all the hard work and frustration from the previous year’s made it all worth it.”

“This team truly stuck together all season long, and didn’t drop a single game against a team below our level. It was a fantastic season beginning to end, with the Florida trip and conference championship making it especially memorable,” Holbrook said.

The Falcons lose leader Richell Mehus for next season but bring back their other four starters and all of their reserves. Mehus said she has high expectations for next year’s Falcons, “I think this team can accomplish any-

thing they want to. They just need to be all in and all together and they will accomplish whatever they set their minds to.”

Falcon players and coaches said they were especially thankful for all the support they received from fans during such a memorable season. Hopefully next year they can pack Karges again and give the 56 year-old building a proper send-off with another historic season.



Women’s basketball team members support one another after a loss on March 8. They made program history by making it to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.



Kathy M. Helgeson/University Communications

Change in conference schedule, no affect on men’s hockey

Kate Vruwink
Falcon News Service

Despite a major change to the 2015-2016 UW-River Falls men’s hockey schedule, the team proved that it wouldn’t affect its success.

After the conclusion of the 2014-2015 hockey season, the coaches and schedulers within the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) decided the number of conference match-ups regular season play would have to be changed.

According to Head Coach Steve Freeman, the decision was based on the outcome the previous scheduling had on each team.

“We were beating up on each other too much in our league,” he said. “The teams were too good to be playing each other that many times and it really hurt our win and loss percentage.”

In years past, teams in the WIAC met up during the regular season three times, but could play up to six games after adding games played during conference tournament, according to the WIAC website. The change brought the regular season matchups to occur only twice. Although decreasing a regular season matchup by one game doesn’t seem that drastic, senior and forward Zach Schrottenboer said it put special meaning on the games.

“It was kind of nice because

some of the tougher games made them even more important,” Schrottenboer said. “So it kind of made them more exciting knowing you only played them twice.”

Schrottenboer also pointed out the change from three games to two made fans more anxious to see the outcome because the games proved more valuable this season.

“In my four years this has been

the best fan support we’ve had since I got here,” he said. “It’s been nice for the players because we definitely get excited when there’s a lot of people in the building.”

But the change also proved a challenge to the coaches when they realized they now had to find other teams to play. The WIAC has an interlock with the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

(MIAC) and the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA), so Freeman began to make calls within those conferences.

The Falcons were able to play teams they haven’t matched up against in a couple of years, which Freeman said provided a good experience for the men because it opened them up to different playing styles. However, it also came at a

cost to the strength of their scheduling.

“I think it hurt our strength of scheduling, because our league is so strong it’s hard to find non-conference game,” Freeman said. “A lot of teams don’t want to play you if you have a good team, they want to make sure they have a chance at a solid win.”

Schrottenboer agreed with that, but also found that when the men did play teams out of conference there was an extra effort put in by the opponent.

“I think the teams out of conference give us a little extra effort, and I think they know that when they play River Falls they’re going to give us their best effort,” he said.

Even with the team meeting different opponents, and seeing less ice time against conference opponents the Falcons found a lot of success this season.

According to the UWRF sports information website, the team concluded the season with a regular season co-championship WIAC title and a second place standing in the WIAC championship tournament.

Reflecting back on the season, Freeman said it would be too early to tell for sure whether or not the schedule switch had a positive or negative affect. One thing is for sure, it didn’t deter the success of the team.



Samantha Decker/Student Voice
Joe Drapluk, freshman forward from Pembroke Pines, FL, faces off against UW- Stevens Point.

Softball focuses on rebuilding as new coach takes over

Trenten Gauthier
Falcon News Service

With the excitement of winter sports winding down, the focus now turns to UW-River Falls softball and first-year Head Coach Amber Dohlman.

The Falcons have started the season slow with a 2-6 record. All eight games were played Feb. 27-March 5 in the Luther Dome in Rochester, Minnesota.

For Dohlman, a former player, being back at UWRF is special.

“It’s obviously different from when I was here last,” she said. “It’s been five years since I’ve been here and the game has transitioned so much in that time period. We still have that mentality of that we are known for our hitting, we are known for being powerful, we are known for that, and that is not going to change.”

Dohlman takes over for Faye Perkins, who retired following last season. Perkins finished with over 500 wins as a softball coach and 479 at UW-River Falls, according to uwrfsports.com. Dohlman, who played for Perkins, said that her former coach laid the foundation and now the Falcons just have to get back to that dominating mentality.

“Going off of what she has established as a program,” Dohlman said, “I’d love to get back to the 2012-13 season where they were really dominant and really strong. It’s just getting that work ethic back, and getting that drive and competitiveness that we see throughout, and what she kind of had that established.”

The Falcons have three seniors on the team this year in Sarah Sorensen, Hannah Zurn and Abby Veloske. Dohlman said Sorensen is a player the team depends on. However, for the seniors the coaching transition can be tough.

“Sarah has been a two-year starter, and we’ve really utilized her as our leader,”



Payton Speckel, freshman pitcher for UWRF Falcons softball practices at Ramer Field March 8.

Tori Schneider/Student Voice

Dohlman said. “It is a difference, and a change for them, in their final year to have to adjust to all of this new stuff and they have done great with it. We have redone some of the defense and a lot of the offense. So it’s been a transi-

tion for them, but they have handled it really well and I think they are excited about it because they are seeing opportunities.”

Sorensen, who has started all eight games this season, said the program is in good

hands.

“I think that Coach Dohlman and (Assistant) Coach (Sarah) Fern have brought a lot of new things to this team,” Sorensen said. “They both have Falcon blood in their background, which I

think helps. They know how this program has been run in the past and I think they have great coaching styles that build upon the program. We have the talent to be great, but I think everyone needs to find their own greatness and

bring it to the team with confidence.”

The Falcons now shift their focus to a spring break road trip to Florida, where the team will compete in the PFX Games. Dohlman said they don’t expect to win every one of the scheduled 10 games, but that their time in Florida is important to gaining confidence as a group.

“I think if we go .500, we will have a good spring break,” she said. “For us our ultimate goal is the conference tournament, so what we do from this point until the first weekend in May is in preparation for the tournament. There is a lot of learning going on, so some of the games have not necessarily gone the way we want them to go, but what can we take from it as a learning point.”

Sorensen said the spring break trip always brings the team together in one way or another.

“The spring break trip is always great because this is when the team finally starts coming together. We get to be out in the warm weather and playing on an actual softball diamond, which is awesome,” she said. “We get to play teams we normally wouldn’t, which makes for great competition.”

Sorensen added: “My goal for the team in Florida is to get some wins under our belt coming into our conference play with confidence. The WIAC is very tough but I think we have a ton of talent on this team we just need everyone to believe it.”

The Falcons begin WIAC play April 9 against UW-Oshkosh, and have their first home game at 3 p.m. April 13 against UW-Eau Claire. UWRF last year made it to the WIAC conference tournament final game after just making it in the WIAC tournament as the sixth seed. The Falcons this year have a lot of work to get to that point again, but have the tools to make it happen.



Left: Pitcher Payton Speckel and catcher Kaymn Peterson-Rucker practice together as their coach looks on. Right: UWRF Assistant Softball Coach Sarah Fern throws a grounder to Amber Galloway, an infielder, during practice at Ramer Field March 8. The Falcons finish their pre-season with a 2-6 record.



Tori Schneider/Student Voice

LIVE

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PUCK DROPS- 7:00 P.M.

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Decades later, Dylan still resonates with college students

Matthew Clark
Reviewer

In 1976, the U.S. and the world were at a crossroads. It had been a year since the final bullet of the Vietnam War had been fired and the so-called “hippie” movement was coming to a close. For the members of this movement, it was the start of a new reality: adulthood. Many of the baby boomers of the 1940’s and 1950’s now had children of their own and real life responsibilities. Instead of tearing down the establishment, they had shifted their focus to building a future and a family.

On Dylan’s, “Desire”, which celebrates it’s 40th anniversary this year, he put the feelings and issues of his new surroundings to song, while creating one of his most sonically interesting records ever.

The song was released as the lead single from the album and has become one of his most successful.

The album continues with “Isis,” which showcases Dylan’s

classic skill of storytelling. The track takes the listener along on the story of a newly married man who is dissatisfied with his new surroundings so he decides to join a group of grave robbers. The song perfectly reflects the life of many baby boomers who were now dissatisfied with their new structured life. The lyrics capture wish for adventure and freedom that now had all but vanished.



To record the album, Dylan assembled a group of musical friends to fill out his arrangements. One of the most surprising additions to the band was a young violinist named Scarlet Rivera. The story goes that Dylan was riding in the back seat of a car when he saw Rivera walking along the street with a violin case. Dylan stopped her and asked if she could actually play the thing. When she confirmed, he invited her

to sit in on the sessions. This chance meeting proved to be an essential piece of the sound of the album. On “One More Cup of Coffee,” her contribution to the unique sound is ever present. The Gypsy and Egyptian influenced song displays Dylan’s worries of abandonment, after going through a divorce with his first wife Sara. Rivera’s violin sounds almost like Dylan giving up but the fight of the drums shows that Dylan maybe struggling but will always continue on.

The final number on the record, “Sara,” is one of Dylan’s most autobiographical songs to date. The song tells the story of the good memories Dylan has of his first marriage but also asks the question, “Why did it all end?” The sparse arrangement is haunting and brings feelings of regret and sorrow. Dylan has famously denied any possible meanings for any of his songs but with “Sara,” Dylan can not possibly deny its meaning. In this song, Dylan wants his wife back and has reached the point where he is willing to put his guard down and wear it on his sleeve.

On Bob Dylan’s “Desire,” Dylan found peace in his work. From the drop of the needle, the album is one of Dylan’s most sparse sounding collections of songs yet leaves the listener satisfied albeit, a little depressed. This however, is what you come for when you listen to 1970’s Dylan. On this day 40 years ago, “Desire” was number one on the Billboard 200. Although it may not be the best entry level Dylan record, it is certainly one of his best and should be celebrated even in 2016.

Matt Clark is a sophomore journalism student. On campus he is an active DJ at wrfw ad well as the circulation manager for the student voice. In his free time, Matt is an active guitarist, playing in succesful rock bands in the mid-west. He has had the opportunity to open for legendary rock bands Chicago, Huey Lewis, and The News as well as modern bands such as Daughtry. Matt hopes to one day become a music journalist and work in radio.

Five quality Netflix movies to watch over spring break



Nicholas Weninger
Reviewer

If you don’t have any wild plans to go Costa Rica or some tropical place over spring break, here are a couple of movies that you need to watch on Netflix. I tried to pick some movies that maybe you haven’t heard of before.

Short Term 12: Short Term 12 was made in 2013 and it barely grossed over a million dollars. That to me is heartbreaking because this film is a masterpiece. It will take you on an emotional journey and make your heart ache and feel hopeful all at the same time. Starring this year’s Oscar winner for best actress, Brie Larson leads a group of very talented actors and actresses that deliver on every level. You grow connected to each person in this film and when they are hurting, you are hurting, and when they start to pick things up, you feel hope for them. The premise of this story focuses on a residential treatment facility for troubled and abused youths. As the film unfolds, it is absolutely heartbreaking to see what these kids have been through. Prepare yourself for an emotional roller coaster when watching this film.

Fruitvale Station: Made in 2013, Fruitvale Station is based on a true story. Though Oscar Grant (played by Michael B. Jordan who starred in the recent hit Creed) once spent time in San Quentin, he is trying to get his life back on track. The 22-year-old is now trying hard to live a clean life and support his girlfriend and young daughter. This movie focuses on the last day of Oscar’s life, in which he was accompanied by family and friends to San Francisco to watch fireworks on New Year’s Eve. However, on the way back home he becomes swept up in an altercation with police that ended in tragedy. This movie had a very low budget but it doesn’t show it. Fruitvale Station is a very solid film

that not everyone has seen.

The Babadook: Another movie that didn’t even break a million dollars in box office, The Babadook is a horror movie that should be seen. A troubled widow soon discovers that her son is actually telling the truth about a monster that entered their home through the pages of a children’s book. With nearly every modern day horror movie, you expect the all too cliché jump scares and cheesy deaths. However, The Babadook stays away from all of that and it is awesome. The movie has a very authentic feel to the movie which creates action horror. Definitely check out this movie if you are a fan of horror.

In Bruges: After a difficult job that hits home for these men, hitmen Ray and Ken head to Belgium to go into hiding until things cool down. Ray absolutely hates this medieval city but Ken finds all of its beauty enchanting and peaceful. Now this was a very surprising movie for me when I saw it. I’m not sure what I was expecting from this movie but it blew me away. In Bruges has excellent dialogue and banter, great cinematography and directing, and fantastic acting. This movie gives off an entirely different perspective of hitmen and the struggles they go through and it is refreshing to see.

Tucker and Dale vs. Evil: Do yourself a favor and watch this movie. If there is one movie on this list you NEED to watch, it is this. Tucker and Dale vs. Evil is absolutely hilarious from start to finish. Tucker and Dale just want a relaxing vacation getaway but they are interrupted by a bunch of college kids that ruin everything for them. This is one of the best horror movie spoofs that I have ever seen and it is amazing. Quickly rising as a cult classic, this movie is a must-see and is definitely a good movie for social parties that will be happening over spring

Nick Weininger is a fourth year broad field social studies major and has hopes to be a high school history teacher. He has a passion for movies, video games, sports, and being outdoors. If you enjoy his reviews, check out his movie review website on Facebook called The Average Man Review.

Moonshiner’s and After Dark: entertaining and clean

Tori Schneider
Reviewer

a Thursday, but I’m not going to review the same bar twice in a row. After spending most of my night at Broz, I went over to Moonshiner’s around 1:00 a.m., which I’ve heard is the time to go there. Apparently, Moonshiner’s is the type of bar that you only go to late. If you go there early, no one will be there.

It was packed! There were people everywhere. Moonshiner’s is a weird set-up, because you can enter if you are under 21. So if you are 18-plus you are allowed to go in the back and dance, and no alcohol is served back there. The no alcohol being served at the back bar was a surprise and disappointment, but I guess the front bar isn’t too far away, and you can still bring alcohol in the back so that’s okay.

This might be too much information for readers, but I have a small bladder. So bathrooms are important. I’m not a fan of the bath-

rooms at Broz and Emma’s which only have two stalls in their bathrooms and that is a serious struggle. Moonshiner’s however, has a beautifully large bathroom with plenty of stalls and that made me very happy.

One of the things about Moonshiner’s that makes it so popular is that it has a dance floor. There’s also an area where if you are 21, you can go up on a little platform and dance on a higher level than everyone else. My friend and I did that and it was fun. But I learned after, that the platform is called “The Slut Box,” so that is disappointing.

Despite the crowds, I didn’t have to wait too long to order a drink at the bar, so the bartenders seem to be pretty good. I can’t say I can rate their quality of drinks because I basically only bought cherry bombs, but I remember not having to wait very long for those even though I was in the second row of people.

I give Moonshiner’s a three out of four. Tune in in two weeks to see what I think of Emma’s!

Tori Schneider is a sophomore journalism major. She wishes to become a photo journalist one day. In addition, she also loves cats, and does what she can to help save the planet.

Three fun things to do in River Falls this weekend

1. Do you like fishing? Like, where you go out and catch fish out of the water? Then you might possibly interested in River Falls Fly Fishing Festival (R4F)! The event will be Friday and Saturday, March 11 and 12. There will be vendors, seminars, demos, etcetera all about the wonderful art of fly fishing.

2. Saturday, March 12 is Pet Adoption Day at Chuck and Don’s Pet Food & Supplies! Head over to 2312 Crestview Drive in Hudson and take a look at the animals that are currently up for adoption! Who knows? Maybe one will steal your heart and next thing you know you’ll be trying to explain to your roommate why there is a dog in your living room. Either way, there might be no better way to spend the Saturday than looking at adorable animals.

3. Do you enjoy watching UWRF hockey in Hunt Arena? Well Friday, March 11 will be your last chance. Join the UWRF women’s hockey team at 7:05 p.m. as they face St. Thomas in the NCAA preliminary round as the last hockey game is played in Hunt Arena before it is torn down to make room for the Falcon Center. Even if you can’t make it, tune in at wrfw887.com to listen to the sports guys from WRFW give a play-by-play of the sure to be exciting game.

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