



SPORTS, PAGE 6
Athlete of the Week:
Haley Nielsen

NEWS, PAGE 3
Student Senate helps students get to the polls this Election Day

ETCETERA, PAGE 8
“Inferno” feels more like a flicker than a blaze



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UWRF Student Senate pushes for Title IX compliance, student rights

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With the promise to focus on student safety and inclusivity for the 2016-2017 academic year, the UW-River Falls Student Senate has set its sights on a new challenge: creating a position at the university centered around student rights.

Student Senate President Chris Morgan said that the Senate is looking for the university to create a position that deals with Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act and other student rights. This position is planned to be full-time, independent and tenured.

To do this, Senate is planning on creating a motion that will officially call on Chancellor Dean Van Galen to create such a position.

“It’s all about the students, that’s why we’re doing this,” said Morgan. “We’ve heard the stories; we know what’s at stake.

I hope [the administration] does, too. I hope an effort is made.”

Title IX is a federal law that was passed in 1972 that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Under Title IX, sexual harassment of students, including sexual violence, is a form of sexual discrimination.

Each institution that falls under this law must have a position that enforces Title IX and makes sure that the institution is compliant under the law and coordinate investigations that fall under Title IX, such as sexual assault and discrimination.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, the Title IX coordinator should be full-time in order to minimize the risk of a conflict of interest as well as have enough time to fulfill all of the duties under Title IX.

Gregg Heinselman, associate

vice chancellor for Student Affairs, Student Senate advisor and the current Title IX coordinator, took over the Title IX responsibilities two years ago when the chief diversity officer resigned and was not replaced. He currently shares the responsibilities with two deputy Title IX coordinators: Thomas Pedersen, director of Student Conduct and Community Standards, and Michelle Drost, director of Human Resources.

With the associate vice chancellor position being full-time, Heinselman said that the amount of time he spends on his various responsibilities “ebbs and flows” from week to week. Some weeks he spends half of his time on Title IX, while other weeks it’s more like 10 hours.

However, Heinselman said that his responsibilities as Title IX coordinator makes up about five to 10 percent of his job, which right now is mainly trying to meet the minimum require-

ments of Title IX compliance.

Heinselman said that attempting to juggle all of his responsibilities in Student Affairs and Title IX has taken a toll on both of the positions that he currently holds.

“The challenge with Title IX is when there is a Title IX issue, it’s an immediate response that’s needed,” said Heinselman. “There is a clock that begins ticking on reviewing and analyzing the case or responding to an alleged violation. It means that all the other work that you’re supporting, you have to redirect your time and energy to Title IX. And that’s where the challenge lies.”

According to the Department of Education, the Title IX coordinator “should not have other job responsibilities that may create a conflict of interest.”

Continued on Page 3

UW-Stout international student dies after assault

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An international student at UW-Stout died after being assaulted in downtown Menomonie on Sunday, Oct. 30.

Hussain Saeed Alnahdi, 24, was a junior at UW-Stout from Saudi Arabia studying business. Alnahdi enrolled at the university in 2015.

Alnahdi was found unconscious by police Sunday around 2 a.m. He was taken to a hospital in Eau Claire where he died Monday from the injuries sustained in the attack.

According to the Menomonie Police Department, no arrests have been made and police have yet to determine what prompted the attack. However, according to a statement released by the Menomonie Police Department Monday, it is being treated as a homicide.

Witnesses at the scene told police that the person who assaulted Alnahdi was a white male about six feet tall.

Falcon Outdoor Adventures makes move to Falcon Center

Molly Kinney
Falcon News Service

Falcon Outdoor Adventures (FOA), part of Campus Recreation, is one UW-River Falls program getting new and improved space in the Falcon Center next spring.

Travis Roy, outdoor recreation coordinator, said FOA will be making the move from a small office in Knowles Center to a larger, more open space in the south side of the Falcon Center over J-Term. The program has been housed in Knowles since sometime around 2011, Roy said.

According to Roy, a student named Lance Ross started an outdoor recreation program in the late 1990s. It was run out of the basement of May Hall, supplying students primarily with camping equipment. He also led some trips. When Ross left, the program fizzled out, but the void was filled around 2010 when students started wanting the program on campus again. FOA has been a key component of the recreation program at UWRF ever since, and growing more each year.

Roy attended UW-Eau Claire, and worked in the outdoor program there as an undergraduate. He graduated and worked at the Mayo Clinic for a while, but always missed being outdoors, he said.

“I realized that I really missed taking those trips, being outdoors,” Roy said. “I always just kinda light up when I’m out there, and didn’t get that in my last field.”

Roy is the first to hold the outdoor recreation coordinator position at UWRF, and started working during the 2015-2016 academic year. Though he came into the project partway through construction, Roy said he’s been able to have a lot of input on what the FOA corner of the

Though he came into the project partway through construction, Roy said he’s been able to have a lot of input on what the FOA corner of the Falcon Center will look like. An avid climber himself, Roy said he is super excited about the new rock climbing wall.

Falcon Center will look like. An avid climber himself, Roy said he is super excited about the new rock climbing wall.

“Climbing is definitely growing,” Roy said. “One thing that proves that is that it’s just been approved as an Olympic sport. So, my goal is to have this space be state-of-the-art, great gear and education. I want our climbers to be safe and to learn standards.”

His knowledge of rock climbing has helped him work with architects to develop a state-of-the-art climbing wall. It will feature climbing paths for a variety of skill levels, as well as a bouldering wall. The bouldering wall was previously open on the top, but Roy thought it could be better utilized with a flat surface that would overlook the ground. A small door in the side of the wall leads to a ladder, taking a person to the top where they can clip into a line and lecture at climbers from above.

“The one thing I really wanted to emphasize was making this space instructional,” Roy said.

Another aspect of FOA is the rental center, where UWRF students can get equipment for everything from a Boundary

Waters Canoe Area trip to a backyard barbeque for free, thanks to the fee they pay that goes to Campus Recreation. Tents, camp stoves, snow shoes, bicycles, yard games, ice fishing gear and many other items can be checked out for one week, and a small charge applies for longer amounts of time. The shop is also open to faculty and community members, who pay a small fee for the equipment.

A new space for the rental center is attached to the climbing area in the Falcon Center. Counters, cabinets and shelving have been built for gear storage. A new bike tuning area is next to a loading dock, so people can easily load up all their gear before heading out on a trip. The space is much bigger than the current space in Knowles, and Roy said much of J-Term will be spent moving everything from that office to the new one.

The biggest emphasis of FOA is the many trips the program leads throughout the year. The trips are led by the student employees, and Roy goes on most of them as well. Trips are advertised all around campus, and much time is spent before the



Photo courtesy of Falcon Outdoor Adventures
A climber from UWRF ascends an icy cliff face during the Falcon Outdoor Adventures annual ice climbing trip to Sandstone, Minnesota. Climbing of all types is becoming increasingly popular throughout the world, and UWRF is certainly one of those places, according to Roy.

trip preparing with students who sign up to go.

“We definitely want students to feel very prepared before we go on one of these big trips,” Roy said. “Risk management is a big part of my job. We use a system that gets students prepared for the social aspect of a trip, as well as teaching safety, the skills they’ll need we go over before the trip even starts. And we talk about the skills they’ll need, and we’ll train them

if there’s the need to.”

Trips are planned both semesters. During the winter, Roy said one he’s always excited for is ice climbing near Sandstone, Minnesota.

“The ice climbing trip is a blast,” Roy said. “We stay at the Audubon Center (of the North Woods) in this little wood stove-heated cozy cabin, and it’s just a blast. Last year students from UW-Eau Claire and Stout came, too, and it was awesome, so we’re gonna try and do that again.”

Though it sounds like a trip for experienced climbers, Roy said people of all levels are welcome.

“It looks crazy and super intense, but we do all the crazy stuff for you. We set you up with the anchors, we belay you, and all you have to do is just show up, get your axe and go nuts.”

Besides ice climbing, Roy said FOA will likely lead a snowshoe backpacking trip. Due to moving into the Falcon Center, however, other trips will likely not be taken until spring. Clinics and seminars, such as belay certification and outdoor cooking classes, will go on as planned.

Despite all that is offered by FOA, Roy said the program is underutilized.

“FOA is the coolest thing on campus. I’ll go on record,” Roy said. “Our students live in the St. Croix Valley region, and there are so many outdoor experiences we can offer — Willow River, Afton Alps, the Brule River, the Kinni — so many things going on that students don’t quite know how to access a lot of the time. That’s what we’re here for.

Besides ice climbing, Roy said FOA will likely lead a snowshoe backpacking trip. Due to moving into the Falcon Center, however, other trips will likely not be taken until spring. Clinics and seminars, such as belay certification and outdoor cooking classes, will go on as planned.

“If you want to go on a trip, we’ll run through that with you,” he added. “We’ll get you into the woods, into the river, onto a cliff, we’ll help you achieve that. If you want to do it on your own, we can gear you up, offer advice and send you on your way. And so much of it is free.”

Natasha Horsfall, a sophomore studying environmental science, is one of the student employees Roy manages, and she said that aside from the gear and classes, the staff is a great resource in itself.

“You can ask them any question or try something new and they’ll help you and you’ll feel totally comfortable,” she said. “They inspire you to get out there and try to do new things every day. I’ve already learned so much from them, and I think they’re an even greater resource than what’s already offered to us students.”

Roy said he is looking for big things from FOA.

“The goal is to become a leader in outdoor recreation in the state,” he said. “And we’re really blowing up. I don’t think Wisconsin’s ready for us! We’re coming like a train.”

News Briefs:

UW-River Falls graduates and master teacher present at national conference

Two graduates and the master teacher from the newest graduate teaching program of UW-River Falls presented at the National Science Teacher Association (NSTA) Area Conference in Minneapolis on Oct. 28.

Rachelle Haroldson, master teacher for the STEMteach program and Nichelle Wollberg and Chelsey Turner, who completed teaching licensing requirements through the STEMteach program this year, led a panel titled “The Transition from STEM Student to STEM Teacher.” Wollberg is a science teacher at Lake Holcombe School in Holcombe, and Turner teaches science at Viking Middle School in Woodville.

The teachers discussed ways in which the STEM teacher preparation program prepared them for their current teaching positions. Those attending this session of the conference received lesson plans that Wollberg and Turner developed to use in their secondary science classrooms. The presenters also addressed the challenges they faced in transitioning from student to STEM teacher and provided advice for other new teachers or current STEM teacher candidates.

The UWRF STEMteach program offers an efficient route to become a teacher with a highly-marketable license within one year. Qualified applicants take graduate-level courses on the River Falls campus beginning in the summer and continuing throughout the year. Students will have opportunities for teaching experiences in the summer and finish with an apprentice teaching semester in the spring. Those who wish to complete a master’s degree in secondary education may do so by taking additional graduate credits.

Interested individuals are encouraged to meet with an admissions advisor for a personal consultation and preliminary application review. The next cohort of students will begin in the summer of 2017. For more information, contact Outreach Manager Pamela Bowen at 715-425-0633 or send an email to outreach@uwrf.edu.

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is an accredited institution offering a variety of degree and certificate programs designed to meet personal and professional educational goals. UWRF programs are built on a solid foundation of academic excellence and faculty are friendly, experienced mentors who take the time to address each student’s professional needs and career objectives.

The UWRF graduate programs provide intensive, reality-based learning experiences, which often serve as a stepping stone to professional and career advancement. Browse the complete list of graduate programs online at www.uwrf.edu.

The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), founded in 1944 and headquartered in Arlington, Va., is the largest organization in the world committed to promoting excellence and innovation in science teaching and learning for all. NSTA’s current membership of 55,000 includes science teachers, science supervisors, administrators, scientists, business and industry representatives, and others involved in and committed to science education.

UW-River Falls to host discussion about presidential election outcome

UW-River Falls is hosting “Journalism & the 2016 Presidential Elections: What Just Happened?” Thursday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. in North Hall auditorium. The discussion is part of the Communication & Media Studies Department’s Working Journalists Lecture Series.

Free and open to the public, the lecture features Dave Nimmer, legendary Twin Cities journalist, and Baird Helgeson, state government and politics editor for the Star Tribune in Minneapolis.

Nimmer has worked as a newspaper reporter and managing editor at the Minneapolis Star, as reporter and assistant news director at WCCO-TV and as assistant professor of journalism at the University of St. Thomas. Helgeson oversaw coverage of the current presidential election and has reported on the Capitol since 2009. He led the Star Tribune’s coverage of Minnesota’s long political battle to legalize same-sex marriage and has covered several elections.

For more information, call 715-425-3169 or email journalism@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls presents ‘Amazon: Wilderness, Technology and Society’ panel discussion

In celebration of the UW-River Falls Year of Brazil, the history, philosophy and geography departments will present “The Amazon: Wilderness, Technology and Society” on Monday, Nov. 7, from 3-5 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center. The event is free and open to the public and will include refreshments beginning at 3 p.m. with the panel discussion to follow at 3:30 p.m.

Four UW-River Falls faculty: John Heppen and Charles Rader of the Geography Department, and Imtiaz Moosa and Walter Wietzke of the History and Philosophy Department, will each give a 15-minute presentation with discussion and a Q&A to follow. Presentations include “Framing the Amazon” by Heppen; “Habitat loss, development and social justice in the Amazon” by Rader; “Wilderness and the Future of Humanity” by Moosa; and “Technology and Humanity” by Wietzke.

Many diverse issues will be addressed during the event, including: What are the key geographical features of this amazing landscape? How much of it are we losing, and how much is still left intact? Is Brazil morally required to leave this majestic landscape in a wild and natural state? What are the uses of wilderness? What would our future on earth be like without vast wilderness areas? Can we blame technology for the unparalleled degradation of our natural environment?

For more information, call the Geography Department at 715-425-3164 or the History and Philosophy Department at 715-425-3264.

2017 Bowls for Hope event to be held March 7 at UW-River Falls

Each year, UW-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the Bowls for Hope event in which proceeds raised help a worthy nonprofit organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley. Applications are now open for the 2017 recipient of this charity event.

At the event in March, for an entrance fee of \$25 for adults and \$5 for children age 12 and under, participants may select and keep a bowl created in glass/ceramic/pottery classes at UWRF, River Falls High School, Meyer Middle School, the Renaissance Academy or by area artists. Attendees may also sample, at no extra charge, soups donated and served by area restaurants. Participants have the opportunity to vote for their favorite soup and a Chefs’ Choice Award will be awarded to the soup favored by the chefs participating in the event.

The 2016 Bowls for Hope event raised \$6,000 for the Assistance and Resource Center, Inc. (ARC) of River Falls. Since 2010, Bowls for Hope has raised more than \$40,000 for St. Croix Valley charitable organizations.

To be considered for the 2017 Bowls for Hope proceeds to benefit your St. Croix Valley nonprofit organization, complete the Request for Funds form found at <http://www.uwrf.edu/BowlsForHope/FundRequest.cfm>. Interested charitable organizations should submit their requests online by Monday, Nov. 21.

For more information, visit <http://www.uwrf.edu/BowlsForHope/> or email mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu.

Aphasia Research Lab working memory study participants needed

The UWRF Aphasia Research Lab is now enrolling individuals that are 50-80 years old to collect data about working memory and short-term memory abilities.

Individuals will be asked to listen to number or words that are presented by the researcher or presented on a computer screen, then asked to recall these numbers or words either verbally or visually by pointing to them on a page.

The time spent in the sessions will range from 20-30 minutes, two or three times a week. Sessions will take place

either on campus or within the participant’s home. Each participant will receive \$15 for his/her time.

In addition, free parking will be provided if the participant chooses to drive to the campus. The results will be compared to results already obtained from individuals who have language difficulties as a result of a stroke. If you are interested in participating, email anna.ebensperger@my.uwrf.edu or call 715-554-4902.

Student Senate Update: Nov. 1

Three motions were passed at the Nov. 1 Student Senate meeting:

New Student Organization Recognition: Indian Club

- Passed by unanimous consent: 18 in favor.

Allocation of Funds to Resume Hump Day Café: A motion to allocate \$2,000 from the Student Senate funding pool to fund coffee and bagels every Monday and Wednesday for the remainder of the semester.

- Passed by unanimous consent: 18 in favor.

Student Media Allocation: A motion to allocate \$3,000 from the Student Senate funding pool to the Student Media Committee to replace the lost funds.

- Passed by unanimous consent: 18 in favor.

The information in this update comes from the minutes posted to the Student Senate FalconSync page every week. Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.

Campus Events Calendar:

- **Frances Cohler Coffee Concert: Ivan Konev**
Friday, Nov. 4, noon-1 p.m.
Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts
- **Diversity Dialogues: Debunking Revisionist History**
Friday, Nov. 4, 2-3 p.m.
Falls Room, University Center
- **University Theatre: “Little Shop of Horrors”**
Friday, Nov. 4, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Davis Theatre, Kleinpell Fine Arts
- **RADD Jazz Series: UWRF Jazz Ensemble Plays Monk**
Saturday, Nov. 5, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts
- **University Theatre: “Little Shop of Horrors”**
Saturday, Nov. 5, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Davis Theatre, Kleinpell Fine Arts
- **The Amazon: Wilderness, Technology and Society**
Monday, Nov. 7, 3-5 p.m.
Kinnickinnic Theater, University Center
- **Free Monday Meal**
Monday, Nov. 7, 6-7 p.m.
Journey House Campus Ministry

Visit uwrf.edu for a full schedule of events

if I Aint Tired, You Aint Tired



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Weekly UWRF Crime Report

- Thursday, Oct. 27**
- Vandalism and criminal damage to property was reported at the Falcon Center at 9:30 a.m.
 - A drug complaint was filed at Johnson Hall at 9:43 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 28**
- An intoxicated person was reported at Grimm Hall at 1:29 a.m.
 - Welfare checks were conducted at Hathorn Hall at 11 a.m. and at Hagestad Hall at 3:54 p.m.
 - Suspicious activity was reported at South Hall at 9:38 p.m.

- Saturday, Oct. 29**
- Disorderly conduct was reported at Johnson Hall at 11:25 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 31**
- Theft was reported at Jesse H. Ames Suites at 6 p.m.

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

Student Senate makes sure students can get to the polls this Election Day

Katie Galarno
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With Election Day coming up on Nov. 8, Student Senate is aiming to make sure students at UW-River Falls are ready and able to vote.

The UWRF campus is split in half when it comes to voting districts, which presents a unique challenge. Many of the students who live on campus can vote in the University Center. However, students living in the Johnson, May, Stratton and Prucha residence halls must vote at the River Falls High School.

According to Student Senate President Chris Morgan, the goal of Senate’s efforts is to make sure that the number of students who are unprepared to vote on Election Day is limited. Morgan said that he has heard stories of students going to one polling place, being told they’re in the wrong place and being too discouraged to go to the correct one.

The UWRF campus is split in half when it comes to voting districts, which presents a unique challenge.

“It looks like this will be one of the most engaging elections that we’ll see in recent history, so a lot of students are ready to go, ready to vote,” Morgan said. “It’s just a lot of students will come to vote in the University Center and get turned away because that’s not their assigned polling location.”

Morgan said that it’s important for students to have this information well before Election Day, which is why raising awareness is one of Senate’s main goals.

The first effort was Democracy Day, an awareness event held by Student Senate and Student Involvement, on Oct. 25 in the Involvement Center within the University Center. Walking tacos, a mock vote, music and games were featured. Morgan said that the event was meant to engage and inform students in order to make sure they’re prepared on Election Day.

Also featured was the chance for students to sign up for TurboVote, a nonprofit, nonpartisan service aimed toward alerting people of upcoming elections and giving them the information they might need. This includes where to vote, when the polls are open and whether people will need a Voter ID. Morgan said that TurboVote tracks every election in the country, from the local school board to the presidential.

“Any election you are eligible to vote in, you will be notified via text when that election is, where you should vote, what time the polls are open and places where you can find nonpartisan information about what’s on the ballot,” Morgan said.

Another effort currently in the works is a student-wide email. Morgan said that he is working with the Chancellor’s Office to reach every student by sending them an email informing them of everything they’ll need to know when they head to the polls. This will include what is needed to register, where to

find proof of residency on eSIS and a reminder that students can still register to vote on the day of the election. Morgan said that making students aware of the preparatory measures they should be taking is vital to student voter turnout.

“There are a few barriers that we do want to get out to the students and have them note ahead of time,” Morgan said.

Some students will also need to present a Voter ID at the polling place, which can be obtained for free from the Division of Technology Services and takes around five minutes to make. According to the UWRF Knowledge Base website, the carding office will be open late on Nov. 7 and 8, remaining open until 8 p.m. instead of closing at 4:30 p.m.

On Election Day itself, 12-15 student leaders from groups on campus, including the Residence Hall Association, are volunteering their time to drive students to the high school to vote. This means that if a student goes to the University Center to vote and is turned away, he or she will be able to go outside and get in a university-owned fleet vehicle for a ride. Morgan said that they will also be parked outside of the residence halls on the west side of campus.

Morgan, who is also volunteering to drive, said that it is important for students to exercise their civic duty by voting because elections will decide their future.

“A lot of students are asking, ‘Why are my class sizes getting bigger? Why is my professor getting fired? Why is the custodian who I made friends with my freshman year getting pink slipped and fired from the university?’” Morgan said. “That’s happening because of decisions being made in Madison, and if you care about your future, you should vote for it.”

Morgan, who is also volunteering to drive, said that it is important for students to exercise their civic duty by voting because elections will decide their future.

In November of 2012, the year of the last presidential election, traditional college-age students had the lowest voter turnout of any age demographic. Nationally, just over 41 percent of people aged 18-24 reported voting in 2012, compared to 73 percent of people aged 65-74, according to the United States Census Bureau. For Wisconsin as a whole, numbers were more optimistic with just under 72 percent of people turning out.

But according to Morgan, a student’s efforts should extend past Nov. 8. He said that state senators and other representatives will be making decisions that impact the lives of students both currently and in the future.

“At an institution of higher learning, at a liberal arts college whose goal is to develop us to become engaged citizens in the 21st century, I think it does start by making us engaged in our democratic efforts in our communities,” Morgan said.

Wisconsin polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Nov. 8.

UWRF Student Senate pushes for Title IX compliance, student rights

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Continued from Page 1

For Heinselman, this serves as a problem, as he oversees many departments in the university that could be directly linked to a Title IX investigation, such as Residence Life and Counseling Services.

Because of his responsibility of oversight as associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs, Heinselman said that he believes that he cannot be seen as independent or neutral when it comes to his Title IX responsibilities.

“In order to provide equity and justice to Title IX, you have to be independent. And that’s difficult to balance,” said Heinselman. “I think I can do that [stay neutral]. It just means that you’re switching multiple hats throughout the day.”

Although Heinselman tries his best to be seen as an independent Title IX coordinator, he recognizes that others, students in particular, may not see him as such. He also said that he recognizes the personal dangers that come with being an advocate for the students while also in an administrative role on campus.

“In my role I still report to the Chancellor and I’m still a member of the [Chancellor’s Cabinet] and I have all

these departments that report to me, so can I really be independent?” said Heinselman. “Can I really operate that way when I have a limited appointment, I serve at the luxury of the Chancellor and have a one-year contract? Can I really operate independently and be a Title IX coordinator?”

Heinselman said that he fully supports Senate’s call for a new Title IX position, having even brought a request to the University Budget Committee in the past.

“It’s a difficult road to the Budget Committee to get enough support for a position like that,” said Heinselman.

According to the Department of Education, institutions that are not compliant with Title IX are subject to lawsuits that could cost the institution heavy fines as well as be subject to the loss of federal funding.

“Most of the Title IX coordinators in our institutions in the UW System will tell you if it happens it’s when it happens, because it’s kind of inevitable,” said Heinselman. “I think until we really support the independent aspect of what Title IX calls for, I think the probability at any campus that hasn’t committed the resources, the probability of a violation is moderate to high.”

In an emailed statement, Van Galen said that the university has consulted

with Title IX experts in the UW System and has found that the university’s current coordinator/deputy coordinator designations do not violate federal law. However, he said, he recognizes the need to re-evaluate how UWRF is handling Title IX and how it is keeping the campus safe.

“I am interested in understanding student concerns regarding how Title IX is addressed at UWRF, I am open to considering other coordination structures for how Title IX is managed on our campus, and – in the longstanding spirit of collaboration with our student shared governance body – I look forward to learning more about and discussing ideas and requests proposed by Student Senate,” said Van Galen.

Morgan said that a motion will likely be put in front of the Senate in the next two to three weeks.

“If it’s just the administration asking the Chancellor to do this, it won’t happen,” said Morgan. “It will have to be the students themselves, who pay tuition, who pay fees, to say this is what we want at our institution. That’s what’s going to have to happen.”

UWRF dean named as finalist for CSU provost position

Natalie Howell
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Brad Caskey, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UW-River Falls, has been named a finalist for the position of provost and executive vice president of Academic Affairs at Columbus State University in Georgia.

Caskey is one of three candidates for the position, along with Jane McCandless, dean of the College of Social Science at the University of West Georgia and Cheryl Torsney, the former senior vice provost at the University of Texas.

Caskey is an alumnus of UWRF, having graduated in 1980. He then returned to the university as a developmental psychological professor before moving up to dean of the College of



Amara Young/Student Voice

Alumni Spotlight: Daniel McGinty

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Five members of the UW-River Falls Alumni Relations Office in South Hall are alumni of the university themselves, so it isn’t surprising that an alumnus directs the office.

Daniel McGinty is currently serving as the director of alumni relations, and is responsible for keeping the more than 45,000 alumni from UWRF engaged with the university. This includes planning alumni events, providing information on volunteer opportunities such as guest speaking and advisory boards and using social media to keep in touch with UWRF. This year also marks his 33rd year working for UWRF.

McGinty said he had a fantastic experience attending River Falls as an undergraduate, growing up in eastern Wisconsin. Despite having to drive past other universities that were closer to home, he felt compelled to come to River Falls because of its friendly atmosphere.



Amara Young/Student Voice
Dan McGinty, director of Alumni Relations

“I remember my campus visit like it was yesterday,” McGinty recalled. “When I set my foot on this campus, it felt right.”

McGinty said that what kept him here was the friendly people that work at UWRF, something that the school still values today. He said he feels that while social interactions between faculty have decreased over the years, the same connections between students and faculty are still made today.

While attending as an undergraduate, McGinty was heavily involved with athletics, and after graduation he later served as assistant coach of the basketball team for 10 years. He also attended campus events such as homecoming and the winter carnival, an annual event that no longer exists at River Falls. He completed both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education at River Falls, and went on to live in Uruguay for a year before coming back to UWRF to pursue his graduate studies.

After completing his graduate studies in counseling, McGinty was offered a position with the Admissions Office at UWRF. He worked there for two years as a counselor, then went on to work for Financial Aid before finally working his way working to Alumni Development in 1988. It was there that McGinty found his passion, and he continues to work with the university’s alumni today.

Over the years, McGinty has had the opportunity to watch multiple departments and programs at UWRF grow, which includes the school’s first comprehensive fundraising campaign that exceeded its \$20 million goal by \$2 million. He has also seen an increase in scholarships awarded to students by twice the amount, as well as the improvements and expansions of facilities on campus such as the Falcon Center. But in addition to watching many of the impacts made on campus, he has seen many of the impacts made by fellow alumni as well.

One picture in McGinty’s office that stands out is that of Daniel Brandenstein, a former naval pilot and astronaut who flew into space four times as a NASA space shuttle pilot, who is also a UWRF alumnus. Other prominent UWRF alumni he mentioned included David Swensen, CEO of the Yale Endowment, and Brad Hewitt, CEO of Thrivent Financial, who recently received the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award. Through these examples and many more, he explained that many students who attend UWRF have the confidence and ability to compete with students from other schools.

“When I travel and talk to our alumni,” he said, “I ask this question: ‘How well did your River Falls education prepare you for what you are going to do?’ And nine times out of 10, it’s usually very well.”

In terms of connecting alumni back to River Falls, one big part of McGinty and Alumni Relations’ role is planning events. More than 70 different alumni events are held on campus, as well as other events that happen throughout the state, region and internationally. In addition to events, alumni often volunteer to guest speak in classes, and also are utilized in mock interviews for Career Services. Keeping up with the times, the department also hands out bimonthly newsletters online, as well as utilizing mailing lists and social media in order to keep UWRF alumni well informed.

McGinty’s advice to students is to use the resources on campus, including Career Services. In addition to helping students build resumes and cover letters, they can also serve as the gatekeeper toward business relations that can help students make connections and expand their networks, something that a student should always do, even after graduation.

“You’re always expanding your networks,” McGinty said. “You never know where the opportunities might come from down the road.”

Arts and Sciences. Since becoming a professor, Caskey has worked at UWRF for over 25 years.

Caskey would not comment at this time about becoming a finalist for the position at CSU or the possibility of leaving his alma mater.

The candidates will travel to the CSU campus this week and next for interviews with various administrative leaders, faculty, staff and students. Caskey will be visiting the campus for such interviews Nov. 9-11.

EDITORIAL

It’s time to make our voices heard this Election Day

Election Day is this Tuesday, Nov. 8, and it is important for UW-River Falls students to go out and vote.

Efforts have been made to make sure students know how to register and vote, and additional resources are available via a quick search of the university’s website. In September, the Student Voice conducted a Q&A with the Deputy Clerk for the City of River Falls, Bridget Hieb, regarding the basic information students will need. Student Senate has upped its efforts as well. The information is there, so there are no excuses not to vote.

Specifically, Student Senate is ready to deal with one major unique challenge facing UWRF students: voting district lines. The UWRF campus is split into two different voting districts, which means that students who live on the west side of campus (the Johnson, May, Prucha and Stratton residence halls) have to vote at the River Falls High School, whereas students who live elsewhere on campus can vote in the University Center.

To help students get where they need to go, Senate has helped organize a shuttle service. During polling times, 12-15 student leaders will volunteer their time to drive students in university fleet vehicles to and from polling places. This means that even if a student initially goes to the wrong place and gets turned away, a ride will be waiting just outside. We encourage students to utilize this.

Even if you work, you aren’t too busy to vote. If time is a concern, employees have certain rights that should not be overlooked. According to a Wisconsin state statute, employers are required to let employees take up to three hours from their workday Tuesday to vote. This time has to be requested in advance, though, so make plans now!

It should also be noted that your employer has the option to not pay you for the hours that you are gone, and they can set the times. For some, stopping by the polling place after work may be a better option. The polls are open from 7 a.m.-8 p.m., so take advantage of that.

Regardless of the outcome of the election, we need to remember to respect each other. We are not defined by our political parties, and everyone should have the equal chance to vote in the way in which they feel is right. Whatever happens, we will be OK. So go out and make your voice heard!

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

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

The *Student Voice* reserves the right to withhold letters. All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the *Student Voice* per issue. A single copy of the *Student Voice* is valued at \$1, and additional copies may be requested from the editorial staff by email through editor@uwrfvoice.com.

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Ask Colleen: Major life decisions and getting rid of a clingy roommate

Colleen Brown

Advice Columnist

Dear Colleen,
How do you deal with the stress of trying to make major life decisions? How do you know you have made the right choice?
Major Decision

Dear Major Decision,

In all honesty, I wish I had the answer to this question because it would help me out a lot, too. The pressure of making the “right” decision can be overwhelming and there is always that idea that you may make the “wrong” one. Wouldn’t it be nice if we could just look into a crystal ball and see the future? Just to get a glimpse, to know that everything turns out all right. That isn’t possible, so we’re all going to have to live with an unknown future. But on the bright side, it makes life just that much more interesting.

I could tell you to make a pros and cons list, but I think that response is rather boring. Also, I think making a pros and cons list sometimes makes you make things up just to fill the list, either good or bad. My best advice to you would be to not dwell on the decision but to look forward to the outcome. No matter what you choose there will be a new future awaiting you, which is exciting! This sounds cliché, but go with your gut. If something is pulling you toward decision A over decision B, choose A. I truly believe in trusting your own intuition.

The great thing about these decisions is that they can be changed. If for some reason whatever you chose doesn’t work out as planned, then you move onto something else. Recently, I’ve had to make some major choices regarding my last semester in college and my future career. It’s scary to think if I’ll graduate on time or if I will get a job. But I don’t worry too much about it, because everything always seems to work itself out.

Just remember that you have the power to make choices and no matter what you choose, it will be a learning experience. The best advice I’ve gotten about making decisions is to think half with your heart and half with your brain. Throughout your life you will be faced with some tough choices. Obviously, think it through, but don’t let it keep you up at night. Once you make a choice, embrace it and run with whatever comes your way.

Best,
Colleen

Dear Colleen,
I am a senior who is still trapped with a clingy roommate! I have a circle of friends that exists outside of our suite, but she does not. Whenever an event comes up that she’s interested in, she automatically assumes “we” are going. I have lost count of the amount of times I wanted to do something with my own friends but got stuck with her because I couldn’t come up with a way to tell her I had other plans. A big issue here is that my primary group of friends absolutely cannot stand her, so I can’t even invite her to join us without ruining it for everyone else. I don’t know what to do, because if I tell her I don’t want to hang out with her, I still have to live with her. But if I keep spending time with her when I want to be elsewhere, I’ll

go insane. This is the third year of this, and I just want to have fun because it’s my last year here! Colleen, what should I do?

Best,
Independent Woman

Dear Independent Woman,

Oh boy, this is definitely a tricky situation. Obviously, it seems like this has been going on for a while and it’s clearly bothering you. The worst thing to do would be to suppress these feelings and then you’ll actually combust. What has to happen is a conversation and it’s probably not going to be the most pleasant one.

It seems like a couple of things are going on. 1. Your roommate has become too clingy. 2. Your other friends aren’t her biggest fans. Let’s tackle the first issue to start. Living in the same suite as someone, going to the same school and hanging out with the same people can become suffocating. It is only natural that you feel like she is clingy. With you guys spending so much time together, it has probably become her normal. She may not even know that she has become this way. That’s why a conversation needs to happen. If you don’t talk to her, you’ll end up trying to avoid her, which will only add to the tension. I’ve learned that running away from your problems actually doesn’t work. Surprising, right? Anyway, the truth always surfaces at the end of the day.

College is the time to be independent and meet new people; you don’t want anyone to hold you back from that. Talking to your roommate honestly about this is important. Explain to her that you want to explore and do various things on your own. I’ve totally been on both sides of the spectrum, the person who clings and the person who has a clinger. When I was honest and told them I needed space, that person respected that. I think your roommate will understand this and could possibly relate to as well. The conversation will allow her to give you space and to know why you need it. This is so cliché, but distant really does make the heart grow fonder.

Now lets talk about your friends that don’t like your roommate. Here’s the deal: This situation sucks. There is no way around it. Not all of your friends have to like each other, but they can be mature and handle themselves like adults. Once you have this conversation with your roommate, you will already be spending less time with each other and therefore so will your other friends. However, if they really don’t like her and can’t seem to get past that, then this is where you will have to make some choices. You might have to separate the two and hang out with each at different times. But I would hope that everyone could get along and handle this with maturity.

Overall, being honest is the best way to handle a clingy roommate. This way you can bring up the issue and have them become aware of what they are doing. Nothing will change if you don’t say anything. I would also reflect on your frustration towards your roommate. Could those friends who don’t like her influence this frustration? We all know how easy it is to fall into peer pressure. The build up to talking to your roommate will be worse than the actual conversation. Once the talk is over, you’ll feel so much better. Just be honest and tell her how you feel.

Best of luck,
Colleen

Colleen Brown is a senior at UWRF going for an English Literature degree. One thing that makes her qualified for this advice column is that she is a college student trying to make it through, just like everyone else.

Offensive costumes are going too far

Reo Ford

Columnist

A line needs to be drawn. I have been asking myself, “Why?” for the past 10 minutes.

When I opened a new tab on my computer, the first thing that popped up, blanketed in news articles, was MSN’s homepage. Some of the stories posted consisted of election drama, unfortunate crime incidents and miscellaneous stories on celebrities. The main story, however, that caught my eye is one that happened in our very own university system: “Wisconsin releases statement on fan wearing racist costume to game.”

It explains an event that happened at a recent UW-Madison football game. When I clicked on the link, I saw an image at the top of the page. It showed a sea of red clothing with UW-Madison logos, and standing among all the amped-up sports fans was a person wearing a striped outfit, a Barack Obama mask and a noose wrapped around his neck. The person is also holding a sign that, because of a guy standing partially in front of him, I couldn’t read the entire thing. I did see, though, that it mentions “Hillary.”

It could’ve been an attempt to convey a political message, which is fine. What I have an issue with, though, is him sporting a noose around his neck, because that conveys a different message. To me, you aren’t criticizing politics anymore; you’re targeting a race.

Having said that, the costume isn’t the only alarming aspect of the picture. Among the crowd of people also occupying the bleachers, nobody appears to have a negative

reaction. I wasn’t there, so I can’t speak factually about what happened, but it doesn’t look like anybody had a genuine problem, which is absolutely horrifying! As a matter of fact, the person standing to the right of him is holding the noose upwards.

It raises this question: Has this sort of racist ignorance become so normalized again that people just disregard the moron standing among them? When I hear stories of people verbally spewing discriminatory garbage from their mouths, I have learned to ignore it. This, on the other hand, is just embarrassing and I wasn’t even there.

When you scroll down to the bottom of the page, there is a three-paragraph statement given by the university. The first paragraph talks about how staff members asked him to remove the “offensive components” of the costume, and that he complied. The last paragraph talks about how the university does not condone this type of behavior and they want all people to feel valued.

Those are fair statements. However, the problem I have is squeezed in between those two paragraphs. The second paragraph states, “The costume, while repugnant and counter to the values of the university and athletic department, was an exercise of the individual’s right to free speech.”

I understand that; one of the appeals about this glorious country is the fact that Americans can voice their opinions openly. I personally feel there should be some sort of a limit. If we were to ask ourselves, “How far is too far?” I think acts like this are inching pretty close to the line in the sand.

Reo Ford is a journalism student. She loves hiking with her dog, but when the weather doesn’t permit it she enjoys binging on Netflix, writing and taking naps with her cats.

The Student Voice is hiring reporters, columnists and photographers! Email editor@uwrfvoice.com.

Zodiac signs not accurate descriptions of other people

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

Scorpio season is finally upon us, which means that I have begun to fantasize about my birthday cake, one of my favorite pastimes.

Really though, Scorpio season got me to thinking: Why do people set so much in store by their zodiac sign? And is a person’s zodiac sign an accurate representation of anything besides a range of time when that person’s birthday could fall? I tend to not think too much of horoscopes or of zodiac signs, so I set out to try and see if I could get myself to think a little more highly of this whole zodiac thing.

Since I have a Nov. 21 birthday and I therefore am a Scorpio, no matter how arbitrarily, I will be focusing my attention on this specific zodiac sign. So, let’s start with understanding the origin of the zodiac signs.

Earthsky.org defines the zodiac as fixed constellations that span the distance that the sun travels across the sky. The 12 zodiac signs that are commonly found in a horoscope refer to when “the sun appears to travel over the course of a year... Dates in a horoscope should correspond to when the sun passes through each constellation.” I found this easy enough to understand, but what Earthsky.org went on to say next caused me to pause.

Apparently, the constellations and the path of the sun are

meant to match together. In reality, they actually do not, at least not anymore. Due to the constant motion of the Earth, our axis strays slightly, causing the zodiac constellations to no longer align with the sun. Today, “signs and constellations are about one calendar month off.” In fact, the last time everything was in sync was more than 2,000 years ago! Does that mean I am not even a “real” Scorpio then?

Before I dismiss my zodiac sign, what does being a Scorpio even entail? According to astrology-zodiac-signs.com, a Scorpio’s strengths are being resourceful, passionate and stubborn, and that we like the truth, being right and teasing.

Some of these traits make sense with each other, being resourceful and liking facts, and being stubborn and being right for example. But teasing? I see no rhyme or reason for why this quality is included in the general makeup of a Scorpio.

This same website also includes what I will call a disclaimer of sorts about a Scorpio person. “Some Scorpio-born can look older than they actually are... Scorpions hate dishonesty and they can be very jealous and suspicious...Scorpions are brave and therefore they have a lot of friends.”

I actually chuckled while reading through this paragraph of “information.” It seems to me that astrology-zodiac-signs.com sets a lot of who you are on solely based on the fact that you were born between Oct. 23 and Nov. 21.

Even though I do not quite match up to every trait of being a Scorpio, would my horoscope this week be any more promising or would it also be wildly inaccurate? For any person that does not know what a horoscope is, or have not yet taken a divination lesson from Professor Trelawney at Hogwarts, a horoscope is a sort of forecast of someone’s future using the

positions of stars and planets at their birth.

Astrology.com had this to tell me about what to expect as a Scorpio this week: “[a] secret finds its way into your awareness on Monday or Tuesday...Midweek you may find you don’t have much patience...but by Friday you’ll find yourself surrounded by people who are genuinely interested in you... They practically idolize you. Saturday and Sunday you get a bit carried away with all the attention.” It seems like I am meant to have quite the week! But I think I can do without the idolizing part.

After all of this research, I have to report that I did not accomplish my goal of thinking more highly of my zodiac sign or of horoscopes, but to be fair I started off with a very low opinion of them.

What I can say is that I appreciate the astrological background of the zodiac and the mythology surrounding the constellations. But I cannot say that I attribute much more than that to my particular sign.

The way I look at it, zodiac signs are just another group in which to find a sense of belonging with and not as a way to predict what my friends think of me or what kind of person I am.

Lauren Simenson is a junior majoring in journalism and communication studies. Her interests include eating dark chocolate, online 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.

STUDENT VOICES

“What is your favorite part of Thanksgiving?”

Compiled by Samantha Decker



Carolyn Little
Sophomore
“The food coma that follows the food!”



Ashley Boughton
Sophomore
“Being with my family.”



Janelle Olson
Sophomore
“Making the pies. Apple is my favorite one to make for Thanksgiving.”



Chris Farvour
Second year graduate student
“Watching football!”



Rachel Voelker
Junior
“Aunt’s homemade rolls.”



Tanner Steinmetz
Junior
“All the food!”

Do you have something to say?
Write a letter to the editor.
Email your thoughts to editor@uwrfvoice.com

UWRF women’s basketball returns from historic season ready to win

Zach Dwyer
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

After a historic season last year, the UWRF women’s basketball team is focusing on the little things to make the difference in order to potentially have its best season to date.

The Falcons return four starters and 10 letterwinners from last season, including three All-WIAC players junior Taylor Karge, senior Brynn Liljander and senior Kate Theisen. Karge and Liljander both earned first team honors while Theisen grabbed honorable mention in the 2015-2016 season.

Their 23-6 record matched the most wins in UWRF history and was bolstered by a 12-2 conference record that saw the Falcons take their first WIAC regular season title since 1989, according to wiacsports.com.

Karge returns with a 14.2 points per game average and shot 48 percent from the field in 2015-2016. Liljander also returns after a big offensive impact last season by averaging 14 points per game and over two assists as well.

With such a strong returning cast minus graduated senior leader Richell Mehus, the Falcons are looking to contend for another conference title. But 17th year Head Coach Cindy Holbrook said she doesn’t believe the Falcons will be looking too far ahead at this stage in the season.

“We talk very little about winning and losing games at this point and really focus on practice and preparing for the next game. The team knows nothing is going to be easy but they can control what they can,” Holbrook said.

Part of what they can control will be replacing the impact Mehus had on the team. The senior captain added more leadership than just her 10 points per game and five rebounds a game show. However, Karge thinks the team can make the transition.

“Although we did only lose one player, [Mehus] was a really big key for us. We know we need people to step up in her spot, but we got a lot of talented freshman coming in on our team,” Karge said.

That leadership and balance was one of the main points Holbrook attributed to the Falcons’ success last season. The level of consistency the team brought will be essential for another run at the conference title. Holbrook said she believes that this year’s squad is still working into hitting their stride.

“A big part of the off season was not having Richell Mehus, but Kate Theisen took on a lot of that communication. The team is still finding their way a little bit but everyone came back much better. The senior leaders have shown noticeable improvements and it was a pretty successful off-season,” Holbrook said.

One of the key points of motivation for the Falcons this year rests in the UW-Oshkosh Titans. The Titans were picked to win the WIAC in the yearly preseason poll, even though they’re ranked below UWRF at 14th in the d3hoops.com poll. The Falcons currently sit at 12th in the nation.

Oshkosh also came into Karges Center last season and took down the Falcons to win the WIAC conference tournament title only days after the Falcons beat the Titans to claim the regular season title. Karge and Liljander both still have strong feelings about the outcome.

“That game is the motivation in the weight room, the motivation in practice, and the motivation when we’re running lines. That game is still very vivid in all of our memories,” Karge said.

“I know I think about that game a lot and can remember it very well. I personally have lost the WIAC playoff title game three years in a row and that’s certainly a lot of motivation going into the season,” Liljander said.

Holbrook had a very different view on the conference play-off loss. She finds more motivation in building each day and isn’t too caught up on the game from last season.

“I think that’s something that affects players more than it affects coaches. If I had to choose one of the titles to win it would be the regular season conference title because you’re battling for it every day for five months and it’s the reflection of the best team for the season,” Holbrook said.

This Falcon team has the talent to win a conference championship and is good enough to play in the tournament. But now Holbrook knows the team needs to focus on the little things in order to make it to that level.

“We’re not grabbing onto the details right now, whether it be our positioning on defense or our timing and angles on offense. They aren’t holding onto the little things right now and it will be a huge tipping point if they don’t,” Holbrook said.

The Falcons have so many returning players that turnover won’t be a problem, but their ability to work as a team may be able to take them a long way.

“I think our chemistry on and off the court alone will allow us to go far,” Liljander said.

The Falcons open up their season at Carleton College on Nov. 15. UWRF won’t return home until they open up their season at Karges Center on Nov. 29 against Viterbo University at 6 p.m.

The fans made the difference down the stretch last season in making Karges Center a difficult place for opposing teams to play. That kind of enthusiasm and repeated success on the court would make for an exciting season for UWRF basketball.

Last season’s Falcons goalie now in early stages of pro ice hockey career

Ace Sauerwein
Falcon News Service

Former UW-River Falls men’s hockey goalie Tanner Milliron graduated last spring. His days playing for the Falcons came to a close, but his hockey career was far from over.

Milliron, whose hometown is New Richmond, Wisconsin, now plays with the Evansville Thunderbolts of the Southern Professional Hockey League (SPHL). The Thunderbolts are the “A” team in the Minnesota Wild organization.

After receiving his diploma in May, Milliron went on to train with the Minnesota Wild organization. He performed well enough to earn a contract in the Wild’s farm system with the Quad City (Illinois) Mallards of the East Coast Hockey League. Training camp came to an end, and Milliron made his way past the final cuts. He was primed for a season with the Wild’s “AA” team, and was just two levels below the National Hockey League.

However, Milliron wouldn’t start the season with the Mallards.

“The Minnesota Wild sent down a goalie [to Quad City] that they felt needed some development, and then I ended up in Evansville, Indiana,” Milliron said in a telephone interview.

The SPHL season kicked off last week, and in the Thunderbolts’ second game, Milliron stopped 40 shots but allowed two goals in a 2-1 loss, according to the SPHL. Despite the loss, Milliron was happy to get that first taste of professional hockey.

“It’s just nice to get my feet wet and kind of see where I need more development and tiny things I can pick up on to keep moving up the ranks,” said Milliron.

During his senior season at UWRF, Milliron posted a 14-7-5 record and allowed 1.83 goals per game (first in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference last year). He said his time at UWRF prepared him for his professional career.

“The tradition of River Falls helped me a lot,” said Mil-

liron. “Coming out of River Falls, I was a more refined winner... Coach [Steve] Freeman put me in a good position to have a lot of minutes and it really helped me develop in that sense to move on to where I am now.”

Freeman, who has coached at least five players who went on to play professional hockey, viewed Milliron as more than just a talented goalie.

“What really impressed me was his demeanor,” said Freeman. “What a well-balanced person he was as far as academics and athletics. He was a terrific student-athlete. He was involved in so many things.”

When it came to Milliron’s time on the ice, Freeman saw Milliron as one of the hardest workers he’s ever coached.

“If we had a night game at seven o’clock at night, he might be there at 10 in the morning getting ready for the game and stretching out in between classes... A very, very focused student athlete,” Freeman said.

It’s no coincidence players coached by Freeman are reaching professional levels.

“The biggest thing is that he treated us like professionals every single day,” said Milliron. “He expected us to fulfill our roles. He really trusted his guys that he knew was going to perform, and just let them run with it.”

Outside of playing hockey, Milliron works for a goaltender training group called ProHybrid Training. The group is based out of Minneapolis, but Milliron is able to train goalies wherever he goes during his hockey career.

At the end of his playing career, Milliron said he wants to be able to look back and acknowledge that he left everything on the ice and gave himself the best opportunity to succeed. However, his career is far from over, and he’s got big aspirations of reaching the National Hockey League (NHL).

“That [reaching the NHL] has to be in the back of my mind all the time. And what’s really good is the league I’m playing in is known for developing goalies,” Milliron said. “I’m staying as positive as I can and just doing my best.”



Kathy Helgeson/UWRF Communications
Tanner Milliron protects the net during the home opener against St. Thomas. The Falcons defeated the Tommies 3-2 in overtime.

Falcon Athlete of the Week: Haley Nielsen



Tori Lynn Schneider/Media Intern

Zach Dwyer
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Haley Nielsen made a big impact in the number two nationally-ranked Falcons Hockey 4-0 win over Bethel. The sophomore defender from Plymouth, Minnesota, scored two goals and recorded an assist for the Falcons as they opened up their season with a shutout at Bethel Saturday night. Nielsen’s first goal was on the power play in the second period and she added an unassisted goal in the third period. Nielsen also earned WIAC Player of the Week honors for her performance.

The Student Voice sat down with Nielsen to discuss her big opening night and the expectations facing UWRF after its historic run last season.

Q: Were there higher expectations this season than past seasons after last year’s finish?

A: I would say so, since we finished so high and making it the championship game has never happened [to us] before. Our major goal this year is to win it all, so we put a little more pressure on ourselves in order to achieve that.

Q: What was the biggest focus in the off-season to take the next step to win a national championship?

A: The biggest thing was utilizing everyone on the team. We lost Chloe Kinsel last year, which is a huge loss because she put up a ton of points, so we knew this year we had to utilize the freshman and everyone’s strengths to make up for that loss. I think overall everyone focused on quickness and speed and team chemistry.

Q: Do you feel like you’re personally more involved in the offense after having eight points last season but already three in one game?

A: That was kind of my goal this year. I’ve usually been a defensive defenseman and playing with Paige Johnson last year I learned from her to be aggressive but not stupid about it. This year, my goal is to focus on defense and hopefully the offensive side will come with it.

Q: What came together for such a dominant win over a good Bethel team?

A: From the first practice, Coach Cranston has said the same thing, that everyone was going full speed the whole time. Our work ethic is incredible this year and the senior class is doing a great job with leadership and encouraging everyone throughout practice. I think our intensity overall is one of the reasons we were able to dominate that first game.

Q: The team seemed to have a slow start last season. Is there anything that’s been done differently to avoid that this season?

A: [Cranston] has always said that the last two or three years, River Falls lost two of their first five games. So this year our goal was to start off strong. Obviously a bid to get into the national tournament is very difficult so we can’t afford to lose many games. I think we all had that in the back of our mind that in order to achieve our ultimate goal we would need to win these first couple of games.

Q: What is this team’s biggest strength?

A: I would definitely say leadership, because I believe we have five seniors and they all play a pivotal role and do a great job. Having that experience with a lot of underclassman, because my grade and the freshman class is pretty large, has helped us get adjusted to college level. Our experience and our overall speed and work ethic makes us deadly.

Q: How excited is the team to finally get a chance to play in the new Hunt Arena?

A: We are very excited. It was kind of surreal for all of us walking in and practicing for the first time there. When we practice, we have certain places where we go to do certain drills so it’s kind of weird facing different sides and different ways, so it’s been an adjustment. For the seniors, it was a kind of a big deal to make the last [season] the most important. I think having the new rink gives us a little boost of energy and hopefully will attract more people.

UWRF hosts ‘Trump vs. Clinton: The Election of a Lifetime’ roundtable

Minjung Ko
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A political issues roundtable called “Trump vs. Clinton: The Election of a Lifetime” was hosted by the Political Science Department on Wednesday, Oct. 26. The event was held from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

Six UW-River Falls faculty participated in the panel. They were Neil Kraus, Davida Alperin and Sooh-Rhee Ryu from the Political Science Department and Brian Huffman from Management and Marketing. Cyndi Kernahan and Travis Tubré from the Psychology Department also took part since the roundtable not only focused on people’s thoughts on the candidates but also how psychology factors affect one’s decision.

Panelists commented on the current presidential election for 30 minutes and a question and answer session continued for an hour.

About 37 students attended the event. “I thought the attendance was good. I was pleased that it was 90 minutes and a lot of people stayed for the whole 90 minutes. I think it was also good because different views were expressed on varieties, not just candidates,” Political Science Chair Kraus said.

The panels honestly expressed their thoughts on this year’s election. “I would never say anything I say here in class,” said Huffman, management and marketing professor.

“This election feels very different, in that one of the candidates is unfit to be president and it’s important that I share that, not push it on anyone,” said Alperin, political science professor.

Ryu, political science assistant professor, mentioned her thoughts on Trump’s position on foreign policy and how he is gaining much support. “Certain voters have conservation

values. What Trump offers is very appealing to those people. He seems as a strong man who could build fortress around America. [His] positions are not completely wrong, it’s just the way he puts it is very problematic.”

Psychology Professor Kernahan mentioned how psychology takes a large part in the public’s decision. She said once voters make a commitment to a candidate, they come up with a lot of justification that supporters do not easily change their mind. “It’s confirmation bias,” she said.

Psychology Chair Tubré suggested that a lot the voters are ignorant about what they are ignorant about, known as the “Dunning Kruger Effect.”

Not only panelists but also audience members actively took part in the discussion. A woman came in during the discussion and shouted to one of the panelists how much she disagreed with what the panel said.

“I think that’s not too surprising. It’s much more difficult to have a civil discussion on this election, in particular. Some folks were very emotional, including some of our panels. I think that given this election and what has been going on in last several months, it’s hard to have purely logical, not emotional, debate. Still, I think it was civil, even if it was heated at times,” Kraus said.

Asked how much importance civil debates would hold, Kraus said it is critical for people to attend the events and also for more events to be held.

“If people were to be able to watch or attend to discussions like this event, I think it could have an impact on the election,” Kraus said. “Maybe somebody would find something new from the discussion or think about something in a different way because of the information they are presented with. They could have an effect.”

It’s On Us Week of Action promotes sexual assault awareness, prevention



Tori Lynn Schneider/Student Voice
UWRF Gender and Sexuality Alliance hosts a drag show in the University Center Falcons Nest on Friday, Oct. 28. Tips were encouraged, and all proceeds were donated to St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team. Performers were volunteer drag queens and students, including the UWRF Dance Theatre.



Tori Lynn Schneider/Student Voice
Keith Edwards gives a presentation called “Ending Rape” in the University Center Ballroom on Tuesday, Oct. 25.



Tori Lynn Schneider/Student Voice
Brooklyn Jenness, freshman, puts sauce on her free Buffalo Wild Wings provided at the first event of the It’s On Us Week of Action with a viewing of the film “The Hunting Ground” on Monday, Oct. 24.

Romania figures in work, lives of three UW-River Falls professors

Tori Schneider
Falcon News Service

Romania might not be the first place people think of when considering countries with links to UW-River Falls, but there are several connections.

Gary Onan, chair of the Animal and Food Science Department, visited the country from February to July on a Fulbright grant to teach as a visiting professor at Banat University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Timisoara, Romania.

“I’m telling all my students they should study abroad, so I should do the same, right?” Onan said.

Onan had made a connection with Ioan Hutu, a professor from Banat University, when Hutu came to UWRF in 2005 through another program to learn more about American swine and dairy cattle industry practices.

The two kept in touch and, in 2006, Onan made his first trip to Romania to present a research paper. After that, he always wanted to go back for a longer period of time.

Ten years later he was able to do just that with the Fulbright grant.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and provides travel money and stipends for students, scholars, teachers and professionals to allow them to go abroad.

Onan applied only to focus on teaching. No research was involved, but he and Hutu have projects in mind for the future.

He also has ideas to start a short-term study abroad experience for students in Romania.

“I’ve had some challenges with finding the right time to do that where our students can go and where there’s actually something for them to do when they get there,” Onan said. “And that was part of my motivation for spending more time there — to see if I could identify some possibilities or some interesting or useful or service projects they could do if we took some over there. I have a few ideas, [but] we haven’t really fleshed those out.”

Hutu and Onan have already published two textbooks together, one in 2008 and another while Onan was in Romania, which is being used at Banat University in an English-language animal production course.

Onan’s is not the only UWRF connection to Romania: Associate Professor Ioana Ghenciu and Assistant Professor Alexandru Tupan, both of the Mathematics Department, are Romanian natives.

Tupan’s family lived in Timisoara, where Banat University is located, before moving south in the 1940s. He was raised in Strehaia and attended university in Bucharest, Romania’s capital.

Ghenciu and Tupan both attended the same university in Bucharest. Both studied math and graduated at the same time, but neither knew each other until working together at UWRF, where now they have offices right next door to each other in North Hall.

After studying mathematics as an undergraduate in Bucharest, Tupan attended Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore for five years. He graduated in 2001 and ended up with a job at UWRF in 2005 after one post-doctoral experience and one assistant professorship at other universities.

Ghenciu said that she ended up in Wisconsin because it’s where she found a job.



Tori Lynn Schneider/Student Voice
Gary Onan, chair of Animal and Food Science, gives a presentation, Tuesday, Oct. 25, about his experiences teaching abroad in Romania.

Sports Schedule

- Nov. 4: Men’s hockey at St. Thomas 7 p.m.
 - Nov. 4: Women’s hockey vs. Bethel 7:05 p.m.
 - Nov. 5: Football at UW-Whitewater 2:05 p.m.
 - Nov. 5: Men’s hockey at St Mary’s 7 p.m.
 - Nov. 5: Men’s basketball at Minnesota Duluth (exhibition) 7 p.m.
 - Nov. 5: Women’s hockey vs. St. Thomas 7:05 p.m.
- Home Games in BOLD

‘Inferno’ feels more like a flicker than a blaze

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

Symbol and history expert Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) is back at it once again saving the world from impending doom. After he wakes up injured in a hospital with no memory of the previous 48 hours, he teams up with Sienna Brooks (Felicity Jones), the nurse who is a history buff and fan of Langdon’s work, to help try and uncover what happened. Memories and clues unfold, and together they race the clock to try and stop a deadly virus that could kill more than half the world’s population.

“Inferno” has a spark but never catches fire. This film, the third adaptation of author Dan Brown’s bestselling novels, fails to reach either of the previous two levels. While neither of the previous two films (“The Da Vinci Code” and “Angels and Demons”) are great from a critical standpoint, they are at least enjoyable to watch.

“Inferno” has far too many issues when it comes to the technical aspects that it heavily weighs down any fun factors that the film might have to offer.

In the previous film “Angels and Demons,” there was a lot to like: We had an intriguing story, good acting and the charisma and charm of Tom Hanks. Granted, it had several issues but they were easy enough to overlook because of how entertaining the movie was.

“Inferno” lacks these features. Not even Tom Hanks is enough to save this film because he himself is not that good. I don’t really find fault in Hanks because the writing and directing is flat out terrible for this film. Frantic at times for no real reason other than to move the story along, forced emotional guidance, terrible direction and editing and a story

where you almost have to be a historian to follow along. You know a film is in some deep trouble when even Tom Hanks can’t save it and at least make it salvageable.

Now if I did have to come up with some good qualities about “Inferno,” give me a minute here, let me think. Oh, the soundtrack is decent. I remember thinking that it was all right and maybe worth a listen to sometime in the future.

Now, nothing against sound design and production, but if that is the best quality of a movie, then you know you are in some serious trouble. I was really looking forward to “Inferno,” but after seeing it, man I am disappointed.

When I mentioned earlier that Inferno had a spark, it did! It did have a promising plot and a talented cast, and director Ron Howard has made some excellent work over the last few decades. I am just baffled that it never reached greatness or even mediocre-ness (I’m making up words here, folks, because why the heck not?) for that matter. “Inferno” is a hard pass.



Nick Weninger is a fifth 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.

Artful thriller ‘I Am the Pretty Thing That Lives in the House’ intrigues rather than scares with slow-moving plot

Wesley Sigsworth

Reviewer

Atmospheric and palpably tense, this newly released Netflix original is a slow build toward a beautifully written but somewhat confusing supernatural thriller.

The story follows a hospice nurse named Lily as she is arriving at the home of the elderly horror novelist Iris Blum. From this and the promotional images Netflix displays for the movie, we can surmise (correctly nonetheless) that this is going to be a haunted house story.

We are pulled in right away with an opening narration over a very creepy yet extremely artful scene. The distorted narration explains that a house with a death in it can never be bought, only borrowed from the ghosts that live there. In a moment, we find out that the narrator is Lily, and that she inevitably dies in the story.

From there, you will quickly notice that this will be a slow movie, which can lend itself to both positives and negatives. A film that doesn’t show its cards straight away is usually one that can tease us enough to stay engaged until we’re hooked, which this one does. However, it leads us to a final act that, while effective in giving us a scare or two, ends up being confusing and leaves me puzzled as to exactly what happened. I did however read a plot synopsis online and the

explanation is quite simple, so being confused may have been my own fault.

The film does a fantastic job building a claustrophobic atmosphere with its setting of a single house in rural Massachusetts. It also builds tension with help from its music and selective moments of silence. Quite often the movie uses very little, if any, sound and does so for the effect of suspense.

One thing to remember is that this is not a horror movie per se. This is more of a supernatural thriller or a haunted house/ghost story. Throughout the first half I was tense, watching every camera movement, listening to every music cue, waiting for the inevitable thing lurking in the dark to jump out.

But by the second half I had realized that was not what this movie was going to be. By then I had learned the formula of what the camera was panning to and what the musical cues meant. This is a film that wants to scare you with its story, not necessarily its visuals. The story ends up being really interesting, tying characters and events together and revealing story beats at correct moments but maybe leaving a little too much up to interpretation.

Characters in the movie are very few. In fact, you can count all of the main characters on one hand, with only three of those having dialogue. Acting-wise, I thought all performances were great. Ruth Wilson as Lily, the main character, gives a performance that reflects her character’s nagging fear of just about everything. This trait would have been annoying but ends up grounding the character very well and makes her more relatable. It also lends credence to how she meets her

fate in the end.

The directing in this film is very simple, which adds a very minimalist quality to the film. The plot is mostly explained by narration done by Lily looking back on the events of the film. This, combined with the simple but effective camera work, gives this a very welcome literary quality. By this I mean the plot isn’t spelled out easily right away. Instead, it is like an onion, letting us slowly peel away layers until we are left with the core of the story.

As someone who really loves a good ghost story and likes reading horror novels, this movie struck the right chord with me. It did everything a great book would do but in movie form.

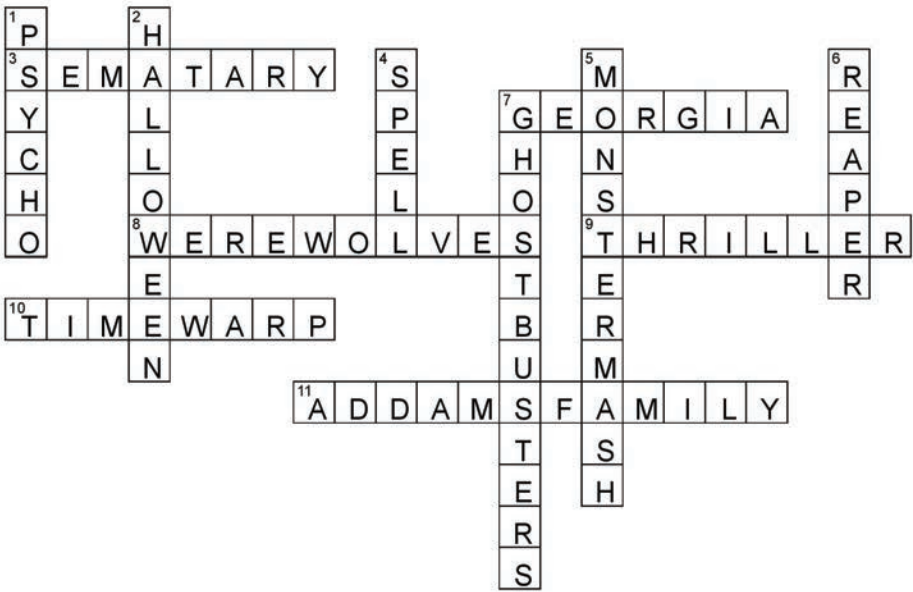
I can’t say this is for everyone. In fact, I would have a hard time recommending this to anyone I know. It is short, at only an hour and a half, but feels much longer due to its slow and steady pace.

For those who really love a ghost story or want to see a fantastic example of budget filmmaking, then this is a great film for you. While a great literary and artful piece of film, “I Am the Pretty Thing That Lives in the House” will not satisfy those looking for a scare this Halloween season.

Wesley Sigsworth is a junior journalism major. He enjoys watching and reviewing movies.

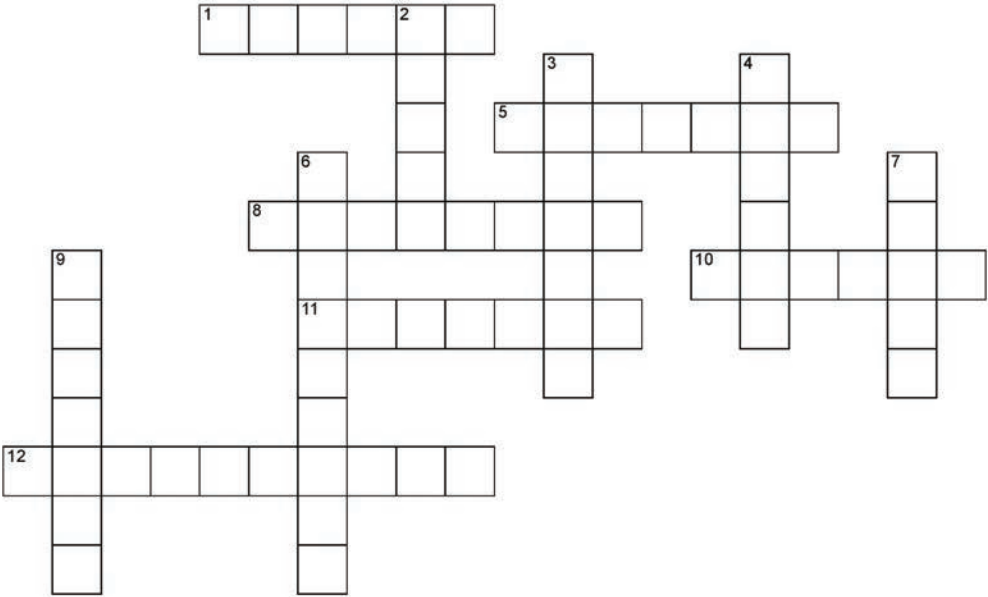
Last Week’s Answers

Halloween Jams



Puzzle of the Week

Election Day



- ACROSS
- 1 Election Day takes place on Nov. _____
 - 5 This kind of vote has to do with the total number of votes received and does not determine the winner
 - 8 The symbol for the Republican party
 - 10 The symbol for the Democratic party
 - 11 Democratic nominee's last name
 - 12 This state has the most electoral votes with 55
- DOWN
- 2 Republican nominee's last name
 - 3 Libertarian nominee's last name
 - 4 Available on paper or on the voting machine
 - 6 270 of this kind of vote are required to win the presidency
 - 7 Green Party nominee's last name
 - 9 The winner will take office on _____ 20, 2017

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!

Now Playing: Trolls

The winner will be announced on the Voice’s Twitter and Facebook accounts:
@uwrvoice and facebook.com/Uwrstudentvoice