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UW-River Falls officials question governor’s proposal to track faculty time in classroom

Matthew Clark
Falcon News Service

Gov. Scott Walker’s new accountability proposal for faculty leaves a lot to be desired, according to officials at UW-River Falls.

As part of his 2017-2019 budget proposal that includes a \$100 million increase for the UW System, the governor is seeking to make several changes, including a 5 percent tuition cut, that has concerned some university officials. However, officials are also concerned by a new proposal requiring UW faculty and instructional academic staff (IAS) to teach more and to record the number of hours spent in the classroom.

“This will reverse a nationwide trend where professor time in the undergraduate classroom is down while tuition has gone up — in fact nationally it’s about four times the rate of inflation since 1978,” Walker said during his Feb. 8 budget address.

According to a press release from Walker’s office, the measure is meant to hold faculty and IAS accountable and reward those who go beyond their required workload. Full-time faculty are required to teach 12 academic credits worth each semester while full-time IAS are required to teach 15 academic credits. In addition, tenure track faculty are expected to participate

in student advising, conduct scholarly activity and contribute to the university through academic committees or by maintaining relationships with outside agencies such as hospitals.

Faye Perkins, UWRF’s provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the proposal leaves out a lot of the work faculty and IAS do.

“Teaching is only one piece of what we do,” Perkins said. “But along with that teaching is all of that preparation for the teaching, the reading that goes along with that, the grading that goes along with that.”

Perkins said most faculty often work over 40 hours a week and recording an accurate amount of time spent teaching would be challenging.

“I think sometimes people try to equate what we do in education to a business and I think that’s a difficult comparison to make,” said Perkins.

Mialisa Moline, president of the UWRF Faculty Senate, has concerns about the proposal and said there are several questions still unanswered.

“My big question is, ‘Who’s going to get this information, how will it be used?’” Moline said.

In the governor’s proposal, policies would be developed to reward those “who go above and beyond by teaching more

than the standard academic load.” Although it’s still not clear what the reward would look like or what would be required of the recipient, Perkins said faculty and IAS are already rewarded for their extra efforts through overload pay which is given to anyone teaching more than the standard workload.

Many critics of UW faculty claim professors don’t spend enough time in front of students, often letting teachers assistants take the reins. While this does frequently happen at larger schools like UW-Madison, it happens at a lesser rate on campuses such as UWRF. However, according to Perkins, if a faculty member does receive a research grant, the grant helps to pay for a part-time instructor to fill in for any classes originally taught by the researching professor.

Perkins said she would like to see more questions answered by the governor about what he is looking for in the proposal and what he would like to achieve.

“They may feel it’s needed, but I would say that our faculty here at UW-River Falls go above and beyond every day,” Perkins said.

Walker’s budget proposal is being deliberated in the state legislature. After changes are made, lawmakers will likely vote on an amended budget sometime this summer.

Alumni Spotlight: Dale Braun

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For nearly every construction project and new addition on campus at UW-River Falls, there’s a significant chance that one alumnus has left his mark in order to make into reality.

Dale Braun is the UWRF campus planner, providing expertise and management to the university’s development and construction projects. Since 1986, he has helped plan and develop some of the most prominent features on the campus, including the University Center and the recently finished Falcon Center. Through his dedicated work as a planner, he has spent his entire career at the university, and he has had an influence on practically every structure on campus.

Braun first found out about UWRF through a family friend, Bruce Murray, who was a professor in the chemistry department at the time. After the professor gave a presentation about the campus to Braun’s chemistry class, he became interested in the university and decided to visit the campus. During his visit, one of the admissions counselors he connected with was George Hanson, who gave a honest and positive perspective of life on campus.

“Based on what those two gentlemen said,” Braun said, “I decided to come to River Falls.”

As a freshman, Braun initially started out as a physics major, but later changed it to teacher’s education after finding out that math wasn’t his strong suit. He would later find the social sciences to be a field that in which he excelled, so he settled on double majoring in geography and history. During his time as a student, he also worked as a resident assistant in Crabtree Hall and was part of the Amateur Radio Club. He graduated in 1984.

The cartography classes Braun took during his years as a student were “night and day” in comparison to the geographical information science courses offered today, having to manually create maps before the advent of computers. Taking all of the cartography classes offered on campus, Braun said that the skills he learned from geography helped sparked his interest in planning.

Fortunately for Braun, his cartography skills came in handy when he was hired to help Al Murray plan out the first campus-wide computer network. Using his geographic knowledge, he helped plan the wiring to the buildings, including an insulated cable to the lab farm. Having worked for facilities management as a student worker, he was immediately hired as a planning coordinator shortly after graduation.



Kathy M. Helgeson/University Communications
Dale Braun, campus planner, gave an overview of plans for the Falcon Center for Health Education and Wellness in the Knowles Center in 2014 during the Series on Innovation and Excellence program.

Braun’s career is unique as he has spent all of his career working for UWRF and has never worked elsewhere. His presence on campus is not only fueled by his dedication, but by every new opportunity that the school proposes.

“I never been bored, not a single day,” he said, “because every single day is different. There’s nothing routine about my job.”

Through every project he has been involved with on campus, it’s no surprise that one of his biggest accomplishments as a planner was the Falcon Center. Having worked on the project since its conception in 1990, he has dedicated the last 26 years planning and organizing the construction of the center.

With the completion of the center earlier this year, Braun’s work on campus is far from complete, with more planning and exploration to expand the science facilities on campus within the next decade. Regardless of what his next task will be, Braun will continue to plan for the future endeavors of the

campus.

What Braun said he admires about the campus is how many opportunities UWRF has to offer. One of the biggest reasons he chose to work here was how much he valued the education given by this school. He said that the UW System schools are the “gems” of the state, and that it’s much more rewarding to work at one than in the private sector.

“I think I really was made for the comprehensive state university,” he said, “and that’s what I think that I was meant to do.”

For advice for students, Braun said that students should allow to let themselves be transformed through the opportunities that are offered on campus.

“What I learned through the liberal arts here really opened up a whole new world that made my life a whole lot richer, and I think students should do the same,” Braun said.

UW System students could face internship requirement

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A budget proposal by Gov. Scott Walker could mean that UW System students will face an additional requirement in order to graduate in the future.

The budget proposal, which was introduced to the Wisconsin Legislature on Feb. 8, highlights a number of policies Walker would like to implement for the UW System, including a tuition cut and three-year degree options. It would also require UW System students to have an internship or other relevant work experience before graduating.

“This requirement helps to bridge the gap between higher education and the workforce by providing students with hands-on experience in fields they want to pursue for their future careers,” reads a press release from Walker’s office.

Melissa Wilson, director of Career Services at UW-River

Falls, said that the value of internships and other relevant experience is rarely disputed.

“I think that it would actually be a great idea if we got that back, where students are actually prepared to be in the job field and ready,” freshman Molly O’Neil said.

“What we’re hearing from employers is that they would like to see one to two internships or relevant experiences before they hire a new college graduate on full-time for their organization,” Wilson said.

For freshman Molly O’Neil, an environmental science major, this message is familiar. She said that, in her English class, they’re talking about how employers are complaining that stu-

dents don’t have enough real-world experience anymore.

“I think that it would actually be a great idea if we got that back, where students are actually prepared to be in the job field and ready,” O’Neil said.

Some of the programs at UWRF already require internship experience, like marketing communications. Others offer practicum experience as part of their curriculum, such as the social work major.

Wilson said that nothing can be known for sure about how Walker’s proposal would impact UWRF if implemented until a definition for “relevant experience” is agreed upon. Whether this could include experience like practicum courses and other requirements like student teaching is yet to be determined. The press release from Walker’s office explains that the Board of Regents would develop policies to determine what would satisfy the requirement.

News Briefs: UWRF receives 70 recycling bins through grant program

Keep America Beautiful and The Coca-Cola Company have awarded 70 recycling bins to UW-River Falls.

Keep America Beautiful and The Coca-Cola Company are working together to address one of the primary barriers to recycling in public spaces by making access to recycling bins more readily available and convenient through the 2016 Co-ca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Public Space Recycling Bin Grant Program.

The bins awarded will be utilized in the public areas in the campus academic buildings. Primarily, the bins will be utilized outside classrooms to further the pilot project of removing trash containers from the classrooms and implementing side-by-side collection locations in the hallways complete with improved signage.

In a waste minimization survey sent to all UWRF students, faculty and staff during the spring 2015 semester, 85 percent of survey respondents were supportive of this initiative. Survey respondents also noted that better signage and consistency in bins would improve recycling understanding and participation.

“Recycling containers can be very expensive, which significantly affects UWRF’s ability to have containers everywhere needed on campus,” said Mark Klapatch, UWRF sustainability and custodial supervisor.

This is the second time Klapatch has received this grant on behalf of UWRF, and he noted that the recycling collections in the academic building public spaces is only possible through this grant as other funds are extremely limited. Klapatch said he was thrilled to receive this grant and looks forward to seeing the increase in recycling on campus.

In total, the Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Public Space Recycling Bin Grant Program will provide 3,522 recycling bins to colleges and universities, along with 996 bins to local governments and nonprofit organizations. The recycling bins are made possible through a grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Coca-Cola Company.

More than 45 percent of the bins are designed specifically for permanent, ongoing use in public spaces such as athletic fields, K-12 schools, fairs and festivals, special events and park settings, with the remaining 55 percent to be used by students in college residence hall settings. The 2016 program is expected to result in an estimated 1 million pounds of recyclable materials collected during their first year in use.

“The number one thing we can do to get people to recycle is make it convenient,” said Brenda Pulley, senior vice president, recycling, Keep America Beautiful. “With Coca-Cola’s continued support, the grant program addresses that need by creating thousands of new opportunities for people to recycle in public areas across the country.”

“At Coca-Cola, we are working with partners across the country to invest in and support a strong recycling system,” said Bruce Karas, vice president of sustainability, Coca-Cola North America. “Through partnerships like the Keep America Beautiful and the Public Space Recycling Bin Grant program, we can help reduce overall waste by making it even easier and more convenient for people to recycle both at home and in public spaces.”

The Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Recycling Bin Grant Program addresses lack of convenience by providing a significant number of bins in strategic locations. More than 49,000 recycling bins will have been placed in 925 communities nationwide since the program’s inception in 2007. In addition to the grants, Keep America Beautiful provides technical best practice guidance to grant recipients and organizations about setting up effective away-from-home and on-the-go recycling programs.

Grant recipients were chosen by Keep America Beautiful based on their potential to collect the most cans and bottles, as well as other considerations such as the extent of their need, recycling experience and their ability to sustain the program in the future. A full list of the 2016 Coca-Cola/Keep America Beautiful Public Space Recycling Bin Grant recipients, as well as Keep America Beautiful’s best practices guide, “Designing Effective Public Space Recycling Programs,” are available at <http://bingrant.org>.

Behavioral research has shown that two of the primary barriers that stop people from recycling are the lack of convenient opportunities and confusion about what and how to recycle. A 2009 study conducted by Keep America Beautiful showed only 12 percent of surveyed public locations had infrastructure to recover recyclable items.

This lack of recycling opportunities is reflected in a separate national survey conducted for Keep America Beautiful in 2013, in which 92 percent of respondents said they recycle at home while only 41 percent indicated that they typically recycle in public spaces.

For more information about recycling efforts at UWRF, call Klapatch at 715-425-4333 or email mark.klapatch@uwr.edu.

Free Friday noon concert series presented at UW-River Falls

The Frances Cohler Coffee Concert Series at UW-River Falls is a unique concert series featuring performances by UWRF music faculty as well as guest artists from around the world. The concerts, held in Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building at noon on selected Fridays throughout the academic year, are free and open to the public and are followed by coffee and treats.

Upcoming concerts include:
Friday, Feb. 24: Minnesota Clarinet Quartet with Sarah Porwoll-Lee, Katrina Mundrng, Nina Olsen and Paul Schimming featuring Astor Piazzolla - l’Histoire du Tango, Yvonne Desportes - French Suite, Alfred Uhl – Divertimento, Gioachino Rossini - Overture to “The Barber of Seville.”

Friday, March 3: Natalia Moiseeva, violin; Skip James, keyboard; Clea Galhano, recorder; with the St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra featuring Vivaldi “Concerto for Two Violins in A-minor RV522,” Layton James “Concerto for Recorder,” J.S. Bach “Concerto in F-minor” and Felix Mendelssohn “Finale” from Symphony 5 (Reformation).

Friday, March 10: St. Croix Piano Trio: Natalia Moiseeva, violin; Tanya Reminikova, cello; Ivan Konev, piano, featuring Debussy Sonata for violin and piano.

Friday, March 24: Natalia Moiseeva, violin; Susan Janda, viola; Teresa Richardson, cello; and Pat O’Keefe, clarinet, featuring Mozart Quintet.

Friday, March 31: Leslie Shank, violin, and Joe Hagedorn, guitar.

Friday, April 7: Natalia Moiseeva, violin; Joan Molloy, violin; Solvay Peterson, cello; Sue Boeve, flute; Laura Edman, organ, featuring “Scenes from a Gallery” by Craig Phillips for organ, violin and flute plus several Mozart church sonatas, a Pinkham sonata for organ and strings and several other works for violin, cello and piano.

Friday, April 14: Oleg Levin, piano.

Friday, April 21: Jovino Santos Neto, Brazilian-American pianist and composer.

The generous donation from alumna Mary Ella Jerome supports this series in honor of her piano duet partner Frances (McNamara) Cohler, who was also a student at UWRF in the early 1970s.

For more information, call the UWRF Music Department at 715-425-3183.

Alumnus honored with Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers

UW-River Falls alumnus Alan Kruienza has been named a recipient of a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE).

Former President Obama named 102 scientists and researchers as recipients of the award last month, the highest honor bestowed by the United States government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers.

Kruienza, of the class of 2005, is a principal member of the technical staff at Sandia National Laboratories - California, where he leads work investigating materials compatibility, materials selection and efficiency-generating technology for solar power systems and advanced reactor concepts. He was nominated for the award for providing valuable fundamental understanding of corrosion mechanisms and associated pioneering data, and for design and implementation of molten salt and liquid metal-based materials in high-temperature solar thermal and nuclear systems.

Kruienza was a critical member of a SunShot research team focused on investigating liquid metals for use in Dish Stirling thermal solar systems. A major hurdle to energy efficiency enhancement in Dish Stirling systems is addressing high temperature materials corrosion from liquid metals.

His work focused on developing an understanding of liquid metals to determine appropriate techniques to assess corrosion and assist in materials selection for such systems. Kruienza sought to understand the complex compatibility behavior of liquid metals in latent heat energy storage applications.

Adding to this challenge was a very limited set of existing thermodynamic data and generally limited knowledge about the practical behavior of these materials in thermal solar systems. He leveraged both computational modeling and rapid screening methodologies to provide valuable fundamental understanding of corrosion mechanisms, leading to pioneering data for design and implementation of liquid metal-based materials in high temperature solar thermal and nuclear systems. Ultimately, Kruienza successfully identified a corrosion-resistant coating (MgAl2O4) for use in liquid metal thermal energy storage systems operating at temperatures above 825 degrees Celsius that also met the affordability targets for renewable energy systems.

Ranga Pitchumani, former chief scientist with the Department of Energy SunShot Initiative, nominated Kruienza for

the award. In his nomination, Pitchumani said, “Alan is off to an impressive start in his career. Dr. Kruienza’s research directly contributes to the U.S. Department of Energy’s SunShot mission of reducing the costs of solar-generated electricity to be competitive, without subsidies, with conventional energy sources on the national electricity grid.”

“I am honored and thrilled to have won a PECASE award,” said Kruienza. “Foremost, I believe this validates the important work that is being done on energy efficiency at Sandia, and in the United States. Providing long-lasting, efficient and clean energy is one of the greatest challenges our generation faces, and I am proud to be able to advance this work by researching and recommending the materials that will be a key element of these systems as they enter pilot, and ultimately the market, over the years to come.”

Kruienza earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from UWRF before completing his master’s degree in mechanical engineering and his master’s and Ph.D. in nuclear engineering and engineering physics at UW-Madison.

“I’m indebted to the key individuals who supported me as a first-generation college student at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, especially Professors Lowell McCann and James Madsen,” Kruienza said.

According to the White House administration, “the Presidential Early Career Awards highlight the key role that the Administration places in encouraging and accelerating American innovation to grow our economy and tackle our greatest challenges.”

This year’s recipients are employed or funded by 13 different entities, including the Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Department of Defense. These departments and agencies join together annually to nominate the most meritorious scientists and engineers whose early accomplishments show the greatest promise for assuring America’s preeminence in science and engineering and contributing to the awarding agencies’ missions.

The awards were established by President Clinton in 1996 and are coordinated by the Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President.

Student Senate Update: Feb. 21

Four budgets were passed at the Feb. 21 Student Government Association meeting:

- The Athletics Department requested a 3 percent increase to its segregated fee (In favor: 7, opposed: 4, abstained: 1).
- Student Health and Counseling Services requested a 13 percent increase to its segregated fee (In favor: 10, opposed: 0, abstained: 2).
- The C.H.I.L.D Center requested a \$5 increase to its segregated fee (In favor: 10, opposed: 1, abstained: 1).
- Textbook Services requested a 3 percent increase to its segregated fee (In favor: 10, opposed: 1, abstained: 1).

Nine budgets passed that requested no changes to their budgets:

- Dining Services (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- University Center (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- Sports Facilities & Recreation Services (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- Residence Life (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- Student Involvement (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- Student Services Rodli Remodel (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- Career Services (In favor: 10, opposed: 0, abstained: 2).
- Carding Office: I.D. Card operating budget (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).
- Municipal Services (In favor: 11, opposed: 0, abstained: 1).

One motion was passed:

Cancel Executive Board & Student Government Association Meetings 2/28/17: A motion to cancel the Executive Board and Student Government Association Meetings on Feb. 28.

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

Follow the Student Voice on Twitter @uwrvoice

Weekly UWRF Crime Report

Wednesday, Feb. 22

- Suspicious activity reported at South Fork Suites at 12:39 a.m.

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

New bridge over St. Croix River nears completion

Lisa Erickson

Falcon News Service

Commuters who travel between Minnesota and Wisconsin may have an easier time beginning this summer.

The new St. Croix Crossing bridge — connecting Oak Park Heights on the Minnesota side and St. Joseph on the Wisconsin side — is expected to open in early August, two months ahead of schedule.

“The crews got a lot done over the summer, much faster than anticipated,” said Diana Maas, Northwest Region communications director for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

The new bridge would replace the old lift bridge in Stillwater, Minnesota.

“This project has been in the making for two to three decades,” said Kevin Gutknecht, director of communication for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

“Talk began long ago on how we would we replace the current lift bridge,” added Gutknecht. “This project took a very long time. It literally took an act of Congress to move this project forward.”

Environmental concerns were among issues that had to be addressed before construction could begin. The bridge is in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, which is protected under the U.S. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The National Park Service at first supported the bridge, but then reversed its decision, saying the project would have “direct and adverse effects” on the riverway. A bipartisan effort in Congress in 2012 provided an exemption for the bridge project and cleared the way for construction.

“We have been waiting for a new bridge for years,” said Tom Magnifici, owner of WaterWorks Irrigation in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin.

The majority of Magnifici’s business is across the St. Croix River in the Stillwater area, but he lives in Wisconsin. Traveling across the bridge every day for the last few years has taken its toll on Magnifici’s business and others who commute, especially when the lift bridge had to close for maintenance.

“I would have to add an extra three hours on to my day when the bridge was closed,” said Magnifici.

Steve Jahn, executive director of Momentum West, said, “The new bridge is very important to everyone who lives in the area.” Momentum West is a regional economic development organization working with the 10 counties in western Wisconsin across the border from Minnesota. The organization helps businesses with a variety of economic development issues.

“The new bridge will allow the traffic to be more spread out on Interstate 94,” Jahn said. “On average, 60,000 to 80,000 people drive across the Hudson bridge every day from Wisconsin to Minnesota or vice versa.” They include hundreds of



Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Transportation

The new St. Croix Crossing bridge will carry traffic between Oak Park Heights, Minnesota, and St. Joseph, Wisconsin.

students who attend UW-River Falls, plus residents of River Falls and Hudson who work in the Twin Cities.

A second thoroughfare will also create demand for more goods and services in the area, which will help with economic growth in Wisconsin, added Jahn.

“The new bridge will allow the traffic to be more spread out on Interstate 94,” Jahn said. “On average, 60,000 to 80,000 people drive across the Hudson every day from Wisconsin to Minnesota or vice versa.”

Jahn expects the population to grow in western Wisconsin after the bridge opens. He said the bridge also will make the trip to Eau Claire quicker and population growth could be very widespread.

Communities around Somerset and New Richmond, Wisconsin, are aggressively marketing commercial properties along the bridge corridor. They are looking at ways to leverage the bridge, said Jahn.

While the bridge is expected to open ahead of schedule,

some construction delays were encountered.

“The contractor ran into some problems with the construction of the project and there were some weather issues last summer,” said Gutknecht. “They were able to bring in some different equipment, which sped up the process last summer.”

He added: “I believe there is only one other kind of bridge like this in the United States.”

Cost of the project, estimated between \$617 million and \$646 million, is being shared between Wisconsin and Minnesota. The bridge uses an “extradosed” design. The construction materials are made of cables and concrete. The design is special in that it reduces the tower heights of the bridge so that it sits below the St. Croix River bluffs. It also reduces the number of piers in the water. The extradosed bridge minimizes the environmental impact, according to MnDOT.

The Stillwater Chamber of Commerce is planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony when the new bridge opens and MnDOT will work with the city of Stillwater when the time comes, Gutknecht said.

Further information about the project is available from the MnDOT website about the St. Croix Crossing project at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/stcroixcrossing/>.

UW System students could face internship requirement

Continued from Page 1

Senior Jacob Bechel, an accounting major, said that he is concerned about internships being a scarce resource, especially with students from UWRF competing for the same internships as students from schools in the Twin Cities.

“The biggest issue is, there’s not enough internships to go around in a general area, so I could definitely see the cons of that outweighing the pros of having a definite rule in place,” Bechel said. “I would almost rather have it be optional, but that’s just me.”

UWRF has formed an Internship Working Group, headed by Wilson, in order to alleviate some of these concerns. The group also includes a representative from each of the four colleges at UWRF, Director of the Center for Innovation and

Business Development Danielle Campeau and Executive Assistant to the Chancellor Beth Schommer.

“The biggest issue is, there’s not enough internships to go around in a general area, so I could definitely see the cons of that outweighing the pros of having a definite rule in place,” senior Jacob Bechel said.

Wilson said that the group was formed in the spring of 2016 after Walker and UW System President Ray Cross started speaking about the importance of internships for students.

“We decided to form this Internship Working Group so that we would have one voice and one collective group talking about different topics related to internships and what we would like to do as a campus to maybe form better partnerships with external constituents and also serve our students better in that arena,” Wilson said.

One of the tasks the group faced recently was an overhaul of the hiring website, Hire-A-Falcon. The website is now housed under Career Services, and the office has full control over the information communicated through it.

For students concerned about the potential requirement, Wilson said to be patient and wait until more is known. More information will be available when the budget proposal is amended and voted on, which is likely to happen this summer.

UWRF Accounting Society prepares to offer tax clinics

Zach Bares

Falcon News Service

Every year the Accounting Society, a student-run organization at UW-River Falls, puts on a clinic to help individuals prepare for tax season.

The clinics have been going strong for 10 years now. David Breger, an assistant professor of accounting and finance, recently took over as the faculty advisor to the Accounting Society.

“We’ve been doing this for 10 years and I hope it continues to flourish,” Breger said.

The individuals whom the Accounting Society helps can’t be students. They are people from around the community.

“It’s a lot of people that would have a difficult time preparing forms on their own,” Breger said.

Westconsin Credit Union in River Falls will again be hosting the tax clinic as it has done in the past. The clinic will be on three different nights with about 10 students and a faculty member meeting with clients.

“We’ll have 10 students each night. We’ll get pizza there for the kids and other food and wait for people to help,” Breger said.

Neither the students nor the faculty members are signing off on any documents but rather just helping people prepare their forms.

“The biggest problem we run into is people not having the right documents, or not enough information for the students to help,” Breger said. In that case, students have to turn people away and wait until they have information to work with.

In addition to the students’ help, each faculty member reviews the students’ work to make sure everything is in order before sending people on their way.

“We just need to make sure that we’re not liable and everything is squared away,” Breger said.

According to Breger, a good majority of the people they help are low-income tax filers or first timers. It’s pretty basic and gives the students a hands-on opportunity to work with people and prepare themselves in their eventual career path.

In addition to his help with the tax clinics, Breger will be

assuming all of the duties of being the faculty advisor. He will help coordinate weekly speakers in accounting classes from all over the area.

“It’s good for the students to hear real-life experiences from people that could potentially give them an internship, or a job down the road,” Breger said.

The Accounting Society also hosts accounting conferences where students organize speakers and get to work one-on-one with each other and with accounting professionals.

Breger also had some advice to offer to people who are filling out their taxes for the first time: “There’s help everywhere; you just have to look for it.”

He said that services like TurboTax or other online sources are great just for information even if a person doesn’t buy anything. According to Breger, a lot of questions can be answered just by searching on the internet.

The three dates for the tax clinics haven’t yet been announced but will be determined soon.

Check out the Student Voice online at uwrvoice.com

Do you have something to say?
Write a letter to the editor.

Email your thoughts to natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu

EDITORIAL

Initiative must be taken to obtain internships

At this point in the spring semester, it’s safe to say that internship season is officially upon us.

Internships are clearly very important for us to obtain as students. Employers want to see that we have some relevant experience in our respective fields. In fact, many entry-level jobs want us to have a few years of experience in addition to being recent graduates.

As time-consuming as it may be, we need to take initiative when it comes to finding the right opportunities for ourselves. We can start by looking at some websites that post current listings. Hire-a-Falcon through the university is one option. As of Feb. 22, Hire-a-Falcon had 143 listings under its “internship” tab, which gives plenty of opportunities. Other websites list field-specific internships and are updated regularly, so search around and see what is out there!

Another thing we can do is attend career and internship fairs. Every semester, UW-River Falls holds its Career Fair, where you can talk with professionals and get an idea of the options available.

However, if you feel like your chances of seeing your interests reflected at a campus-wide event aren’t great, there are alternative events. We’re fortunate in that our campus is just a short drive from the Twin Cities, which means we have a whole other set of opportunities available across state lines.

While it’s satisfying to know that we have contributed to our own success in locating the best opportunities for ourselves, don’t overlook the possible help available on campus. Communicate your interests to your advisor. Make him or her aware of the kind of opportunities that interest you and what your future goals may be. That way, you might get some new leads if he or she stumbles upon something that might interest you.

The thought of applying for something and being rejected is scary. Of course, no one wants to be rejected. We have to remind ourselves to separate us from our qualifications. If you get rejected, it’s not that you aren’t right; it’s just that your qualifications are not what the employer needs at that current time. We have to get over that fear of rejection, because it is a part of life, and the worst that will happen is you get told no.

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

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Ask Colleen: Escaping hookup culture

Colleen Brown

Advice Columnist

Hey Colleen,
So far I have been having bad luck with guys. I’m old fashioned when it comes to dating. I get attached easily, so I don’t like the hookup culture that surrounds me on the university. How do I get past this? Please, help!

From,
An Old Soul

An Old Soul,
This is such an important question, and brings to light many of the societal pressures young adults feel while dating. It’s like there is this pressure to be in a relationship and also at the same time be single and experience college. Overall, it’s just confusing, but there is no right or wrong way to date.
When surrounded by others who are immersed in this hookup style of dating, it’s hard not to fall into it yourself or feel peer pressure to make that your own style of dating. Also, can someone please clarify to me what “hooking up” means? I feel like I have heard so many different variations starting all the way back to elementary school.
I read an article in my freshmen English class comparing today’s dating culture and the dating culture in the 1950’s. Let me just tell you, I really evaluated my own standards of dating. I don’t mean this in a negative way at all.

In today’s society we don’t start relationships like our grandparents did. With social media, we can find out everything we want to know by looking at someone’s Facebook, Instagram, Tinder or Twitter. All this information almost takes away the fun of dating. Isn’t the point to go on dates to find out more about the other person?

By making that information so easily accessible, we are already making judgments and don’t allow ourselves to experience that person in real life. Not on a screen, but for who they are. Having conversations face-to-face and not over text. But with how our society has advanced, it only makes sense that the dating culture would, too. I think the core principles of dating are the same; I just think they are hidden under the pressures of society and technology.

I am in the same boat as you: I am definitely old fashioned when it comes to dating. Although it may seem like everyone around you is into the hookup culture, I know that is not true. Not everyone on campus is into this type of dating; you may have just not met people who are old fashioned like you. But trust me, they exist on campus, so don’t worry. You’ll find them. I think what is important is that you know yourself and understand that you get attached easily, so this type of dating doesn’t work for you. Don’t feel like you need to settle into the hookup culture either, because you don’t.

You asked, “How do I get past this?” and the answer is you don’t. The

hookup culture exists and is very present on a college campus. Don’t get over it; just move find your own niche. I would recommend looking for potential suitors in environments that you typically don’t put yourself in. That means stepping away from the house parties and bars that you are used to going to. Go to events that YOU are interested in, not your friends.

Plus, you’re going to want to meet someone with similar interests as you, right? It’s not easy, but I would suggest going alone. When you’re alone, I feel like it is so much easier to have people approach you, rather when you are with a group of friends. Regardless, you are bound to meet new people even if it is just a new friend.

The hookup culture definitely doesn’t need to be your reality. It’s easier said than done, but put yourself out there in environments that are outside of your comfort zone. This is so cliché, but you will find someone who values the same dating style as yourself. It may take some time and a little courage on your side.

Best,
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.

Be aware of your communication habits, but not too aware of them

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

Since graduating high school, I have become increasingly hyper-aware of how I communicate.
I guess I should not be too surprised by this development, as it is a presumable side effect of being both a communication studies and journalism major. The problem is, however, I have begun to worry too much about how I am being perceived and what the reactions are to what I say and write.
Learning about a subject so fundamental as communication can be kind of severe sometimes. I would liken the experience to having someone you love point out, in great detail, all of your annoying habits which they hate. Once your habits have been pointed out, you can no longer not be aware of them.
Then, you second guess all of your habits, wondering if what you are doing is annoying, and that if in spite all your idiosyncrasies, if you will still be liked. How I communicate has been dissected into such detail that I think about everything I do, say and write all the time. I have morphed into my own worst critic who never fails to cast doubt on the various forms of communication I put out into the world.
The whole process of wanting to voice what I feel strongly about or what I am knowledgeable about, and therefore should freely talk about, has become somewhat of an arduous task. To solve this problem, I needed answers not only for the sake of my sanity, but

also because I have yet to cease needing to communicate. What I needed to understand was how I got to this place of doubt and apprehension about the messages I send out and the reactions I get back.

For starters, I notice a dizzying array of details. For example, lint on a person’s shirt, whether or not that chewed pen in their hand has a matching cap to it or the amount of times someone crosses and uncrosses their legs. I could go on, but I think you see my point. I take in a lot of stimuli, all the time.

I am also especially sensitive to body language, in part because of who I am as a person and because I have been made more aware of it over the past few years. Every time I talk to someone and have to force my hands to stop punctuating my points, or to stop myself from tucking a nonexistent stray piece of hair behind my ear in a spasm of nervous energy, I want roll my eyes at myself.

Why, I want to ask myself, are you so nervous? Why are you focusing so much on what your hands are doing or if your posture is perfect? You, I want to yell at myself, should be focusing on what you are saying! My inner dialogue needs some work in learning how to give an encouraging pep talk.

I think one of my main problems is worrying about coming across as aggressive, bossy or intense. Basically, all attributes of communicating that men often do not have to worry about. As a woman, I am sensitive to body language because I need to be. When I walk somewhere, I have to notice the body language of people around me usually for my own safety.

When I communicate I notice body

language so that I can determine if I am coming across as harsh, or if the person I am talking to really does not want to stay and chat. When I speak, I am so careful to not over salt the conversation with a superfluous amount of “likes” or “ums.” I dislike how much I worry about being labeled as bossy, emotional or dumb.

While I can only speak to my personal experiences, I do think that I am not the only woman struggling with the method in which she communicates. Campaigns such as Ban Bossy, for example, which is a collaboration between Sheryl Sandberg and the Girl Scouts of America, have increased the awareness of how using the word “bossy” is sometimes a criticism directed towards assertive females and is used to silence them.

Like this campaign, I do not want a label or a potential negative reaction to stifle what I have to say, ever. I hope to reach a point that when I am about to speak, or my hands are held at the ready on a keyboard, what comes out of me is exactly what I want to say. I want to communicate a message without pausing for second thoughts or for mental edits to make what I have to say sound more appeasing and gentle. I hope to simply say exactly what I mean, and mean exactly what I say, the end.

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.

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Motivation can be rediscovered by reflecting on passions

Reo Ford

Columnist

When I think about the type of person that I am, I would consider myself to be a relatively motivated and focused person. Most of the time when I set out to do something, I don’t stop until I’ve successfully achieved whatever it is. I work hard for the things I want.

However, this semester has been a tough one for me. I’ve picked up some extra hours at work, and they’ve unfortunately left me immensely tired and feeling, well, unmotivated.

As terrible as it sounds, I actually debated on whether I should drop out all together this semester; clearly, I did not choose that route, but I have dropped a couple of my classes and am now taking a course load that I feel I can confidently handle.

With that being said, I still find myself lacking interest in jumping into my classes with both feet. Of course, it’s not because the classes themselves are not interesting. It’s just I can’t find it within myself to fully commit. I’m tired.

I obviously do not enjoy feeling this way, because receiving an education is something that I have always held near and dear, and I can’t wait to obtain my degree. So, what I did over the weekend was I took some time and I reassessed my goals and why I started my journey to achieve them in the first place.

I am a journalism major, and although I’ve always had

a passion for writing, I didn’t always want to go into the journalism field. I mean, for the longest time I considered majoring in English and one day becoming an author. Well, when I was 17, an experience I was given the opportunity to have put into perspective for me exactly what I want to spend my life doing.

During my junior year of high school I was given the news that, after writing a series of essays and partaking in a round of interviews, I had landed a spot amongst 24 other U.S. high school students in a program called American Youth Leadership Program – Bangladesh (AYLPB). The main goal of the trip was to learn about the ways in which climate change has affected the impoverished country, which I did in fact learn a lot about, but I boarded the plane to go home with a lot more than just knowledge about that. I knew a lot more about myself.

When I first got there, I stepped off that plane as a terrified teenager. I looked around at the smog-filled, trash-lined streets, and shockingly crowded environment, and honestly did not know what I had gotten myself into. I didn’t know anything about the Bengali culture, or really anything about the Islamic culture either.

My knowledge of the world was limited to the diversity I encountered on the east side of St. Paul. Bangladesh was foreign territory...literally.

When I left, I remember having the overwhelming urge to want to share all of the stories that I had heard and the life circumstances that I had seen with as many people as I could. I thought that there were just too many untold stories of the things that were happening overseas that people were losing

out by not hearing.

Thinking back now to the brainstorming that I did for about a week after my return, I feel a little silly. I mean, I was a high school student who was trying to reach out to leading newspapers like the Star Tribune and the Pioneer Press to talk about the poverty, illness, defeat, hunger and all the other pressing issues that I saw taking place over there. While they are incredibly important, they aren’t typically newsworthy stories for local newspapers.

The issues that I wanted to talk about aren’t really the main thing here though; the thing is that I gained an appetite for telling stories in general. I wanted to be someone who provided other people with information. I realized that I wanted to be a journalist.

After thinking long and hard over the weekend, I’ve found that my motivation has been replenished. I guess you could say that, between the long hours at work and the lack of sleep I’m getting at home, I had lost my drive and forgotten my purpose for my education, but I’ve found it again.

Unfortunately, I can’t re-enroll in the classes that I stupidly dropped at the beginning of the semester, but I’m excited to thrive in the classes that I am still in. I think it’s completely normal to lose sight on the journeys that we embark on through life, and I’ve learned that all it takes is stepping back and reassessing the big picture to fully appreciate the desired end result that much more.

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.

Television brings musicals back to life with campy renditions

Bethany Lovejoy

Columnist

Many people cringe when they think of musical theater, complaining of over-the-top dance numbers and nonsensical singing that detracts rather than adds to the plot.

It’s not hard to see why, as hardly anyone would have the time nor patience to pay \$15, drive to the cities and sit through a two hour musical, give or take a 30-minute intermission. Therefore, many people are exposed to musicals via movies. Now there’s nothing wrong with a movie; in many cases movies are well done and thought-out works of art. However, the art form of a movie does not give itself to a musical.

Movies, as you may have noticed, either stick to hyper-realistic plots, gritty characters and a sort of seriousness which is part of even the most laughable comedy. Most musicals don’t highlight this sort of idea. Musicals thrive in theaters, where they can interact with their audience and use the seclusion of a venue to immerse you in their world.

They’re over-the-top and campy, which lends itself well to live theater. Within a theater, you can surround someone with all the elements of stage and force them into suspension of belief for a longer period than you might be able to do with a movie. All of the reactions in theater are large and exagger-

ated because there are no close-ups or selective framing for much of the show, thus making a large dance number about a character being in love more of a way to explain the character’s emotions than the use of lighting and close-up lingers.

While musicals and movies get along in the respect of the idea of big musical numbers and so forth, campier and to the genre movies such as “Hello Dolly” led to a decrease in traditionally styled musicals in movies. While this was great for musicals such as “Rocky Horror Picture Show” and “Sweeney Todd,” which found success and revitalization in the idea of framing, editing and cutting musical numbers, we rarely see today in movies the traditional grand musical and more often see adaptations of musicals famous on stage to a less campy feel, examples being “Phantom of the Opera” and “Les Miserables.”

Television, however, can set the tone for the style that traditional musicals once held. With “Galavant” and “Crazy Ex-Girlfriend,” you see a use of episodes to create pacing that makes frequent musical numbers feel better paced. It’s easier to digest two songs per episode than have eight to 10 in a two hour film. While you may be digesting the same amount of men singing and strange dance costumes, you also move along those musical numbers at your own pace and feel less like you are subjecting yourself to them.

With movies, a plot follows a steady arc. With more campy musicals in theater, a plot takes many twists and turns to raise and lower the energy of the crowd. “Galavant” uses the ability to change the point of what they are doing frequently and

uses that to bring about energy and drop it as well. It’s with the ultimately longer form of seasons that one director can feel comfortable in their choices.

“Galavant” and “Crazy Ex-Girlfriend” also acknowledge their inherent gaudiness from the world of musicals, where you often see ridiculously elaborate dance numbers, people running through the aisles and a casual fourth wall break. These two shows play up the idea of the musical, the first episode of “Crazy Ex-Girlfriend” containing her arrival with a large town-wide dance number for little to no reason. “Galavant” plays well to this in many songs, one of the best examples being “Secret Mission,” in which they explain their plan entirely, grab an unnecessary number of weapons, dance about the castle and interact with other characters as they do so.

Of course, “Galavant” and “Crazy Ex-Girlfriend” are both comedies, which thrive on larger-than-life characters and exaggerated relationships required by musicals. “Fame,” another musical show in the past, was far more dramatic and, despite being placed on the set of a musical about Marilyn Monroe, ignored many of the cheerier aspects of musicals.

However, one can say these musicals and their moderate successes are paving the way for many more musical television shows in the future. Personally, as a lover of musical theater, I would love to see that.

Bethany Lovejoy is a sophomore majoring in creative writing and literature. She enjoys theater, snacking and sewing. She lives alone with 17 cacti.

STUDENT

voices

Compiled by Samantha Decker



Grace Frikken
Junior
“Visit all of the continents, Europe being the first.”



Karsten Halverson
Sophmore
“Professionally direct a play in my own theater.”



Scotty Bever
Senior
“To be a CEO of a nonprofit or own my own nonprofit.”



Mara Naffziger
Senior
“Cliff diving somewhere tropical.”



Sarah Anderson
Senior
“Move to a different country; I would like to go to Australia for a year.”

Women’s basketball secures final seed in WIAC playoffs in last game at Karges Center

Zach Dwyer
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The Falcons women’s basketball team closed out Karges Center in dramatic fashion, taking down UW-Platteville 80-61 and securing the final seed in the WIAC playoffs on Saturday.

The game had greater implications than most regular season finales. UW-River Falls had to win and get help from a UW-Stout loss to receive the sixth seed in the WIAC playoffs and continue its season beyond the weekend.

UWRF came out on fire to start the game, knocking down shot after shot to drop 28 points and take a 13-point lead into the second quarter.

Taylor Karge was a key component for the Falcons, scoring the first six points of the game to set the tempo for the rest of the afternoon.

Karge’s contribution was big beyond her 22 points and 11 rebounds. Karge eclipsed 1,000 points in the game, putting her on a list of some of the greatest scorers in UWRF history.

“It’s an incredible accomplishment, because we’ve only had about 12 or 13 players who have broken the 1,000-point career mark here. And to be one of that group in your junior year is pretty amazing,” Head Coach Cindy Holbrook said.

Karge also reached over 100 blocks in the

game, good enough for third on the all-time list and within striking distance of breaking the record next season.

“To end the [regular] season like that, and for it happen on the same night she did the scoring record, really shows she can play on both ends [of the floor],” Holbrook said.

The Falcons came out after halftime on a tear, going on a 20-5 run to put the game out of reach for the Pioneers. UWRF has struggled with shooting the ball at times throughout the season, but Saturday wasn’t one of those nights.

“It was a stretch where we were taking care of the basketball, and we put a lot of points on the board really quick when we’re knocking down our shots. It was really great to see them play like that in the third quarter because we’ve struggled with that,” Holbrook said.

But beyond shooting the ball well, the Falcons stepped up their defensive intensity to another level. They held the Pioneers to only 24 percent shooting on 68 attempts, while the Falcons shot 42 percent on 65 attempts.

“We strive on stopping people on defense, and we work on that a lot in practice. We struggled on that a little bit during the middle of the season, but it’s good to see we could do it for 40 minutes,” senior guard Hannah Pignato said.

With the win, UWRF moves to 8-17 on the season and 3-11 in conference. The Falcons

have had to face adversity all season, but seem to finally be coming into their own as the WIAC playoffs begin.

“The most difficult thing was coming off last year and the conference championship. We lost a lot of bench players, but we’re finding our own again and building team chemistry. It took us a bit to find that right mix and work through things that we weren’t expecting to happen, but I think we’ve peaked at the right time,” Pignato said.

A season-ending injury to all-conference guard Brynn Liljander early in the season and multiple players from last year’s team not returning have forced many new players to step up into important roles.

“Kids have had to take on roles we weren’t expecting and have had to play out of position, but they’ve responded as well as they could. Taylor Paulsrud and Crystal Pearson have learned a lot in their first year in the program and played a bigger role than a first-year kid typically does, but they’ve handled it beautifully,” Holbrook said.

Pignato has also had an increased role, averaging only a few points a game to now being a key part of the offense. Her 14 points against Platteville were a big part of the Falcons win.

“It’s always good to see different people step up different nights and have a bunch of people that can contribute. I really like to see how far our team has come and it’s good to

see we’ve found ways to close games out,” Pignato said.

The Falcons now focus their attention on the No. 3 seed in the WIAC tournament, UW-Stevens Point. UWRF lost in both meetings against the Pointers this season by double digits.

“We need to have toughness and come out swinging [against Point]. We didn’t respond the first two times and we need to put 40 minutes together and respond to runs,” Holbrook said.

The Falcons know they will be underdogs and probably overlooked in the WIAC tournament. But Pignato says that can also work in the team’s favor.

“We have nothing to lose now, and it’s a whole new season. We just need to play like we have been and bring the confidence and energy we had on Saturday,” Pignato said.

UWRF managed to pull off the upset on Wednesday night, knocking off the Pointers 47-43 on the road. They outscored Point 21 to 13 in the fourth quarter after only scoring 13 points in the first half.

Kate Theisen had a huge game for the Falcons, scoring 16 points and shooting 75 percent from the free throw line. Taylor Paulsrud also added 12 points and the game-winning layup with only four seconds remaining.

The Falcons now travel to Oshkosh to take on the Titans in the WIAC semifinals on Friday.

Library exhibit examines role of Negro Leagues baseball in Dunn County

Ace Sauerwein
Falcon News Service

In honor of Black History Month, Chalmer Davee Library at UW-River Falls is sporting a Negro Leagues traveling history display.

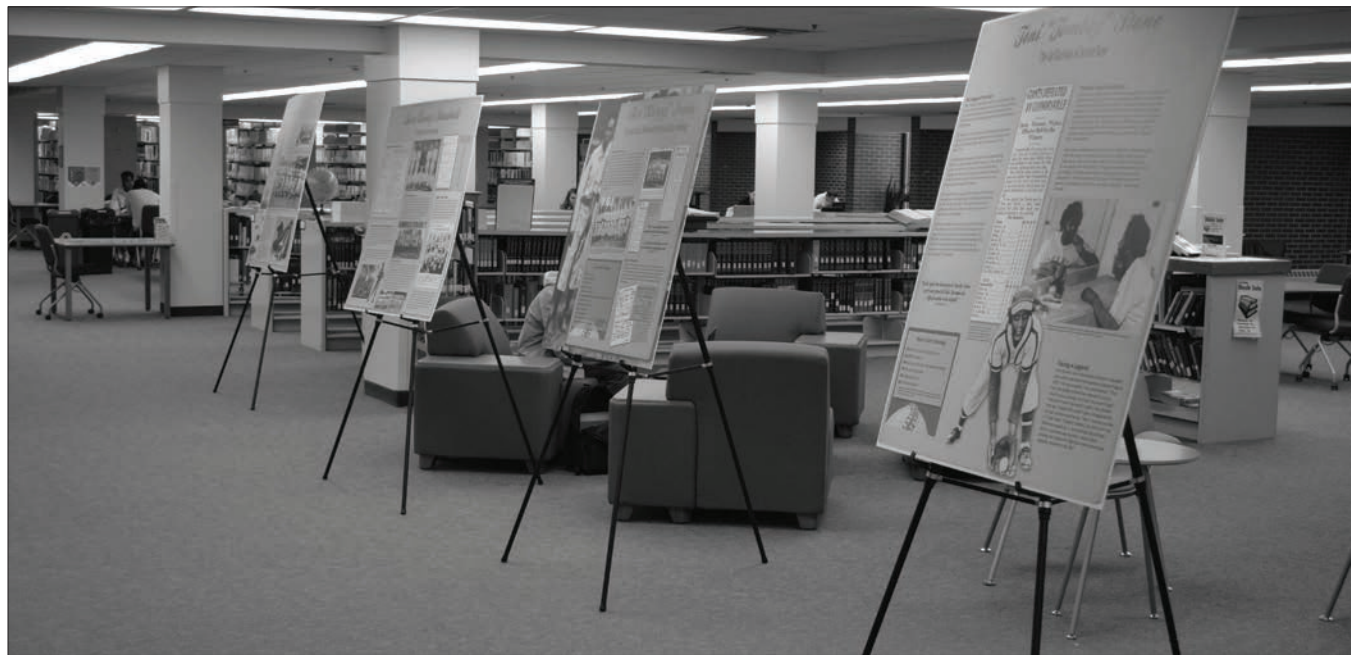
The display was borrowed from the Dunn County Historical Society for the month of February. Kathryn Otto, head of the University Archives and Area Research Center, found out about the traveling display through information provided by the Wisconsin Historical Society. She worked with Valerie Malzacher, director of Davee Library, to get the exhibit.

“When this opportunity came up for a very professionally produced exhibit that would tie into Black History Month, we jumped on it, and we were very happy to get it,” said Malzacher.

Malzacher said the library usually tries to incorporate some displays or events with Black History Month. Last year, Malzacher said the library had a question-and-answer board about famous African Americans in history.

“We’ve partnered with other units to put on not only Black History Month, but Native American History Month, Women’s History. There’s various months we’ve tried to partner on,” said Malzacher.

This year’s display focuses on the Negro Leagues of the early 20th century in Dunn County, which is just to the east of Pierce and St. Croix counties. The display, titled “Playing Through: African American Baseball in Dunn County,” was created in 2013, according to Dustyn Dubuque, education and programming director for the Dunn County Historical Society.



Samantha Decker/Student Voice
The Chalmer Davee Library has been featuring an exhibit showing the history of Negro Leagues baseball throughout Black History Month. The exhibit can be found in the library until the end of February.

Athlete of the Week: Taylor Karge

Zach Dwyer
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Taylor Karge, a junior from Mankato, Minnesota, achieved a career milestone this weekend by scoring her 1,000th point.

In the 81-60 win over UW-Platteville, Karge finished with 22 points and 11 rebounds. It was her third double-double this season and second in the last three games. She also passed 100 blocks in her career after getting three on Saturday. That puts her at third all-time in UWRF history and only 14 away from the career record. Last week, Karge scored 26 points, had 18 total rebounds and three blocks in two games.

Q: What has been the biggest obstacle for this team to overcome this year?

A: The biggest obstacle for our team has been adjusting to the fact that we are very different this year. I think that a lot of people, including us, thought that since we had most people back from last year we would have a similar season.

Q: What kind of feeling was it to achieve 1,000 points in only your junior year?

A: The feeling to hit the 1,000 mark was incredible, especially since it was only my junior year. I barely reached the milestone in high school and only got it in my last game. I feel like it means more to get it in college because there is more talent. The fact that I got it this year means that I have improved a lot since coming in.

Q: What worked so well against Platteville to get a much-needed win?

A: Against Platteville, we just played well. We stuck with what we are good at and had a great team win offensively and defensively.

Q: What has this team improved on the most this year?

A: I think we have come a long way on defense. We still experience short spurts where we can’t put points on the board, but we have consistently been holding teams on [defense].

Q: What kind of mentality does the team need to come out with to compete against UW-Stevens Point and moving forward in the WIAC tournament?

A: Against Stevens Point, we just need everybody to be on board that this is a very winnable game for our team. I think our minds are in the right place for this one.

Q: What record meant more to you, the 1,000 points or 100 blocks? Why?

A: It meant way more to get the 1,000-point goal. I have had that as a goal forever. Blocks are cool but I usually only get them after I get beat [on defense] and I just make up for it.

Q: What has the biggest learning experience been this season?

A: The biggest learning experience has been learning to enjoy every moment that we have together. I think that is especially showing these last few games. We all want this to be the best possible experience for our seniors. We are so blessed to have the opportunity that we have to be playing in the first place. Every game is a blessing, win or lose.

LIVE

FALCON BROADCASTS

Women’s Hockey

WIAC Playoffs versus UW-Superior

Friday, Feb. 24

Pre-game: 6:45 p.m.

Puck drop: 7:05 p.m.

As flu season settles in, officials recommend vaccination

Destrey Zarfos
Falcon News Service

The influenza cycle has returned to the UW-River Falls campus as well as the River Falls community, showing up a bit later than it has in previous years. Flu season typically lasts from October to May.

Across the state, more than 1,200 people had been hospitalized for the flu through Feb. 11, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The northern half of the state, including Pierce, Polk, St. Croix and other nearby counties, was listed as having high levels of influenza-like illness.

Alice Reilly-Myklebust, director of Student Health and Counseling Services at UWRF, said she and her staff have worked over the past several weeks to give students, faculty and staff information on how to keep themselves healthy.

“We call around to all the places in town that offer flu shots, to see what they cost at each place,” she said. “We try to get as much information out as possible to people about getting flu shots.”

For current UWRF students, flu shots are covered by Health Services at Vibrant Health Family Clinics in River Falls.

Reilly-Myklebust heavily stresses the importance of flu shots for students, especially due to the close quarters of a classroom.

“The first thing to help prevent influenza outbreaks is to get a flu shot,” she said.

The pharmacies at both Shopko and Walgreens in River Falls offer flu shots to walk-in patients, and will bill health insurance providers.

Other than flu shots, there are a number of other ways to stay healthy.

“I think people discount how helpful washing your hands can be, but that is probably one of the biggest things you can do to help yourself,” Reilly-Myklebust said.

Covering your cough with your elbow

rather than your hands is another way to stop the spread of the virus. When using shared work spaces, disinfect the area. Avoid touching your face, eyes and mouth, as that is one of the quickest ways for germs to spread. Lastly, stay home when you are sick. It is best to avoid school and work for at least 24 hours after a fever subsides.

“If you are really sick and running a fever, you need to stay home. You’re contagious and you’ll make other people sick,” said Reilly-Myklebust.

Although a day to rest is certainly helpful, it is easy for students to fall behind after being sick.

Kaleb Greene, a UWRF English major, was out sick with the flu, causing him to miss several classes. Greene found it difficult to catch up.

“The challenge is, when you’re sick like that, you are really out of commission so you can’t sit at home and do homework,” he said. “I wish there was a greater understanding of extending deadlines, but that was not the case.”

Greene experienced vomiting, diarrhea and a high fever. He said he spent all day sleeping or in the bathroom, unable to catch up on classwork from home.

The River Falls Area Hospital, part of Alli-



Free cold and flu kits can be found in the Health Services office located on the second floor of Hagestad Hall on the UWRF campus.

Natalie Howell/Student Voice

na Health, has issued restricted visitor guidelines because of the recent flu outbreak. Because young children are more susceptible to the flu, those under the age of 5 are asked not to visit patients. Visitors who are sick should also refrain from seeing patients, and wearing masks is highly encouraged.

Health Services at UWRF offers some helpful resources for students experiencing symptoms. Disposable thermometers are available at each residence hall front desk. Free cold and flu kits are available at the

Health Services office. The kit includes a disposable thermometer, tissues, cough drops, hand sanitizing wipes and ibuprofen and acetaminophen tablets, as well as information on staying healthy.

For students living in the residence halls, UWRF Dining Services can arrange isolation meals to be picked up and delivered by a friend or roommate to those who are sick.

The Health Services office is located on the second floor of Hagestad Hall on the UWRF campus.

UWRF warned about increase in phishing, other scams

Rebecca Meidl
Falcon News Service

Students, faculty and staff at UW-River Falls are increasingly being exposed to on-line “social engineering” scams, according to campus technology officials.

A recent edition of the online campus newsletter, Falcon Daily, warned faculty and staff of an uptick in scams coming by telephone or email. Social engineering scams, such as phishing, aim to gain the trust of the victim.

“Phishing is an attempt from an individual or organization to try and get logins or personally identifiable information like Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, different things like that,” said Joseph Kmiec,

who recently became head of the Division of Technical Services (DoTS). “Sometimes it’s an attempt to get more contacts.”

A person may receive emails or phone calls from people claiming they work for a company that the person may have used. Sometimes the messages use threats to help speed the process of obtaining information. Common scams include someone calling from the IRS to state that an individual owes a specific amount of money and if not paid they will be fined. Another is threatening to close accounts if a specific amount of money is not paid.

Once the scammer has the information they need to access someone’s account, they can send emails on that individual’s behalf without the person knowing about it. This tactic

is done by setting up a filter that deletes the sent files.

Universities have set up systems to protect email accounts, according to officials, but people need to educate themselves as well.

“Ultimately, the individual is the last line of defense,” Kmiec said.

Stopthinkconnect.org is one website that helps people understand how to stay safe on the internet. It was created by the Anti-Phishing Working Group, the National Cyber Security Alliance and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. A few tips the website offers are to stay up to date on all the latest security software and to be wary of suspicious emails — even if they come from friends or associates.

“Even if you know the source,” the website warns, “if something looks suspicious, delete it.”

If a student or UWRF employee happens to fall victim to a social engineering scam, the first thing to do is contact DoTS to get help resetting a password, Kmiec said. DoTS also can help set up filters to stop some of the phishing emails from getting through. Another way DoTS protects students and employees is by looking at the volume of email sent out. If the activity on an email account is high, DoTS will contact the account holder to verify that their email has not been compromised.

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‘The Lego Batman Movie’ overwhelms with humor, action

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

Batman (Will Arnett) works alone. He is used to living in world where he isn’t dependent on others. He takes this so far that he won’t even commit to the Joker (Zach Galifianakis) and say that he is his main enemy and that he hates him.

Life suddenly changes when he accidentally adopts an orphan, Robin (Michael Cera). Is there possibly room in Batman’s life for family, or is he destined to only work and be alone for the rest of his life?

Trying to follow in the success of “The Lego Movie” made in 2014, we have the next installment of what is sure to be many more films down the line (“The Lego Ninjago Movie” coming out later this year, for example). I was big fan of “The Lego Movie” so I had big hopes for what the creators could do with one of the most beloved superheroes of all time. This movie has been No. 1 in the box office two weeks in a row now and has been looked very favorably upon by the critics. However, I really was not too impressed, and here’s why.

The first reason is this movie tries to be too funny. Don’t get me wrong, there are some extremely funny moments! The relationship and the chemistry that they give Batman and the Joker is excellent. The voice and mannerisms by Arnett’s Batman make for some good laughs, and the surrounding cast members all chip in for some good humor.

However, this good humor is drowned out by the constant desire for the writers to tell jokes nonstop. I was laughing quite a lot at the beginning of the film, but toward the end, I was like, “Enough is enough already,” and wasn’t really laughing anymore. Pace yourselves and focus on a few really good jokes instead of saturating the script with nonstop joke after joke. This leads me into a similar critique.

Along with the nonstop joke telling is the nonstop pace of the film. Right off the bat, action is thrown your way. It really never stops after that. Yes, there are a few scenes of dialogue and minor plot building, but it is blown away by the “hurry, hurry, go, go!” feeling this movie gives off.

At over two hours long, this starts to get draining after a while. Coupled with the constant action and hurrying of the movie, to the constant joke telling, it becomes a little much after a while and I was ready to be done toward the end.

It sounds like I must’ve hated this film or something, right? No, that’s not what I’m saying. I really did have a fun time throughout the film, but after a while, it became a little taxing to sit through and watch. A lot of the jokes were really well done and were targeted for both kids and adults.

They did an excellent job of that in the original “Lego Movie,” as well. However, compared to the original, this movie just doesn’t connect with me as well as the first one did. The characters aren’t quite as good, the humor and pacing take a turn for the worst and the emotional tug just isn’t as strong as the first.



I might very well be in the minority with this one, so take my words with a grain of salt. You might have a great time! For me, I just thought it could’ve been so much better.

Nicholas 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.

Horror meets mystery in ‘The Autopsy of Jane Doe’

Wesley Sigsworth

Reviewer

“The Autopsy of Jane Doe” is a horror/thriller film that has been on the film festival circuit since the later part of 2016. It is available to rent online on iTunes and Google Play, to name a few.

The movie centers around a mysterious body that is found in the basement of a home under investigation for multiple homicides. The body has no identification, so it is given the name Jane Doe. The body is then brought to a morgue that is run by a father and son. They begin an autopsy on Jane Doe and slowly unravel the horrific secrets of her past.

There are essentially two characters: the father and son, while Jane Doe is essentially a silent third character speaking through her autopsy results.

The buildup of a horror movie is always

the best part. The mystery surrounding Jane Doe is slowly revealed over the course of the first two acts and is done by means of very disturbing and sometimes grotesque findings in her body pointing to her cause of death. The sheriff points out at the very beginning of the film that the people in the house where Jane was found looked like they were trying to escape. Of course the question becomes: What were they escaping from?

Outdated and even a little run down, the setting of the film takes place in a family mortuary that has been in business since the early 1900s. It’s also very confined, as it is a cellar in the family’s home only accessible through an elevator and a hatch door. Can you guess how that would be a problem for the characters in a horror movie?

The buildup surrounding Jane’s past actually becomes better than the resolution of the film itself. The reason for this is that the implications of Jane’s past and her death are much more unsettling than what the film actually shows us. After all, our imaginations can sometimes conjure up more frightening

images than what any movie could ever show.

Ideally, a horror movie can produce scares that are authentic and that don’t need to rely on flashing an image on screen accompanied by a loud jolt of music. A movie should be scary because of its imagery and tension.

There are no cheap scares in “The Autopsy of Jane Doe.” That isn’t to say you won’t be surprised by a scare, but you will know when it is coming. One of the best moments of the film actually comes from the sound of a small bell jingling. The context of why that should scare you is of course revealed in the first part of the movie.

Although she is dead, Jane Doe is the most fleshed-out character in the entire film and obviously this is because she is the focal point of the plot. The simplicity of having a lifeless body on the mortuary table makes the whole thing uncomfortable. Something just doesn’t seem right as they slowly examine and cut open her body.

Even though Jane’s facial expressions don’t change, in small ways her demeanor

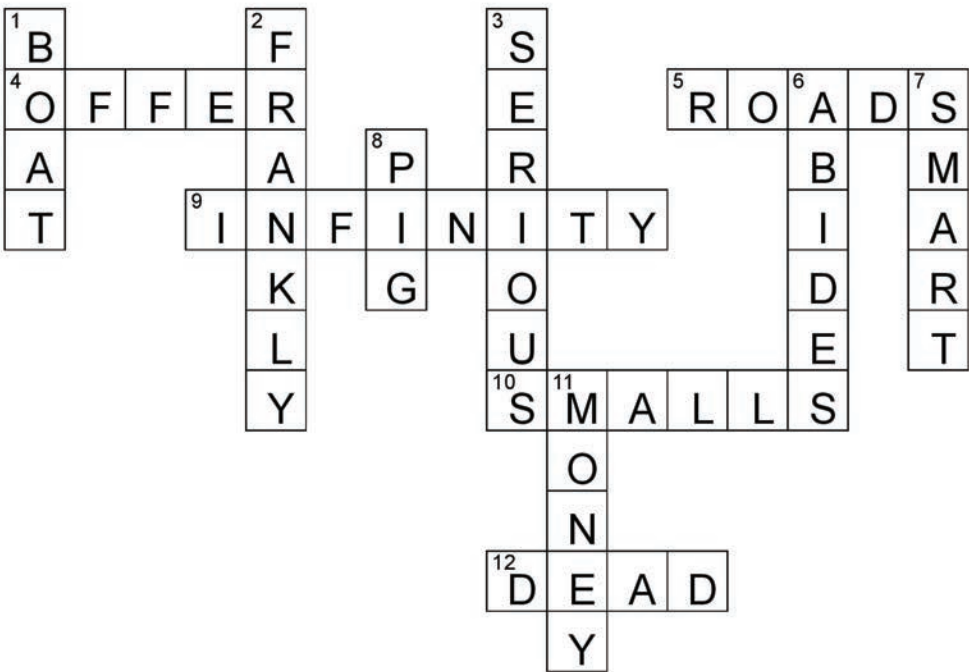
changes. In one scene, the morticians tilt her head forward a little to work on removing her brain. This very subtle shift in the way we look at her face completely changes the tone of the character and perfectly reflects everything that has happened up until that moment. Again, her actual facial expression never changes, but the context of certain scenes overhaul what our minds associate with the corpse or character of Jane Doe.

This movie should at least be in a limited release theater run. “The Autopsy of Jane Doe” is such a great contrast to some of the terrible horror movies we’ve been given in the past few years. And although the last act does struggle a bit to live up to its own build up, it is a very common struggle that many horror flicks face. But the ride leading up to it is well worth the price of admission, or in this case, rental.

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

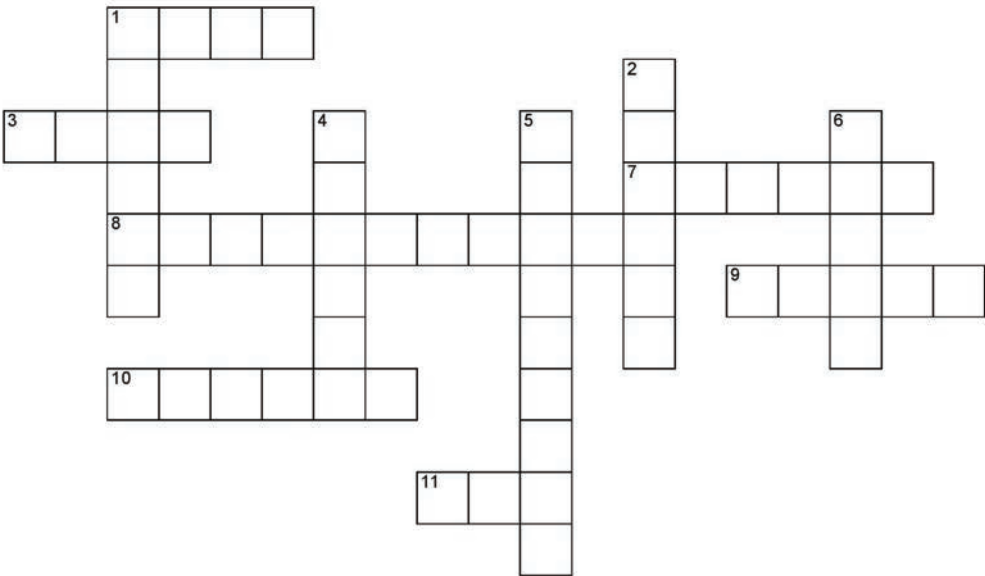
Last Week’s Answers

Iconic Movie Quotes



Puzzle of the Week

'Friends' Trivia



- ACROSS
- 1

The character who frequently says, "How you doin'?"
- 3

Chandler's last name
- 7

The character who leaves Barry the dentist at the altar
- 8

Name of the coffee shop where the Friends spend time (two words)
- 9

"We were on a ____!"
- 10

Phoebe's twin sister's name
- 11

From the theme song: "Your job's a joke, you're broke, your love life's ____"
- DOWN
- 1

Frequently makes an entrance with a nasally "OH...MY...GOD!"
- 2

Chandler tells Monica he loves her for the first time while she's wearing this on her head
- 4

Name of Ross's pet Capuchin monkey
- 5

Phoebe's most popular song (two words)
- 6

Carol suggests this as baby Gellar's name, to Ross's horror

Puzzle created at puzzle-maker.com

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The first person to report the find to natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins!

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