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# STUDENT VOICE

University of Wisconsin River Falls

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## Food pantry may be coming to UW-River Falls

Katie Galarno  
katie.galarno@my.uwrf.edu

A food pantry, tentatively called Falcon Pantry, may be coming to the UW-River Falls campus this fall, thanks in part to a fundraiser held on Sunday.

To raise money for the pantry, UWRF Collegiate 4-H and Journey House Campus Ministry held Soup Sensations on March 5. Bowls of chicken noodle soup and vegetable and bean soup were served for \$5 to eat in and \$8 to take a quart of soup to go.

Tiffany Miller, the vice president of UWRF 4-H, said that approximately 200 servings of soup were made for the fundraiser, and all of it was sold.

“We had a great turnout, and it sounds like we have great support from the community about opening up a food pantry on campus,” Miller said.

Miller said that she and 4-H President Mikayla Wehrle got the idea to open a food pantry at UWRF after attending a Collegiate 4-H conference at Iowa State University. Miller said that she realized that a food pantry would be a good way for 4-H to get involved and fulfill a need on campus.

The fundraiser was also important to Karalyn Littlefield of the Animal and Food Science Department at UWRF, as it served as her community event for the Landmark Self-Expression and Leadership Program. Littlefield said that food security is a passion of hers.

“I believe that it’s an innate right that, all over the world, we should have sufficient food security,” Littlefield said. “Every-

one deserves to eat.”

Bill Peterson, a fellow Landmark program graduate, said he attended the event in part because he knows there is an unseen need on college campuses.

“There are a lot of college kids that I know skip meals,” Peterson said. “The parents aren’t able to help their students, so they skip meals.”

Littlefield said that she has seen this happen with her students firsthand. She thought of one of her students who decided to spend his last dollars on a meal rather than paying to print off a paper for class. Littlefield said she is keeping instant noodles in her office for students now.

**“There are a lot of college kids that I know skip meals,” said Bill Peterson, a Landmark program graduate. “The parents aren’t able to help their students, so they skip meals.”**

Teresa Ginn, Journey House’s administrative director, said that the campus ministry decided to get involved because the ministry has seen a need from students attending its free weekly meals, especially when it comes to students who live off campus.

“What we’ve heard time and time again from them is that, ‘Oh my gosh, it’s so nice to have a warm meal. I didn’t have much to eat today,’” Ginn said. “I think the combination of rent and car and all the utilities and all the things they’re pay-

ing sometimes just leaves them searching for ways to eat and to eat healthy.”

Campus Minister Laura Ramlow said Journey House aims to support UWRF students in all ways possible, but that there is more to it than simply feeding them.

“For us here, too, it’s also bringing people together, and that’s something that we’re seeing through this collaboration,” Ramlow said. “We’re looking at these amazing student leaders in this 4-H club, we’re looking at the student leadership that we have here and looking at that piece of collaboration, and that’s exciting for us.”

The fundraiser would not have happened without volunteers. 12-year-old Jackson Cooper peeled vegetables and volunteered at Soup Sensations for a Boy Scouts race and for service hours toward his Confirmation. Cooper said that he enjoys doing things for other people.

“Sometimes you just have to come out and help,” Cooper said. “You can’t just sit at your house and do nothing all the time. There’s going to be a point in time where somebody’s going to ask you for help, and are you going to jump at the chance or are you not?”

The Falcon Pantry will be receiving guidance and support from the River Falls Community Food Pantry, and certain items may be exchanged between the two pantries if one has an excess of something the other needs.

Although an exact location is yet to be determined, Miller said that the pantry will likely be a small closet-like space in the Agricultural Science building, ideally opening in the fall.

## Despite federal reversal on transgender bathrooms, local officials don’t plan change

Matthew Clark  
Falcon News Service

Despite a reversal in federal protections for transgender students, area public school officials aren’t planning to make any changes in policy.

On Feb. 22, the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice released a “Dear Colleague” letter undoing Obama era federal guidelines that stated Title IX protected students who wished to use bathrooms in public schools aligning with their gender identity. “Dear Colleague” letters are sent to public school officials from the department to provide guidance on current issues.

In the new letter, the department, now under the control of newly-appointed Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, stated previous guidelines did not “contain extensive legal analysis or explain how the position is consistent with the express language of Title IX.” The letter declared all issues related to transgender bathroom usage should be handled by the states and not the federal government.

UW-River Falls recently began adding gender neutral bathrooms to its facilities on campus in an effort to become more accommodating to students who identify as transgender or wish to have more privacy. Last May, the university sought approval from the state to begin renovating bathrooms in Grimm and McMillan halls. In a written statement, UWRF spokesperson Beth Schommer said the university doesn’t plan to change its direction.

“UW-River Falls remains committed to inclusivity, and I am sure we will continue to adhere as much as possible to best practices that are aimed at providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all,” Schommer said.

UWRF’s Gender and Sexuality Coordinator Nathan Elness said the university’s response to gender and sexuality issues is becoming more progressive.

“Everybody is really on the front end. Our students are always more ahead of where we are as an institution, so it’s really catching up to where they are and what they believe,” Elness said.

UW-Stout in Menomonie is considered one of the leading UW schools for progressive action on LGBTQ issues. During the last eight years, the university has worked to add gender neutral bathrooms to all campus buildings. Sandi Scott Duex, UW-Stout’s dean of students and Title IX coordinator, said the university has no plans to slow down its efforts.

“It’s one piece of creating a climate that’s really welcoming for all of our students,” Scott Duex said.

Outside of higher education, the reversal also affects primary and secondary schools. In October 2015, the River Falls School Board approved a transgender policy allowing students to use bathrooms and locker rooms that match their chosen gender identity.

“We will continue to keep our policy in place regardless of the changes under the federal government and Trump’s administration,” said Kit Luedtke, principal of River Falls High School and Renaissance Academy. “Our district philosophy is to ensure that all students have the right to a safe and healthy environment to learn and develop into productive citizens of the state of Wisconsin and the United States of America.”

Now that transgender bathroom issues have shifted to state government, state Rep. Jesse Kremer (R-Kewaskum) from Wisconsin’s 59th Assembly District is considering options to revive a bill that would force students in public schools to use the bathrooms they were biologically assigned to. Kremer introduced the bill last summer but was shut down after strong resistance from transgender students.

Elness said he will continue to work with students and the university to lobby for transgender rights within the state. He said the uni-



Natalie Howell/Student Voice  
**There are several gender neutral bathrooms on the UW-River Falls campus, including ones in the University Center and North Hall.**

versity has the ability to set policies that differ from state laws.

“Maybe the state isn’t as supportive at the moment, but our institution can be,” Elness said.

Scott Duex said the bill wouldn’t stop UW-Stout from offering students gender neutral options, but it would negatively impact the students.

“It doesn’t help the overall climate issues

that particularly any of our trans students and any non-binary students really face on a day to day basis,” Scott Duex said.

UWRF’s Title IX coordinator, Gregg Heinzelman, declined to comment on the issue.

## Student nominations help select top academic advisors

Rebecca Meidl  
Falcon News Service

Twice a year, students at UW-River Falls turn to their academic advisors to help figure out which classes to take to help them graduate.

To acknowledge the hard work and dedication that these advisors — faculty and academic staff — have to their students, the College of Arts and Sciences in 2002 created the Excellence in Advising Awards. Students can show appreciation of their advisor by nominating them for the award. Last year the recipients were David Bonko, Marketing Communications; Robert Coffman, Mathematics; and Kiril Petkov, History.

Coffman has been teaching at UWRF for almost 30 years. Many of his family were teachers and he followed in their footsteps, he said. Coffman never thought he would get an

advanced degree until his advisor told him about graduate assistantships that would help him pay his way.

His reaction to receiving the award was split, he said. He felt good that he won, but explained that these types of awards make him upset.

“There is so much good work that goes unrecognized, and I wish all the good work could be recognized,” he said.

When Coffman received the award, he was chair of the department. Coffman said he thought that may have been a reason why he got it.

“I would do the summer advising and meet all these students,” Coffman said, many of whom became his advisees. Perhaps, he said, he got the award because he was advisor to so many students.

A university-wide Adviser of the Year also has been named every year since 2000. The award was established by the Fac-

ulty Senate Advising Committee. The recipient is nominated by students and alumni. The award can only be won once in an advisor’s career at UWRF. The 2016 winner was Holly Doliver, an associate professor of geology and soil science.

Bonko is a recipient of both the Advisor of the Year in 2014 and the Excellence in Advising for 2016. He has been teaching at UWRF since 1998. He started teaching because he worked for a small business that was not doing very well and so he took a teaching job in St. Paul. After that, he took a job opening at UWRF.

“I had more application-based things to teach and a lot of good war stories, which it seemed like students liked,” explained Bonko.



# News Briefs:

## UWRF equestrian team members advance in IHSA competition

Following competitions over the weekend, one UW-River Falls western equestrian team member qualified for the Inter-collegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) National Championships in May while she and four other team members earned the right to compete at the IHSA semi-finals March 24-25.

The UWRF IHSA western equestrian team competed in the final regular season show Feb. 18 where riders were able to acquire points toward qualifying for the regional finals held the following day.

UWRF earned the reserve championship team during Saturday’s regular season show. Autumn Kappers, an animal science major from Spring Valley, Minnesota, was high point rider winning both the open reining and the open horsemanship categories.

Those points secured her the AQHA Cup (high point rider) for the year in this region. AQHA Cup riders advance directly to IHSA nationals and do not have to compete at semi-finals. The IHSA National Championships take place in Lexington, Kentucky.

UWRF had 10 riders competing in 11 classes going into the regional finals Feb. 19. Five team members earned the right to compete at semi-finals by finishing first or second in their category. Kappers qualified in the open reining category. Ashley Gapinski, an animal science major from Ramsey, Minnesota, will be competing in beginner horsemanship. Mikayla Mack, from River Falls, who just completed her biology degree in December, will be competing in advanced horsemanship. Danielle Paulson, an animal science major from Spring Valley, Minnesota, will be competing in open horsemanship and Rachel Shamro, an agricultural business major from Hayward, will be competing in novice horsemanship. The IHSA semi-finals take place at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Oswego.

## UW-River Falls student newspaper wins awards

The Student Voice, the student-run weekly newspaper serving UW-River Falls, earned four awards in the 2016 Better Newspaper Contest sponsored by the Wisconsin College Media Association. Results of the contest were announced Feb. 24 during the Wisconsin Newspaper Association’s annual convention in Middleton.

Zach Dwyer, a journalism major from New Hope, Minnesota, earned third place in sports reporting for his story, “UWRF alumnus Ryan Stridde visits campus.” Dwyer is the sports editor for the Student Voice.

Tori Schneider, a journalism major from Manitowoc, earned honorable mention in general reporting for her story, “UW-River Falls begins to address issue of gender neutral bathrooms.” Schneider is doing a photojournalism internship this semester at the daily Bay City (Michigan) Times.

The staff of the Student Voice won second and third place awards for editorial writing for “New gun law proposal heads in the wrong direction” and “No confidence vote from faculty senate highlights unease at UWRF.”

In addition, journalism and business administration double major Kate Vruwink of Wisconsin Rapids participated in a panel discussion during the convention about “Reporting That Makes a Difference.” Vruwink talked about her “Without a Roof” project on the homeless in Wisconsin. Her research was supported by a Summer Scholars grant from the UWRF Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity office.

The Student Voice is a student-run campus media organization supported primarily by student fees and advised by faculty in the Department of Communication and Media Studies.

For more information, contact Professor Sandy Ellis, chair of the Department of Communication and Media Studies, at 715-425-3169 or [sandra.ellis@uwrf.edu](mailto:sandra.ellis@uwrf.edu), or Associate Professor Andris Straumanis at [andris.straumanis@uwrf.edu](mailto:andris.straumanis@uwrf.edu).

## Rush River Ramblers play for River Falls barn dance

The western Wisconsin string band the Rush River Ramblers will play the River Falls barn dance series on Saturday, March 18 in the gym of the River Falls Academy (the former Meyer Middle School) at 439 W. Maple St. in River Falls from 7-9:30 p.m.

This local band hails from Spring Valley and rural River Falls. Sue West, a nationally recognized folk artist, plays gui-

tar for the Ramblers.

The group has been featured in the River Falls summer Music in the Park series and spring Bluegrass Festival.

No prior dancing experience is necessary. A skilled caller teaches steps to newcomers and more seasoned dancers alike. All dancing is social, and singles are welcome. Children are especially encouraged to participate in the opening family dance segment from 7-8:30 p.m. The second half of the evening features more advanced dances.

The remaining date in the 2016-17 season features Twin Cities band Gritpickers on Saturday, April 22.

The barn dances are a joint project of River Falls Community Arts Base, River Falls Parks and Recreation and Allina Health River Falls Area Hospital. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for 12 and under.

Refreshments are available. More information can be found at <http://www.riverfallscab.org>.

## UW-River Falls to host 57th annual Agricultural Technology Contest

UW-River Falls will host the 57th annual Agricultural Technology Contest on April 1, 2017.

The Agricultural Technology Contest includes a series of career development events hosted by the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES). This contest allows the opportunity for Wisconsin and Minnesota FFA members to showcase their knowledge by participating in a variety of contests.

The contests focus on agricultural communications, agricultural technology and mechanical systems, agronomy, dairy cattle evaluation, farm business management, floriculture, food science and technology, forestry, horse evaluation, livestock evaluation, middle school agriscience, nursery/landscape, soils, veterinary science and wildlife. This year nearly 1,000 students are expected to compete in 15 team events and three additional contest opportunities.

UWRF coordinates the Wisconsin FFA state contests for agricultural communications and food science and technology. First-place teams will advance to compete at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, this October.

Seven of the events also serve as qualifying contests for the Wisconsin FFA Association Career Development Events (CDE) to be held April 28, 2017, in Madison, Wisconsin. These events include agricultural technology and mechanical systems, dairy evaluation, floriculture, horse evaluation, livestock evaluation, wildlife and veterinary science.

Unique to the Agricultural Technology Contest, UWRF offers an Agricultural Education event. The event provides students with the opportunity to better comprehend the teaching and learning process, foster leadership and communication skills and allow students to practice teaching. Students also have the opportunity to compete in the 38th Annual Crop Show. Students competing in the crops show can submit samples into classes ranging from oats to soybeans, to the longest ear of corn.

Another highlight of this year’s contest is the Power Tool Drag Race. This event changes the type of tool that students use when building their vehicle, which makes the contests unique from year to year. The Power Tool Drag Race encourages students to use their problem solving, creative design, research and development and engineering skills.

This year, students must power their vehicle using a 120-volt corded power tool router other than an angle/side/disc grinder; with the goal being to achieve the fastest time. The UWRF Agricultural Industry Club sponsors and coordinates this event. This year, the contest will be held in the newly renovated space in the Ag Engineering Annex.

Each year, it takes over 100 volunteers to ensure successful contests. Faculty and staff from CAFES serve as chairs for each of the contests. CAFES students volunteer their time as student chairs and assist on the contest day.

Madeline Bode, an Agricultural Education major from Cassville, Wisconsin, is serving as this year’s contest coordinator. The assistant coordinator is Alexis Stibor, an agricultural education major from Osseo, Wisconsin. Tim Buttles serves as the faculty chair for the contest and Fay Westberg of the agricultural education department assists with overall contest preparations.

For more details about the contests, visit the Agricultural Education Department website at <http://www.uwrf.edu/AGED/CDE/AgriculturalTechnologyContest.cfm>

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## Student Senate Update: March 10

Two motions were passed at the March 7 Student Senate meeting:

**Falcon Awards Budget:** A motion to allocate \$2,900 for the Falcon Awards banquet.

- Passed: 16 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.

**Creation of Greenovation Fund at UW-River Falls:** A motion to create a fund through the creation of a \$10 annual non-allocable segregated university fee to be used strictly to invest in green energy, waste reduction, energy efficiency upgrades and general sustainability efforts at UWRF.

- Passed: 15 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstained.

Four budgets were passed:

- The Student Government Association requested a 57 cent per semester increase to its segregated fee (16 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained).
- The New Student Fee was not increased (Unanimous consent).
- The Student Organization budget was not increased (Unanimous consent).
- Student Involvement programming budget was not increased (Unanimous consent).

One new student organization was confirmed: Swine Club

One motion has been postponed until the next Student Senate meeting:

**Renovation of Biology Student Lounge:** A motion to allocate \$6,000 for the renovation of the biology student lounge.

*The information in this update comes from 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.*

## Campus Events Calendar:

- **Slackline in the University Center**  
**Tuesday, March 21, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**  
**Involvement Center, University Center**
  - **Diversity Dialogue: Civility**  
**Tuesday, March 21, 3-5 p.m.**  
**Apple River Room, University Center**
  - **Weekly Relaxation Practice**  
**Wednesday, March 22, 3:30-4 p.m.**  
**Hagestad Hall**
  - **Ally Training 2**  
**Wednesday, March 22, 6-9 p.m.**  
**Falcon’s Nest, University Center**
  - **Jocelyn Hagen Commissioned Composer Concert**  
**Thursday, March 23, 7:30-9:30 p.m.**  
**Kleinpell Fine Arts**
  - **Cohler Coffee Concert: String Quartet and Clarinet**  
**Friday, March 24, noon-1 p.m.**  
**Kleinpell Fine Arts**
  - **Open Mic**  
**Friday, March 24, 8-11 p.m.**  
**Falcon’s Nest, University Center**
  - **Karaoke**  
**Saturday, March 25, 8-9 p.m.**  
**Falcon’s Nest, University Center**
- Visit [uwrf.edu](http://uwrf.edu) for a full schedule of events**

uwrfvoice .com

### Weekly UWRF Crime Report

<b>Wednesday, Feb. 22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A harrassment complaint was filed in Grimm Hall at 9:53 p.m.</li></ul> <b>Thursday, Feb. 23</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fraud was reported in Prucha Hall at 10:56 p.m.</li></ul> <b>Friday, Feb. 24</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Underage alcohol consumption was reported in Johnson Hall at 11:37 p.m.</li></ul>	<b>Wednesday, March 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Burglary was reported in South Hall at 9:09 a.m.</li></ul> <b>Saturday, March 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theft was reported at 860 Cascade Ave. at 12:17 p.m.</li></ul> <b>Monday, March 6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vandalism damage was reported at 600 S. Main St. at 4:20 p.m.</li></ul>
<div>Editor’s Note: Information for this section is taken from the UW-River Falls Police Department incident reports.</div>	



# UWRF biologists aim to help with solving winter bee loss

Sophia Koch  
Falcon News Service

The experimental “nuc” beehive project being run by the UW-River Falls Biology Department will be entering its third year this spring, continuing research looking at the best ways to deal with winter colony losses.

The project has been running since 2015, when biology professors Brad and Kim Mogen received a Specialty Crop Block Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The focus of the project was a hive type called the “nuc,” or “nucleus,” which is produced by splitting a large colony of bees into smaller colonies. The project simultaneously got into testing out various breeds of honeybee, to see which are most capable of surviving the winter.

“If we can start raising bees up here, that have already shown good overwintering traits,” said Miranda Martin, a fifth-year field biology student who worked closely with the Mogens on the project, “we can continue on a line of good overwintering that’s gonna greatly improve the survival rates.”

A massive problem in the beekeeping trade, particularly in the Midwest where the winters are harsh, is winter death. Statistics from the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that between October 2015 and March 2016, Wisconsin bee colonies declined in number by 60 percent. The root cause, Brad Mogen said, is unknown, but he said he suspects that a combination of pesticides, industrial migratory pollination techniques and parasitic varroa mites could be stressing and weakening the bees.

“Think about the students,” Mogen said. “How many students that you know get so sick at finals week when they’re all stressed out, their immune system is down, they’re bummed out, right? And I’m convinced that bees are the same way.”

What tends to happen is that the bees starve towards the end of winter. Sometimes, Mogen said, there is even honey available to the bees, but because they can’t move about when the weather gets too cold, they can’t move to where the rest of their stores are and end up starving. For small-scale, hobbyist beekeepers, this constant winter death becomes extremely expensive. A package of bees consisting of a queen and three pounds of workers can cost upwards of \$120.

“More than anything,” Mogen said, “it’s depressing and demoralizing, and people quit.”

This is a problem, he added, because small-scale beekeepers are important to small-scale agriculture. Many crops such as alfalfa and apples require animal pollination, and industrial migratory beekeepers (who ship their beehives all around the country), typically won’t bother doing business with a five-acre orchard.

“So the idea is to hopefully try to get people to stay in the industry... because we need small pollinators, local people to help the small orchards that are around here,” said Mogen.

Mogen has a twofold method of addressing the problem. First, he’s been working on a strategy by which small-scale beekeepers can repopulate their bee yards without having to buy bee packages: nucs. In the knowledge that they will be losing upwards of 50 percent of their hives come winter, hobbyist beekeepers can go through their bee yards in the summer and create a bunch of nucs from their strongest colonies.

Come spring, hives will still have died, but the beekeepers no longer have to order packages to keep their colony numbers steady. In theory, this also means an increase in overall winter hardiness across the bee yards as the non-hardy colonies are weeded out.

“They’re meant to supplement hive losses,” said Charles Hayes, a senior biomedical science student who was tasked with creating a set of guidelines that could be used by beekeepers for managing nucleus hives.

The second part of the project has involved breeding new varieties of honeybee, in the hopes of finding a genetic line that can handle Wisconsin’s winters. Originally, five main genetic lines were being tested, each one defined by the region of the world that it came from.

Martin’s job within the project was to breed queens from those five genetic lines, and plant those young queens inside newly-made nucs. Theoretically, because the queen is the only reproducing bee within a hive and the most important member of the colony, this would allow researchers to rate the winter hardiness of a genetic line based on which colonies did the best.

“In all these bees, you have good and bad traits,” said Mogen. “Some of them perform very well, and some of them turn out to be really, at the end of the season, very susceptible to

varroa mites, which is a real problem.”

The challenge with this part of the research, Mogen said, has been keeping the colonies separate. Bees, he said, are very hard to study. The queen mates with multiple drones, and those drones can come from anywhere within a given area, not just from her own hive. Worker bees can also “drift,” or move over to another hive simply because they like the smell of that colony’s queen better than their own.

Michael Burns, a sophomore biotechnology major, worked to dispel some of the ambiguity by performing DNA paternity tests on bees from various colonies.

The Russian line of bees, said Martin, did particularly well, as did the “mutt” genetic line that the Mogens have been cultivating on campus. The line known as the “Buckfast” did very poorly, and Mogen discontinued the line in his own yard. Another beekeeper, however, found that the Buckfasts did relatively well.

Jerome Rodewald is a retired commercial beekeeper and a friend of Mogen’s who bought 11 of the experimental nucs to replace his winter losses last spring. He got a mix of Mogen’s various genetic lines and kept them marked so that Mogen could stop by and check out how the different varieties did. The Buckfasts did better than expected. Overall, Rodewald said, he agreed that nucs are a good strategy for repopulating bee yards.

“You start out with a queen that is used to the bees that are with her,” he said. “She’s already laying, she has eggs and she has all three of the eggs, larvae and capped brood necessary.”

Finding new, long-term solutions is going to be important going forward, Rodewald said, particularly in light of the varroa mite infestation. These parasites have been making their way across the United States since the mid-1980s, and the only method to control them at present is chemicals. The problem, Rodewald said, is that the mites develop resistance to chemicals over time. For now, there is no other solution, but Mogen, he said, is making steps in the right direction.

Mogen will be continuing his research for another year, and will spend the summer further pursuing his research on the overwintering capabilities of his remaining genetic lines.

# Presentation at UWRF explores shelter alternatives for cats

Karina Clausen  
karina.clausen@my.uwrf.edu

On Thursday, March 2, the Department of Animal Science (Companion Animal Emphasis) sponsored the “Countdown to a Million: Rethinking Cat Sheltering” presentation by guest speaker Kate Hurley.

Beginning her career as an animal control officer due to her love of animals, Hurley saw the flaws in the shelter system. During the presentation, she stated that only one out of every four cats brought to shelters leave there alive, being euthanized if they are not adopted in time.

Part of the problem was due to the open shelter system, where facilities take in more cats than they can humanely care for. Hurley saw that shelter efforts were hurting the cat population more than helping and decided that there must be a better way.

Shortly after graduating veterinary school, Hurley created and completed the world’s first residency in Shelter Medicine. In 2014, after eight years of working on the organizing committee to create an official specialty in shelter medicine, the American Veterinary Medical Association approved Shelter Medicine as a specialty within the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners.

During these studies, Hurley found more humane and effective methods of keeping up the welfare of confined animals, the welfare of community cats and battling infectious diseases.

From there, Hurley joined Julie Levy at the University of Florida Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program to sponsor the Million Cat Challenge campaign which looks to save one million cats in U.S. shelters from 2014-2019.

The amount of cats saved is to be measured by the reduction in euthanasia and the rise of live outcomes (adoption, returned to owner, returned to field, etc.). This goal may seem lofty, but 500,000 feline lives have already been saved simply by implementing some (if not all) of the five key initiatives that reduce euthanasia and improve the health of cats in shelters as well as improve their chances of adoption.

The five initiatives are to find alternatives to intake, manage admission, adhere to the shelter’s capacity for care, remove barriers to adoption and return to field.

First, finding alternatives to intake at a shelter means saving the shelter for those cats

who are truly in need. While some cats truly do need to use the shelter, sometimes people just need assistance, resources or veterinary care in order to care for a cat short term, leaving the shelter to those with no other options.

For instance, 72 percent of lost cats will return home on their own, so bringing them to a shelter makes the chances of them being reunited with their owners much more slim. The idea is that the shelter would assist in locating the owner but not admit the cat.

Feral cats can be sterilized, vaccinated and returned to the place they were found. Since mammals will always breed to the carrying capacity of their environment, taking a community cat out of that habitat will only result in more breeding from the remaining cats.

As long as there is a food source available, cats will breed to meet that threshold. Therefore, by sterilizing the cat through shelter services and returning it, the population in that area remains stable. Cats that were owned can be given support to re-home them instead of turning them over to a shelter.

Second, managing admission means that the shelter would regulate intake in some manner or another, like limiting drop-off hours, scheduling intake appointments, implementing waiting lists if there is not enough room or requiring a formal process of surrender to discuss alternatives or support. Managing admission could be something as simple as not allowing drop-off on weekends so that the staff has time to catch up and focus on the animals there.

Third, capacity for care means considering the shelter’s ability to care for each cat admitted. This is done by giving high-quality housing and lessening the length of stay by means of active management.

Better housing means that each cat have at least nine square feet with a small door to separate food from the litter box area. Doing this can prevent sickness from developing and spreading through the shelter. Keeping cats healthy and happy means that they present a better impression and have a much better chance at being chosen for adoption.



Katelyn Anderson/Student Voice  
**Director of the Koret Shelter Medicine Program at UC-Davis Kate Hurley gives a presentation “Countdown to a Million: Rethinking Cat Sheltering” at UWRF on March 2.**

Fourth, removing adoption barriers makes it so that it is easier for people to adopt, because life in an imperfect home is often still better than an experience at a shelter.

Finally, returning to field means that community cats would get the traditional trap-neuter-return approach where they are sterilized, vaccinated and ear-tipped before being returned to their original location. People who feed stray cats are no longer scared to come forward since euthanasia would no longer be threatening their neighborhood visitor. Doing this takes a load off of shelters and can actually decrease cat colony sizes in time.

Being the director of the Koret Shelter Medicine Program at UC-Davis as well as the director of the Million Cat Challenge, Hurley shows dedication to spreading her message that there is a better way.

When asked why she thinks her message is important for animal studies students, Hurley

said that they “will be the voice that people will trust” and that this approach changes the profession.

Assistant Professor of Animal and Food Science Beth Rausch said she hopes that students who attended would “learn about the trends in the shelter industry and companion animal welfare.”

Rauch continued: “If we teach them a better way to manage both feral and owned cat populations as well as shelter cat populations, then they will achieve a better welfare state.”

Jennifer Glasow, an animal science student and attendee of the presentation, said these were interesting, new approaches with real results that “give everyone a chance to be a hero,” echoing the lesson that there is always a better way when one sets their mind to it, just as Hurley said.

# Student nominations help select top academic advisors

Continued from Page 1

Receiving the Adviser of the Year Award was a huge and unexpected honor, according to Bonko.

“That was a pretty big to me,” he said. “I was very proud because I relish the relationships I have with students and, for that to happen, I guess it kind of shows that things are going in the right direction.”

The reason why a specific advisor wins the award remains confidential, but Bonko said he tries to be very open and honest with his students and advisees.

“I am never going to tell a kid to take a class, take extra

credits for the sake of taking them,” he said. As a professor, the relationship he has with his students is showing them that what he is teaching is going to be applicable in that student’s life. “The best teachers act as ambassadors to their subject. They are very passionate about it and do their best to sell that passion to their students as to why this is relevant.”

Petkov is the third advisor to receive the Excellence in Advising award for 2016 and also is head of the Faculty Senate Advising Committee.

The process nominees go through for the university-wide Adviser of the Year award is long, Petkov said. Nominations are collected by the chancellor’s office and sent to the Faculty Senate Advising Committee, which is made up of six people.

The committee looks for outstanding advising activity. After the committee has chosen a recipient, it forwards the advisor’s name to the chancellor, who then bestows the Adviser of the Year honor.

Unfortunately, there is a problem with the nomination system, according to Petkov.

“It really has not much appeal among students because this is totally a voluntary thing,” Petkov said. One year, the committee received only six nominees.

Students who would like to nominate an advisor for the Adviser of the Year award may do so through the UW-River Falls website, uwrf.edu.



# EDITORIAL

## Travel a wonderful thing if done for the right reasons

With another March comes another spring break, which means that many students will be traveling over the course of the next week. No one is debating that traveling is a wonderful thing, but we must make sure we’re doing it for the right reasons.

The wanderlust fad has taken to social media as the people we follow constantly update us on their whereabouts in the world. With an endless Instagram feed of picturesque landscapes straight from our dreams at our fingertips, it’s easy to think, “Wow, I want to go there!”

And you can do just that if you have the means. Just remember, if you do visit these far-off, beautiful places, to enjoy it rather than trying to impress your followers. Travel for yourself, not for other people. The right reason for you might not be the right reason for someone else.

As a generation, we have this idea that traveling will make our lives infinitely better. We have a vision of wandering through places we’ve never been and coming out with a better idea of who we are. It’s this feeling that we want to find ourselves, and we can do that by first losing ourselves in another culture.

That may be true, but we need to remember to actually lose ourselves there. We can’t do that if we’re taking in our surroundings through a camera lens and taking selfies with vague backgrounds that kind of show where we are or have a Snapchat geofilter attached to them.

Of course, take photos. Collect memories. Maybe even buy a few souvenirs that will serve a purpose or be meaningful and remind you of your travels. Just don’t let yourself get so caught up in the materialistic side of exploring that you miss out on the experience.

Talk to new people. Go into weird shops. Try some new foods that you normally would not even consider. And, naturally, visit the typical tourist sites. They’re likely well-known for a reason.

However, if you can’t travel anywhere magnificent, you can still lose yourself a little more locally. Take a hike without the pressure of adding something to your Snapchat story. Explore some trails just for yourself. Take a walk to the falls to clear your mind. You do not have to do these things for anyone but yourself.

# STUDENT VOICE

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

All editorial content in the *Student Voice* is determined by the newspaper’s Editorial Board. The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper’s advisor, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

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

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# A Day Without a Woman serves important purpose in society

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

A Day Without a Woman was billed as a day where “women and our allies will act together for equity, justice and the human rights of women and all gender-oppressed people,” according to [womensmarch.com](http://womensmarch.com).

Womensmarch.com, the organizers of the Women’s March on Washington, used International Women’s Day as the next step to show support and allegiance for women through a “demonstration of economic solidarity.”

What this meant was that women were asked to not participate in any paid or unpaid labor inside or outside of the home on the day of Wednesday, March 8. In addition to refraining from labor, [womensmarch.com](http://womensmarch.com) also asked women to avoid shopping everywhere except for small businesses owned by women or minorities, and to wear the color red in support of all women.

A Day Without a Woman was meant to be another demonstration to further unify all women and highlight the issues of lower wages, discrimination, sexual harassment and oppression. However, A Day Without a Woman was also criticized as being an elitist protest. There were many voices online that pointed out how unfair it was to ask women to take a day off when one day off of work, paid or otherwise, could have detrimental consequences for them.

I was fortunate enough to not be scheduled to work on Wednesday, and therefore did not have to worry about losing my job if I decided not to show up to work. I also did not have to worry about not participating in any labor inside the home, because I do not have kids and because I still live at home. Living at home means that I am still the dependent who always has food to eat and people around to feed and look after my cats – my main priority besides myself.

My mom, who is well-established in her career, also did not have trouble taking the day off of work, inside or outside the home. This was mainly because she has a great support system in my dad and because my mom no longer has young children to constantly care for. Basically, it was easy for the two of us to give ourselves the day off. However, for many other women, it is so much more difficult.

Single mothers, people who have no support system, women who are supporting themselves, their kids or their family by working minimum wage jobs or women who are the primary caregivers for children or family members do not have the same flexibility as I do. Taking a day off of work, in an office or at home, means that they could be fired or that they could lose money that is essential to their life or that a loved one goes without necessary care.

A Day Without a Woman was created to raise awareness and be a cause for the very women who cannot afford to participate in the movement designed for them. However, I want to point out that just because my mom was able to easily participate in A Day Without a Woman does not mean she is not affected by discrimination, lower pay or oppression. She experiences it less than most, but she is still affected.

A Day Without a Woman is so essential, and it should not be labeled as an elitist movement. The very fact that it is so difficult for women to remove themselves and their contributions to the lives of others at work or at home proves that this movement is so crucial.

I wish every woman was able to take themselves away from work inside and outside the home so that the people around them could realize the gap left by women and everything we bring to the table, professionally and personally.

*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.*

# Birthdays remind us to appreciate the small yet meaningful moments in life

Reo Ford

Columnist

My birthday was this past weekend, and I must admit that I feel a little strange; it seems like I blinked my eyes and suddenly I’m 22 years old. It feels like just yesterday I turned 21, and the week before that I had turned 18.

I can’t count how many times throughout my life I’ve heard the saying “time flies” or some other variation of that. I can see the truth in that. I know I’m only 22, but it seems like just yesterday my sister and I were building houses for our Barbies with all the VHS tapes we could find throughout our house.

In addition to the fact that time whizzes by us all, I’ve learned something else in my life that is holding more and more truth the older I get: I’ve learned that the small things in life can mean a lot more than the big.

My birthday weekend really solidified that for me.

I already knew that my boyfriend, Kyle, was going to treat me to a hotel room at one of our favorite spots. We discussed that I would leave my house in St. Paul around 3:30 and he would leave his base in Hayward, Wisconsin, around that time, too. I was under the impression that I knew all the details.

I was about 20 minutes away, according to my GPS, when he called me to tell me the room number. I don’t know if it was my high level of excitement, but that last 20 minutes of the drive felt more like five hours.

When I pulled up to the hotel, I parked my car and giddily walked in. The excitement that I felt was strictly influenced

by the fact that I was excited to just see him. He had been away at drill for most of the weekend. Due to our conflicting schedules, him being in the military and working a full time job and me working long hours and going to school, we don’t get to spend that much time together.

Before I knew it, the elevator doors were opening and the red second floor symbol was illuminated at the top. I stepped off and made the long trek down the hallway, all the way to the end. He had propped the door open, so all I had to do was push it open. My heart immediately soared.

He was standing before me in a gigantic room, wearing his ACU uniform and the biggest smile ever. He told me that neither one of us had ever stayed in a suite before, so he wanted me to stay in one for my birthday.

Our night consisted of a lot of laughs, Kevin Hart’s “Laugh at My Pain” on Netflix and pizza. It was nothing crazy. There were no fireworks or large groups of people; it was just the two of us. Out of the 22 birthdays I’ve had, this one definitely takes the cake...or the pizza.

I think it’s really easy to feel obligated to have the “go big or go home” mentality when it comes to celebrations or events in general. As I previously mentioned, I’ve learned and am continuing to learn that it’s not about the amount of people that you have around; it’s about who you have around. It’s not about extravagant experiences; it’s about making memories. It’s not all about the big moments in life; it’s also about the small ones, too.

*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.*

# Reading for pleasure somewhat old-fashioned these days among students

Sophia Koch

Columnist

For students especially, reading is less of a thing to be done for fun and more of a requirement.

After plowing through a dense, assigned textbook reading, the last thing a tired student wants to do for fun is pick up another intimidating block of text. Instead, we tend to log onto Netflix, Youtube or Facebook, where we can rest our brains and vegetate for a bit before returning to the stress of school.

We miss out when we do this, however.

Reading serves many purposes. It can inform, for starters. Newspapers and magazines bring us news of things happening in the world. They bring news from far-off places right to our doorsteps, and illuminate little-known stories going on right under our noses. They allow us to make informed decisions, and sometimes prompt us to take action where we might not have otherwise.

That might still be regarded as work, however, so why not pick up a nonfiction book instead? This seems work-intensive as well, but an interesting topic or a good author can turn nonfiction writing a pleasure to read.

Mary Roach’s “Stiff” delves into the subject of human cadavers, hilariously describing the odd things that happen to our bodies after the funeral is over. Tim Cahill’s “Road Fever” recounts the author’s adventures on the Pan-American

Highway as he makes a 15,000 mile drive from Tierra del Fuego, Argentina to Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.

A well-written nonfiction book is never a chore to read, as they can take us all over the world and expose us to odd little facts that we might never have considered otherwise.

For those aiming to well and truly escape this reality for a bit, there’s always fiction, science fiction and fantasy. Through these books, a person can leave this universe altogether, riding into battle with the Rohirrim horse lords of Tolkien’s “Lord of the Rings,” or plunging into the dark, twisted universe of demons and gods created by H.P. Lovecraft.

Through fiction, we can pretend for a bit that we are someone else, and in doing so “try on” different personalities. We expose ourselves to new ideas and ways of thinking and occasionally are challenged to look at the world differently.

Overall, reading is not as easy as watching a movie, television show or Vine. That is, after all, why we often decide not to.

By taking the easy route, however, we miss out on a lot. We miss a chance to learn, to explore and to experience things beyond ourselves in a way that Netflix, Youtube and Facebook can’t quite capture.

*Sophia Koch is a journalism and biology minor. She writes a blog and investigates issues pertaining to science and the environment. Her hobbies include camping in the rain and dropping her phone in the river.*



# Recognition for one’s work brings about sense of pride

Natalie Howell

Columnist

This year at the Wisconsin Newspaper Association annual convention, the Student Voice received four awards in the 2016 Better Newspaper Contest, which honors collegiate and professional newspapers from around Wisconsin.

In the category of editorial writing, the Student Voice editorial staff took home second place for “New gun law proposal heads in the wrong direction” and third place for “No confidence vote for Faculty Senate highlights unease at UWRF.” Each week, the editorial staff sits down to talk about what is on our minds, whether it is a social or campus issue or simply something we would like to highlight.

With each person bringing an idea to the table, the editorial meetings sometimes exceed an hour. This can be seen as good or bad, because although we usually get caught up in great debates, it also means that some of us have to stay in the newsroom late into the night to get our work done. Although our opinions on certain issues may not always be popular, we always try our best to reflect what is on the minds of our peers and give our take on the issue. This is why it means so much to be recognized for our editorial writing.

Two members of the Student Voice staff were also recognized for their outstanding work in journalism. Zach Dwyer, sports page editor for the Student Voice, got third place in the sports reporting category for his article, “UWRF alumnus Ryan Stridde visits campus.” Tori Schneider, former chief photographer who is now doing a photojournalism internship at the Bay City Times in

Michigan, received honorable mention in the category of general reporting for her article, “UW-River Falls begins to address issue of gender neutral bathrooms.”

Although I attended the awards ceremony with two of my colleagues from the newspaper, I had the pleasure of walking up to the stage to accept the awards every time the newspaper was called in place of the recipients who could not attend. I can’t describe how honored I felt to not only represent the Student Voice, but to be able to come back to UW-River Falls with our awards in hand to tell everyone the good news and display the awards in the Student Voice newsroom.

I have been involved with the Student Voice for three years now, first as a page editor, then as assistant editor and now as the editor-in-chief, and every year I become more and more proud of the quality of the newspaper and the team behind it. A lot of time and effort goes into producing the paper

every week, and sometimes it can feel like a thankless job. But all the work is worth it to not only be recognized by the Wisconsin Newspaper Association, but to simply see people on campus reading the paper.

So while I’d like to thank the Student Voice staff for their hard work and commitment, I would also like to thank our readers for their support in picking up the newspaper every week and staying informed about what is going on at UWRF. I will always be proud of the newspaper and the staff who work on it, and I am excited to see what the rest of 2017 has in store for us.

*Natalie Howell is a senior journalism major minoring in political science. She is the editor-in-chief for the Student Voice and hopes to work for a newspaper after graduation.*

## STUDENT voices

Compiled by Samantha Decker



Kaija Newman  
Freshman

“Going to Osceola, my hometown.”

What are you doing over spring break?



Miranda Vosburgh  
Freshman

“Going home and my grandparents are coming out to visit!”



Mackenzie Rondeau  
Freshman

“Working a lot and I am going home.”



Paige Wimmer  
Freshman

“Working on the dairy farm at home!”



Sam Traxler  
Freshman

“Hanging out with my family.”

The Student Voice is looking for a circulation manager, reporters, columnists and a chief photographer!

Do you have something to say?  
Write a letter to the editor.  
Email your thoughts to [editor@uwrfvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com)



# Women’s hockey wins fourth consecutive WIAC postseason title

Zach Dwyer  
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The Falcons fought back to take their fourth consecutive O’Brien Cup on Saturday, knocking off UW-Eau Claire 3-2 in overtime to collect another WIAC postseason title.

This win solidified a place for UW-River Falls in the NCAA tournament, but by no means did it come easy. The 26-2 Falcons had already fallen to the Blugolds twice this season, and trailed in all three meetings.

The same story seemed bound to play out on Saturday, with UW-Eau Claire scoring the only goal of the first two periods on the power play. The Blugolds took advantage of a slashing penalty on Julia Stelljes to get a goal with three minutes remaining in the first period and go up 1-0.

“Eau Claire is a team that never gives up and works really hard as a team. Every one of their players is always giving it their all and if we make one mental lapse they capitalize,” senior defenseman Paige Johnson said.

It took until the third period for the Falcons to even up the game on the scoreboard. Carly Moran added her 21st goal of the season only three minutes into the period to bring some life back into Hunt Arena. The lead wouldn’t last long, with the Blugolds taking advantage on another power play goal midway through the third period.

The 2-1 Eau Claire lead looked like it might be the final result, but the Falcons weren’t going to go away without a fight. Carina Randazzo buried a shot with only three minutes remaining, forcing the first overtime in a game this season for UWRF.

“I was 100 percent confident we could [win the game] once we scored that tying goal,” goalie Angie Hall said. “We were outplaying them and in control for most of the game. We knew it was going to happen, and I was confident we would be able to score.”

It came down to the wire, but the Falcons managed to come out on top. Dani Sibley sent a pass to Moran that she put in the back of the net to take the win 3-2 and clinch another title.

“We didn’t get frustrated, because we’ve played from behind every time against them. We had the confidence and we kept working hard. We got a few bounces at the end of the game to get the W,” Head Coach Joe Cranston said.

Another big aspect of the game was the play of the goaltenders. All-WIAC goalie Hall had another strong performance in the net, but was almost evenly matched by the play of Blugolds goalie Erin Conolly.

“[Eau Claire] has a really good freshman goalie. On break-aways and power plays, she comes up with amazing saves to

stop them. The team will have to figure out how to get some pucks past her in the future,” Johnson said.

Hall described it as being difficult to play in the net during these types of games. When she’s not seeing consistent shots from the other team, she must be ready for any defensive breakdown or penalty to stay sharp and focused. This was especially true on Saturday, when UWRF outshot Eau Claire 40-21.

UWRF has now won the title in all four years of existence for WIAC hockey. Adding four regular season titles and four postseason titles means the seniors on this team have had a clean sweep of the WIAC in their respective careers.

The scoring of Sibley and Moran has also been incredible this year, with each eclipsing the previous school record of 50 points in a season. But players and coaches say that’s not what really makes the biggest difference.

“It’s never even been close to having two players who have had the scoring record. A big part of that is Hailey Herdine, who has the highest hockey IQ on our team. When you put her between those two players, they all complement each other very well,” Cranston said.

“I think we’re really close as a team, and we’re all in it together. We’ve done a good job this year of making the freshmen feel comfortable and feel like they’re just as important as the seniors, juniors and sophomores. Now that everyone has had numerous games under their belt, we are just a team and we all have the same responsibilities,” Hall said.

This team atmosphere has pushed the Falcons into their ninth consecutive NCAA tournament, where they will face Gustavus. UWRF beat the Gusties 3-0 and 4-1 earlier in the year, but that doesn’t mean they’re to be taken lightly during the postseason.

“They’re really a fast team and one of the only teams that can outskate us. They’ve been to a lot of NCAA games in their program history, so it should be a good game,” Cranston said.

From 2010-2013, UWRF lost to the Gusties in four consecutive NCAA first round matchups. While none of the current players were involved in those games, the history of a rivalry still runs deep.

“Gustavus is always a good team, and they always come at us hard,” Johnson said. “We’ve been matched up in this position before and been knocked out by one goal, so there’s kind of a feud between us. Beating them twice early [in the season] will make them hungry to beat us now, but the game is at home so the advantage is hopefully in our favor.”

The Falcons host Gustavus at Hunt Arena on Friday, March 10. Puck drop is set for 7 p.m.

# Falcon Athlete of the Week: Carly Moran



Tori Lynn Schneider/Media Intern

Zach Dwyer  
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Carly Moran, a junior from Winona, Minnesota, had two goals in the Falcons’ nail-biting win over UW-Eau Claire on Saturday. Moran’s goal in overtime helped lift the Falcons to a fourth consecutive O’Brien cup. It was also her seventh game-winning goal of the year, which leads the team.

Moran made her second consecutive all-WIAC team by putting up 51 points this year, which breaks Chloe Kinsel’s previous scoring record. She currently only trails her teammate Dani Sibley in the record books for points in a season.

The Student Voice sat down with Moran to discuss another fantastic season of WIAC play and to look ahead to the NCAA tournament.

**Q: What does it mean for this program to continue its dominance over the WIAC?**

A: It’s huge. We have a very in-depth team this year and have a lot of young girls with a lot of talent. There’s something special about this year with that depth that we have, so hopefully we can keep things rolling and see where it takes us.

**Q: How much of a test was UW-Eau Claire for you this season?**

A: They were definitely the hardest team we faced this season. We couldn’t take them lightly, and they’ve improved a lot. It was super exciting to end on a good note and beat them 3-2 in overtime. That was huge for us, and hopefully we can keep that momentum going into the tournament on Friday.

**Q: How consistent has the team had to be to win 26 games already this season?**

A: Consistency is always something we’ve kind of struggled with. We tend to come out slow in the first periods of games. But once we get going, consistency is huge for us, and that’s something that will be really important in play-offs. We need bring it every period and every shift for us to win the tournament.

**Q: What aspect of your game has increased this season to allow you to score more?**

A: Much of the success this season is because of my line mates. It’s really the whole team dynamic that has really helped us seek success.

**Q: How close has the team gotten in order to find success this year?**

A: It’s really important to realize every person has a super important role. It’s not all about who’s scoring the goals and who’s coming through in the big moments. It’s the little things that make a difference, like winning the battles and getting it deep and blocking shots. It’s things that go more unnoticed that really contribute to this team and the unity.

**Q: What has this team improved upon the most over the course of the regular season and WIAC play?**

A: It’s just been finding roles and fulfilling them. Players and freshman have really developed in speed over the season. They know to do the simple things and play smart hockey and that it’s not always about just getting the goals.

**Q: Is there anything you would like to see be executed more consistently in the NCAA tournament?**

A: How our team is playing right now is what I’m most confident in. I think, if we play how we’re playing right now, we’re going to see a lot of success. If we play our best hockey, we can leave and be confident that we know that we gave it our all. The results will just fall into place.

**Q: How well does the team match up against your first opponent Gustavus?**

A: They’re definitely a team that we can’t overlook. It’s playoff hockey and everyone brings their A game, and especially against us because we have a target on our back. Despite our wins against Gustavus earlier in the year, we have to forget about those. We can’t take anyone lightly at this point in the season. We have to just focus on the first period and come out flying.

**Q: Does this team have the potential to compete for a national championship?**

A: Yes. We all have a lot of passion and heart for the game, and we proved that in our win against Eau Claire. We never gave up, and we worked super hard. I think if everyone can give it their all and work hard, [a national championship] could be in the cards for us.



Kathy M. Helgeson/University Communications  
UWRF women’s hockey beat UW-Eau Claire 3-2 to take home its fourth consecutive WIAC postseason title.

## Sports Recap

### Men’s Basketball

The UWRF men’s basketball team hosted the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament this past Friday and Saturday night. The Falcons won their first round game in dramatic fashion, defeating Bethel 94-92 in double overtime. Garret Pearson hit five three pointers in the first half to help give UWRF a 39-30 lead at the break. Pearson would finish the night with 29 points and make some big shots down the stretch. But none were bigger than Alex Herink’s two free throws with no time remaining that sent the game to overtime. Herink grabbed a rebound down two points with a second left and was fouled shooting as the time expired. Bethel fans thought they had already won the game, but Herink had a chance to send the game into an extra period. He calmly knocked down both, which sent Karges into a frenzy over the clutch free throws.

The game remained tied after overtime, with the score still being knotted up at 80-80. The Falcons escaped from the brink of loss in overtime as well, where they were down four points with Bethel at the line shooting two free throws and only a little over a minute remaining in the game. Both were missed, and the Falcons turned two steals into layups to send the game to a second overtime. UW-

River Falls stretched its lead to five points with only seconds remaining in double overtime and held on to win the emotional game by two points. Herink was the star of the game, finishing with 32 points and making big plays when called upon.

However, the Falcons couldn’t continue this effort on Saturday night when Wartburg matched up against UWRF. The Knights jumped out to 29-4 lead when the Falcons couldn’t get anything to fall. Wartburg led 44-17 at the break, with River Falls shooting 17 percent from the field and only 7 percent from the three point line. The Falcons went on a quick run after halftime, but ultimately fell 76-43.

No players were in double figures for UWRF, who couldn’t replicate its Friday night performance. With the win, Wartburg advances to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament and the Falcons end their season at 25-4 overall. UWRF ended its historic season by winning both conference titles before bowing out in the second round of the NCAA tournament. The Falcons will now go down as one of the most successful Falcon basketball teams of all time.



# Alumni Spotlight: Admissions Counselor Pedro Renta

Christopher Jurewitsch  
christopher.jurewitsch@my.uwrf.edu

The admissions staff at UW-River Falls helps introduce prospective students to the possibilities offered on campus, which makes the office a fitting place for one alumnus.

Pedro Renta is an admissions counselor who also takes on the role of the multicultural outreach coordinator. In addition to helping students learn about the opportunities on campus, he goes out to schools within the cities to help students who are less familiar with the college experience and gives tours on campus to schools visiting from the cities.

As a first-generation college student, Renta was born to immigrants from Puerto Rico and Guatemala. Originally from Milwaukee, he was recruited to play football at UWRF by Coach Mike Farley. Wanting to go far from home, he took the 7-hour drive across the state to be dropped off on campus. Despite never visiting campus before, he said came to enjoy River Falls from the first day he arrived.

“[I] drove through town that first time,” Renta recalled, “and [I was] thinking, ‘Wow, I can picture horse and buggies down here a while ago,’ and that was my first time getting the feel for this.”

As a student, Renta played on the football team for the first two years. He initially wanted to major in business, but he later leaned toward elementary education. With only a few credits left to complete, he worked as a summer intern for a subsidiary of 3M.

During his internship, Renta used his Spanish language skills to help him on the job. Toward the end of what was supposed to be a summer position, he was offered a full-time job and took a break from finishing school to accept the offer.

Working in the business world for the next eight years, he was in charge of managing accounts and working with the Spanish speaking population. But after eight years of working, he decided that he needed to go back to school.

“Something told me that I wasn’t liking this, and I wanted to go back and finish my degree,” Renta said, “and I did that.”

He went back to UWRF in 2000 to finish his degree in education and graduated in 2001. In a sense, he said he feels that he represents both a traditional and nontraditional college experience, having come to UWRF as a freshman and graduating as an older adult. To this day, he said he has enjoyed his time living in River Falls, and has stayed ever since.

While Renta was finishing his degree at UWRF, he decided to volunteer as an assistant basketball coach. After graduation, he worked as a head coach for a high school before he was offered a position as assistant to Head Coach Jeff Berkhof. It was there that he found his passion for sharing his experiences at UWRF with others, which eventually led him to becoming an admissions counselor.

Having talked to parents and students about the school during his time as a coach, Renta said he felt that he could transition well into being an admissions counselor. He said that having prospective students visit campus can help shape their view of the school, showing how the campus is right for them.

“Is it the right place for them? That’s their decision,” he said. “I think it’s my job to show them that and maybe put them in the perspective of a student.”

Aspects like agriculture attract many students to UWRF. Its close proximity to Minnesota attracts student from there and other states, as well, but one thing that Renta said surprises students is what they don’t expect to see.

“I don’t think students know what to really think about when they arrive here,” Renta said, “but I do know that they’re all pleasantly surprised, and I think that’s a great aspect here.”

Despite the school being relatively small and affordable, he said students are surprised to find that UWRF doesn’t lack any of the things that any other college would offer, such as sports, clubs and events. He also said that many students are surprised about the “how y’all doing?” atmosphere on campus, seeing students help others without even knowing them.

“When people are walking on campus as visitors, they not only see that, but they feel it,” Renta said, “and they start thinking, ‘This is where I see myself for the next four years.’”

Renta said that students should make sure to get out and do something on campus so that they can take advantage of the opportunities they have. Having seen many of the students he has recruited graduate over the years, his position allows him to see students grow during their time at UWRF.

“I think they will appreciate that and look back at their education at UW-River Falls as phenomenal,” Renta said.



*Samantha Decker/Student Voice*  
**Pedro Renta is an admissions counselor who also takes on the role of the multicultural outreach coordinator. This involves giving campus tours to students visiting from the cities.**

# Wisconsin’s agriculture, education leaders worry about possible economic effects of Trump’s Mexican trade war

Lisa Erickson  
Falcon News Service

Wisconsin businesses involved in agriculture agree that a trade war with neighboring countries would hurt the state’s economy.

President Donald Trump recently commented on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), “I think NAFTA has been a terrible disaster.” As a result, public officials in Mexico have made statements about finding different countries to trade with.

Businesses and farmers in Wisconsin agree there may need to be some reforms, but a trade war would not help.

“Between Mexico and Canada, those two countries account for just shy of 47 percent of Wisconsin’s total exports,” said Kurt Bauer, CEO of Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC), the state’s chamber of commerce. “Any talk about renegotiating NAFTA and there is going to be some cause for concern. Whether you are in agriculture or manufacturing, Wisconsin is a state that makes things, grows things and processes things. We need to sell those things overseas, because, frankly, 95 percent of the world’s consumers live outside of the United States.”

Wisconsin’s largest export partners are Mexico and Canada. Mexico accounts for \$2.97 billion and Canada is an even stronger partner, accounting for \$7.31 billion. However, there are restrictions on dairy trade with Canada. Other countries that have strong export trade markets with Wisconsin are China, Japan and the United Kingdom.

Trade is vitally important to Wisconsin’s economy, agreed Dean Van Galen, chancellor of UW-River Falls.

“I am concerned on two levels. One is in terms that Mexico is a very important trade partner... especially agricultural-related industries,” Van Galen said. “The other concern is regarding the exchange of students.”

Last spring, a delegation from Wisconsin interested in trade

went to Mexico. The group was led by Ben Brancel, the state’s secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and included Van Galen and Gov. Scott Walker.

Van Galen, Brancel and Walker attended the International Conference on Dairy Cattle in Jalisco, Mexico. The conference gave Wisconsin businesses opportunities to learn about potential markets in Mexico and to speak directly with producers and exporters, with hopes of building agricultural business partnerships.

“UW-River Falls has the second-largest dairy program in the United States. Mexico is a very important trade partner,” said Van Galen.

Ties with Mexico already run deep, and many Wisconsin farmers are concerned about what might happen with the relationship, especially in matters of trade and undocumented workers.

“When we are talking trade agreements, Mexico is the No. 1 export destination as far as dairy is concerned,” said Joe Bragger, a dairy farmer in Buffalo County.

Dale Beaty, the chief administrative officer of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau, noted that “25 to 30 percent of all of farm revenue in Wisconsin comes through trade — that’s a big portion of our revenue.”

He added, “We are just waiting to hear what President Trump is going to do. Trump has talked about bilateral agreements. We are in a wait-and-see position. The last thing we want to see is a trade war kind of thing.”

Many of Wisconsin’s farmers rely on exports to some extent.

“We are very diverse in almost every area, and that is a blessing. Corn, wheat, dairy, potatoes and beans, and even bull semen — we export a lot across the board,” said Beaty.

Wisconsin farmers also rely on undocumented workers.

“Another issue that is very closely tied to this is immigration, and we have people who are undocumented workers from Mexico milking our dairy heard and we have seasonal

harvesters,” said Kurt Bauer of Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce.

“I have workers who are from Mexico and they are outstanding! Agricultural will be in a real crimp if we don’t recognize the value of those workers,” said Bragger.

“While we don’t trade directly with Mexico, that doesn’t mean we won’t be affected,” said Paul Bauer, CEO of the Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery. He added that even dairy businesses that don’t trade directly with Mexico could feel the effects of changes in policy.

No one understands what Trump’s goals are, but experts think he may be trying to reach bilateral agreements with individual countries, said Kurt Bauer.

Those involved in trade feel confident that the state’s representatives in Congress understand what is at stake.

“Paul Ryan clearly knows and understands what is best for Wisconsin,” Kurt Bauer said, referring to the Republican Congressman and speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives from Janesville.

“The most lucrative markets are in Asia. Not only are we concerned what is happening in North America but what is happening over there, as well,” Kurt Bauer said. The president has not had a specific proposal for renegotiating NAFTA but has said the trade agreements are not fair. Kurt Bauer said he would like to see Trump follow through on those promises.

In addition to agriculture trade, exchanging students is important, too, Van Galen of UWRF added.

Late last June, UWRF finalized details of a new exchange program in Puebla, Mexico, that fits with UWRF’s strategic goal to promote global education and engagement.

Van Galen said it is really important for students to have an international experience whether they are from Mexico or River Falls.

“For us as a university, global engagement and awareness is one of our three goals,” said Van Galen. “Programs like this provide a wonderful experience for our students.”

Check out the Student Voice online at  
uwrfvoice.com.



# 'Logan' goes beyond superhero movie as fantastic drama

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

In the near future, an old, beaten down, weary Logan cares for an ailing Professor X. Logan’s attempts to hide from the world and his past are derailed when a young mutant arrives in desperate need of help.

I have been looking forward to this movie for so long. Hugh Jackman has been Wolverine for 17 years now; every film has brought him closer and closer to this moment. Each movie, you can see Hugh Jackman age and his character age both mentally and physically. This is the grand finale of Jackman’s portrayal as Wolverine, and I couldn’t think of a better ending. “Logan” is truly phenomenal.

Logan is old now. He is beaten down, sick, isn’t healing as quickly and is really just waiting for his clock to run out. It’s the same thing with Professor X; the world’s most powerful mind is slowly losing his. It is so different and new to see our beloved characters vulnerable and on the brink of death. Now to throw adversity at them, it only makes everything better and more serious.

People have been saying that this is one of the best superhero movies ever made. I must say that I might have to agree. It for sure is in the top five for me. There are so many special qualities about “Logan,” starting with the idea that being a superhero might not be a good thing.

There are side effects. The metal in Logan’s body is quite possibly what is making him sick, and the powerful mind of Professor X is a weapon when it isn’t kept in check. Being older and vulnerable gives these characters a whole new depth and perception. Logan has a true emotion to his rage and Professor X has a deeply moving presence about him. This really is the first superhero film to discuss this deeper topic. Some blessings



might be curses in disguise.

On top of that, we have a movie that has fantastic action involving our heroes, but “Logan” is much more than that. Thinking about it, it is hard to classify this as a superhero movie. Yes, Wolverine and X are “superheroes,” but this is a moving drama. The theme of holding onto hope and not giving up even when you have every reason to is so realistic and somber.

With this theme and the way that it is filmed, even the setting, it feels like a western. I felt like I was watching an old John Wayne or Clint Eastwood flick, and I love the fresh adaptation that director James Mangold gives these superheroes in their final portrayal. Hugh Jackman gives his best Wolverine performance for sure and the little girl (the young mutant) is amazing as well.

As mentioned before, the action is not constant. With the film being nearly two and a half hours long, I am happy the action isn’t constant, because it gives you some time to breathe and build the characters. The slower moments are actually some of my favorites, because the dialogue and plot are so well done.

Wolverine really goes through an emotional and mental struggle throughout this film as he discovers some things about himself that he never really wanted to know. It gives him a choice to either go down one road and wait for death or take the other path and find the humanity within his inner beast.

“Logan” is rated R, and thank God for that because, oh man, does it make the movie so much better! The violence isn’t constant, but when it happens, the action sequences

are phenomenal and brutal. I loved it! This is what Wolverine should be! Thank you “Deadpool” for paving the way for R rated superhero films. (Also nothing in the credits, but there is a “Deadpool 2” teaser before the movie starts).

I love this movie so much. It is gritty and brutal yet heartbreaking and warming all at the same time. “Logan” is such a complex and deep film that goes way beyond the superhero genre. This is an absolute must-see!

*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.*

## Last Week’s Answers

### 'Harry Potter' Trivia

