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UWRF jazz-rock band readies for end-of-semester concert

Rebecca Meidl
Falcon News Service

Among the various choral and instrumental ensembles housed in the Department of Music at UW-River Falls is the Falcon Band, a small but versatile group that plays jazz-rock. The Falcon Band consists of nine members: Mitch Rand, Jordan Tucker and Amanda Weber on saxophone, Taylor Graham and Julian Manley on trumpet, Ben Coleman on trombone, Zach Tate on guitar, Tessa Bloch on bass and Evan McLean on drums. The band, although small, can play a range of music. With only six different instruments, this band can do more than most.

“Everyone in there is super flexible in being able to hop over and play other instruments,” Evan McLean, who plays drums, said. “Last semester, we played a song that required bass clarinet and either flute or clarinet, and our two saxophone players played those.”

Falcon Band members have one primary instrument, but that does not mean it's their only instrument. With only six different instruments, it may seem that the band has a limit to what they can play. However, members of the band can if need be play other instruments to help widen the music selection. McLean said there is no limit to what the band can play. “Everyone in there is super flexible in being able to hop over and play other instruments,” he said. “Last semester, we played a song that required bass clarinet and either flute or clarinet, and our two saxophone players played those.” To help learn new instruments, the band has a director who is able to help with any instrument students decide to pick up. Craig Hara, director of the Falcon Band, has an extensive background in music. He has performed in Europe, North America and Japan. His primary instrument is trumpet, but he also knows how to play many other instruments. He is part of the River Falls Brass at UWRF and a conductor for the UWRF Symphonic Wind Band and St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra. The way that Hara interacts with the band is very involved. Because he knows how to play many different instruments, if students are having trouble learning a new piece, he says he likes to show instead of tell. “Sometimes it's just faster for me to say, ‘Let me show you this.’” Hara said. Members of the band also get to choose



Samantha Decker/Student Voice
The Falcon Band prepares for its end-of-semester concert in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

what they want to play and don't always play what is found in sheet music. Hara said that he gives students just a rough chart of what the music looks like and then they make it their own. “A fair component in our book is also a bunch of stuff that is bare skeleton guides to tunes and then it's up to the band to figure out how to make it work, which is what most of us do in real life,” he said. He said he doesn't want students to come into his class to learn how to be “monkeys” and then go look for a job, because that is not real life. He wants students to be able to

improvise their music and, when things go wrong, they are able to fix it because that is what they learned in Falcon Band. “One of the main goals of the band is to give students the opportunity to work on their stuff,” Hara said. “I mean, I encourage everybody in that band to make their mistakes in Falcon Band. Try your stuff and fail at it because that is the only way we figure out what to do.” Bloch said that is the reason she joined Falcon Band in the first place. “I wanted some experience with reading, like, lead sheets and improvising and stuff

like that, and also it's a good way to introduce yourself with jazz if you're not super familiar with it,” she said. “It's a really supportive environment.” Any student from any major can join the Falcon Band, but students must try out. They must be able to read music, understand theory, understand harmony and know how to use the instrument in a way that is up to the level of the band. The Falcon Band's end-of-semester concert is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building. The concert is free and open to the public.

Study abroad trip explores sustainability of Irish farming

Sophia Koch
Falcon News Service

A new study abroad option being offered at UW-River Falls gives students an opportunity to explore sustainable animal production in other countries while traveling around Ireland. “Ireland: Sustainable Animal Production” was offered for the first time over J-term this year, lasting two weeks between Jan. 2 and Jan. 16. The trip began and ended in Dublin, and took students on a circular voyage around both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland while visiting various farms and cultural sites along the way. Evan Henthorne is a fifth-year agricultural studies major at UWRF, and is one of the 26 people who went along on the trip. “We would just go and talk to farmers,” Henthorne said, “see how they would run it. Then, later, we would come back and have a group discussion, and then determine if they were sustainable or not.” The trip cost around \$4,500, which included airfare, hotels and the majority of meals. The group spent the entire two weeks moving from place to place, never staying in one location more than a couple of days. UWRF Assistant Professors Danielle Smarsh and Amy Radunz led the trip, and the idea, Smarsh said,

was to expose the students to a wider perspective on how agriculture is done across the world. A lot of emphasis was put on sustainability, and how the U.S. and Ireland compare to one another in that respect. **“We would just go and talk to farmers,” said Evan Henthorne, a fifth-year agricultural major, “see how they would run it. Then, later, we would come back and have a group discussion, and then determine if they were sustainable or not.”** “Most of the farms are much smaller than our students are used to here in the U.S.,” Smarsh said. “I think because of their small acreage, they're forced to be sustainable because they just don't have a lot of land to work with.” For comparison, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland combined have a surface area of a little over 40,000 square miles, according to data from the World Bank. The Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey lists the surface area of the state of

Wisconsin at a little under 60,000 square miles. According to the Irish Food Board, around 140,000 family farms are crowded onto that little chunk of land (which is almost twice the total number of farms in Wisconsin), and a lot of them, Smarsh said, tend to be small and pasture graze their livestock. This means that a lot of effort is put toward ensuring that topsoil and grass are not depleted, as well as toward making full use of the available resources. “They're just really tied to the land in Ireland, and there is a very strong sense of... being connected to the land,” Smarsh said. Over the course of the two-week trip, the group visited 15 different farms of varying sizes and with various types of livestock. They also met with researchers from Teagasc (pronounced “chah-gus”), which is the Irish equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to talk about research goals and initiatives. By talking with locals in this way, Henthorne said, they learned about odd little differences between the U.S. and Ireland, such as the tendency of Irish farmers to use grass rather than corn as feed (due to wetter conditions), and calving periods that are concentrated into a fall and spring season (rather than year-round, like in the U.S.).

“Small things like that,” Henthorne said. “You just kinda, like, get your eyes opened to new things.” **Over the course of the two-week trip, the group visited 15 different farms of varying sizes and with various types of livestock.** The group also went to see various famous cultural sites, such as the Cliffs of Moher and Blarney Castle, but being able to talk with local farmers and learn how they operate was the real highlight of the trip, Henthorne said. “Students were making connections with these farmers. They were being offered to come back and have jobs with them,” Smarsh said. “I really think it made them feel a lot closer to Ireland, and actually know the people there.” The trip will be offered again in the future. The application, Smarsh said, will be up on the Office of International Education website soon, and will be due on April 15 of this year. The trip will take place during J-term of 2018 and will run about the same period of time, with only a few changes to which locations the group will visit.

News Briefs: Bowls for Hope raises \$6,000 for Moola for Milk

The eighth annual Bowls for Hope event held March 7 at UW-River Falls raised \$6,000 for the Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County’s Moola for Milk program. Each year, UWRF works with the community to raise funds through Bowls for Hope for a worthy organization that makes a difference in the St. Croix Valley.

“Funds raised from Bowls for Hope will be used to purchase milk for struggling families visiting community pantries in St. Croix and Pierce counties,” said Jeff Bealles, coordinator of the Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County. “Milk is high in nutrients and a necessity for many recipes. It’s at the top of the list as far as desired foods are concerned in the pantries. Bowls for Hope funds will ensure thousands of families (mostly women and children) receive milk.”

Guests voted for their favorite soup of the evening, and the People’s Choice Award went to Kinni View Deli at Riverwalk Square’s white chicken chili. The restaurant owners and chefs also voted for their favorite of the night, and the winner of the Chef’s Choice Award was Copper Kettle’s Egyptian red lentil soup.

Artists contributing bowls for the event were Marilyn Anderson, Donna Badje, Ingrid Bjerstedt-Rogers, Bob Brodersen, Cheryl Carter, Roger Evans, Cathi Herriman, Jay Jensen, Randy Johnston, Jennifer King, Michael Luethmers, Pat McCardle, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Wendy Olson, Doug Peterson, S.C. Rolf, Scott Zeinert, ceramics classes taught by Rhonda Willers at UWRF, Renaissance Academy classes taught by Kyle Stapleton, River Falls High School pottery classes taught by Gina Pedriana-Basche and Kelyn King’s class at Meyer Middle School.

Participating restaurants providing and serving soup were Belle Vinez, Bo’s ‘N Mine, Copper Kettle, Kilkarney Hills, Perkins Family Restaurant & Bakery, River Falls Area Hospital Dining Services, Kinni View Deli at Riverwalk Square, Se-lah Vie, South Fork Café, UWRF Chartwells Dining Services, West Wind Supper Club and Whole Earth Grocery.

“We had a great time, and were very honored to be the beneficiaries of this year’s event,” said Bealles. “We appreciate all and volunteers and their hard work and effort that went into executing it. The bowls and soup were outstanding, so a huge thank you to the artists and restaurants who generously donated their talent and time. Finally, thank you to the hundreds of attendees, sponsors and donors who showed up and supported Bowls for Hope and the Moola for Milk program.”

Moola for Milk is administered in Pierce County by the Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County and in St. Croix County by the United Way St. Croix Valley.

To date, Bowls for Hope has raised more than \$46,000 for local charitable organizations.

For more information, email mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu or visit www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope.

Annual Health Fair to be held at UWRF April 12

UW-River Falls Student Health and Counseling Services will host its annual Health Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m on Wednesday, April 12, in the University Center Ballroom on campus.

“Passport to Wellness!” is this year’s Health Fair theme. This is a free event for all UWRF students, staff, faculty and community members. All are welcome to attend and learn more about their health and wellbeing.

There will be presentations from a number of businesses and organizations from River Falls and the surrounding areas. These presentations will include a variety of topics, ranging from fitness to safety procedures and other health-related topics. Food, door prizes and massages will also be part of this “Passport to Wellness!” event.

The First-Class sponsor of the event is the Hudson YMCA. For more information, contact Courtney Kanipes at courtney.kanipes@my.uwrf.edu or at 715-425-3293.

Juried Student Exhibition to be held at UWRF

The UW-River Falls Art Department is hosting its annual Juried Student Exhibition from April 14-May 3 in Gallery 101 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building on campus.

Included in the exhibition is student artwork representing media including painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, glass, ceramics, sculpture, mixed media and design.

This year’s juror, Eileen Cohen, received her Master of Fine Arts in ceramics from Indiana University (Bloomington, Indiana) and her bachelor’s in ceramics from the University of Delaware (Newark, Delaware). Following a residency at Mendocino Art Center in California, she moved to Minnesota where she was a 2005 McKnight Resident Artist at the North-

ern Clay Center.

She maintains a studio in northeast Minneapolis and works as an arts educator and exhibitions coordinator at Silverwood Park, part of the Three Rivers Park District, in St. Anthony, Minnesota. She is also a teaching artist at the Northern Clay Center.

Cohen will be on campus Friday, April 14, to jury the exhibition, and will give a brief presentation about her choices during a reception at 3:30 p.m.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are Monday-Friday from noon-8 p.m. and Sunday from 2-4 p.m.

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

Campus impact drives global work for UW-River Falls professor

Working amongst legume farmers in Africa, Paige Miller is half a world away from Wisconsin. Despite the distance, Miller’s work on another continent is providing her with a wealth of experience that will influence her teaching at UW-River Falls.

Miller, an associate professor of sociology at UWRF, is in the middle of a six-month long stint as a gender consultant assisting the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in Kenya. She is working to integrate gender into a project called Tropical Legumes III (TL III).

A cooperative effort by the International Center for Tropical Agriculture, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture and National Agricultural Research Systems partners from sub-Saharan Africa and India, TL III is an international initiative funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

According to the project’s description, “TL III aims to develop improved cultivars of common bean, cowpea, chickpea and groundnut and deliver their seed at scale to small-holders in Gates Foundation focus geographies.”

TL III is building upon the work of Tropical Legumes I and II, both of which were previously funded by the Gates Foundation. TL III is a four-year project focusing on six specific tropical legumes, legumes that small-holder farmers in seven African and two Asian countries tend to prefer. The project also works to strengthen breeding programs and seed platforms already in place to improve their capabilities, allowing them to deliver large, sustained output to small-holder farmers. The ultimate aim of TL III is to improve the livelihoods of small-holder farmers in selected locations.

As a gender consultant on the project, Miller’s work is related to integrating and mainstreaming gender into the project. She is tasked with providing four deliverables related to gender yield gaps in agricultural productivity.

“Women tend to produce less than men largely because of the quantity and quality of agricultural inputs used by female farmers,” explained Miller. “Two of the deliverables are reports assessing the empirical evidence about the extent and causes of the gender yield gap, and the second report is a review of policies designed to address the yield gap in agricultural production.”

Miller will collaborate with the rest of the team for the third deliverable: designing interventions that will reduce the yield gap. She will also focus on the development of a monitoring system to track the effectiveness of the intervention(s). The monitoring system serves as the fourth deliverable of Miller’s research assignment.

“The Gates Foundation is funding the TL III project and also my position as a gender consultant. The Gates Foundation is very interested in funding these kinds of projects. Development aid is a big part of what the Foundation supports and incorporating a focus on alleviating global gender inequalities, particularly as it relates to social and economic development, is a big part of the kinds of work they are interested in funding,” Miller explained.

The aim of much of the foundation’s work, and specifically TL III, parallels much of Miller’s focus on the UWRF campus. At UWRF, Miller has been involved with both the Women and Gender Studies Committee and the Association for International Development.

“Since I joined UW-River Falls in 2009, my research has focused on female scientists in Ghana, Kenya, and Kerala, India, so I’ve been working in the area of development and gender for some time,” she said.

Miller, former winner of UWRF’s Excellence in Advising Award and Excellence in Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities Award, said she anticipates the positive affect her international work will have on her teaching and research at UWRF.

“I think the project and living in Kenya for six months will impact my teaching in both unexpected and expected ways,” she said. “Experiences like this make us better teachers. Just like our engagement in research and conference activity keep us abreast of developments in the field, which we use to enhance our lectures and class activities, outside partnerships – particularly those that take us abroad – enhance our understanding of our own subject matter.”

This enhancement, explained Miller, is a crucial aspect of teaching and will directly impact the education she brings to students at UWRF.

“The experiences I am having as a gender consultant are varied, challenging and easily applicable to almost every

course I teach,” she said. “I will leave this position with a much more nuanced understanding of the complexities behind that awareness and international development more broadly.”

Miller also praised UWRF for continuing the push for global engagement.

“I’ve been nothing but impressed with the work our university does with global engagement, particularly in Western Europe,” she said. “For a number of very understandable reasons, there have been fewer opportunities for global engagement in places like Africa and India. While we have programs in Africa and India on our campus, this position offers an unprecedented chance for me to make new connections that might lead to any number of places, but also potential new programs and opportunities for students and faculty.”

The effects of Miller’s position with TL III is two-sided. Not only is she contributing to the strengthening of a needy population, but she is also representing UWRF and its mission on a global level.

“In the current political climate of the state and nation, we frequently hear about the lack of need for majors like sociology. Acting as a consultant for ICRISAT demonstrates – in a very real way – sociology’s potential to cultivate job skills and applicability of a degree in sociology to a broad range of careers,” said Miller. “In this way, this position demonstrates, not only to our students but also to others on and off campus, the relevance and importance of a liberal arts education.”

Overall, Miller said she knows her work with TL III is just one instance of UWRF’s commitment to being global, innovative and excellent.

“These kinds of outside partnerships, of which there are many on the UW-River Falls campus, are reflective of a university with faculty who are truly multidisciplinary and engaged,” she said.

For more information on the TL III project and Miller’s work, visit <http://tropicallegumes.icrisat.org/>.

Student Senate Update: April 4

One student organization was officially recognized and five motions were voted on at the Student Senate meeting on April 4.

One student organization was officially recognized:
• UWRF Women’s Soccer Team

Five motions were voted on:
Renovation of Biology Student Lounge: A motion to allocate \$3,000 from the Student Senate funding pool for the renovation of the biology student lounge.

• Passed: 10 in favor, 8 opposed, 1 abstained.

Student Shared Governance Modernization Act: A motion to modernize the UW-River Falls Student Government Association.

• Passed: 14 in favor, 3 opposed, 1 abstained.

Allocation for End of Year It’s On Us Campaign Week of Action: A motion to allocate \$4,200 from the Student Senate funding pool for the It’s On Us Campaign Week of Action.

• Passed: 14 in favor, 1 opposed, 4 abstained.

Resolution in Opposition to Allowing UW System Students the Option to Decline to Pay Allocable Segregated Fees: A resolution to oppose the ability for students to opt-out of paying allocable segregated fees.

• Passed: 21 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstained.

Motion to Cancel Student Senate Meeting of April 11, 2017: A motion to cancel the Student Senate meeting on April 11 for student senators to attend the International Bazaar.

• Failed: 3 in favor, 15 opposed, 1 abstained.

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

Weekly UWRF Crime Report

Monday, March 27
• Welfare checks were conducted at Crabtree Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29
• Vandalism was reported at 860 E Cascade Ave at 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 30
• A harassment complaint was filed at Grimm Hall at 5:39 p.m.

Friday, March 31
• An intoxicated person was reported at the University Center at 7:44 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4
• Property damage from a motor vehicle accident was reported in the Q Lot at 1:45 p.m.

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

Campus Events Calendar:

• **Pet Therapy**
Friday, April 7, 3-4 p.m.
211 Hagestad Hall

• **Open Mic**
Friday, April 7, 8-9 p.m.
Falcon’s Nest, University Center

• **International Bazaar**
Tuesday, April 11, 6-9 p.m.
University Center

• **Health Fair**
Wednesday, April 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
University Center Ballroom

• **Yeah Maybe No: Documentary Screening & Panel Discussion**
Wednesday, April 12, 4:30-6 p.m.
Kinni Theater, University Center

Visit uwrf.edu for a full schedule of events

Math Club sends textbooks to students in Sierra Leone

Karina Clausen

karina.clausen@my.uwrf.edu

Don Leake taught math at UW-River Falls for 30 years, but retiring has not stopped him from teaching. In the 1970s, he served in the Peace Corps as a secondary school teacher in Zaire, Africa, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Leake and his wife Ann have currently returned to the continent. Now, he’s a university instructor in Sierra Leone as part of the Peace Corps once again.

Due to a lack of academic resources in Sierra Leone, Leake reached out to Mathematics Chair Kathy Tomlinson to assist in sending unused math textbooks to the university. After agreeing to help, Tomlinson decided to recruit the help of the UWRF Math Club.

“I was hoping to raise the Math Club’s global awareness by involving them in the project,” Tomlinson said.

In order to test out possible new textbooks for courses, publishing companies will send a student and teacher copy to the department. When the books are not chosen to used, the sample books are kept. Between these sample books and course textbooks that are retired after new sets replace them, the department is left with a selection of unused resources.

“Don called it the ‘book graveyard,’” Tomlinson said.

Beginning in February, the Math Club members chose a variety of textbooks, along with some solution manuals from the “book graveyard” in North Hall.

“We had so much fun picking out the

books,” Bailey Pierskalla, the Math Club treasurer, recalled.

Leake offered to pay for \$500 worth of shipping costs, so the club members had to research shipment prices and associated package weights to see how many books they could send for that price. After multiple visits to the post office for package weighing and finding sturdy boxes to use, they decided to send the books in a few separate boxes.

Pierskalla explained that shipments to Third World areas can be tampered with by third-party shipping companies overseas, so they made sure to label the packages “school supplies” to deter meddling. According to Pierskalla, 15 textbooks in total were sent and could take as long as two months to arrive, but Tomlinson confirmed that one of the packages

with six books in it has already been received.

The Math Club at UWRF had died out a couple of years ago, but it was revived at the beginning of this year. This resurrection has already gained ground, earning the club around 15 regular members.

This month, it will gather even more traction by holding an “Integration Bee” on Thursday, April 20, where participants will race to solve calculus integrals.

“A couple of people have already signed up,” Pierskalla said, adding that the Math Club is a “really good community,” — a claim that the students in Sierra Leone may surely agree with.

For more information about Leake’s experience teaching in Sierra Leone, visit his blog at Leonkade.blogspot.com.

UW-River Falls Student Senate passes resolution opposing ‘opt-out’ option for paying allocable segregated fees

At its April 4 meeting, the UW-River Falls Student Senate passed the following resolution to officially oppose allowing students in the UW System to “opt-out” of paying allocable segregated fees.

This comes in response to Gov. Scott Walker’s proposed 2017-2019 budget, which suggested the possibility for students to “opt-out” of paying the allocable segregated fees that support student activities in the future.

At UWRF, allocable segregated fees fund student organizations, the Student Government Association, student media and campus activities through Student Involvement.

The resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, in the 2017-2019 Executive Budget, Governor Walker recommended students be given the option to decline to pay allocable segregated fees at the time the student pays tuition;

WHEREAS, allocable segregated fees are an integral funding source for a wide variety of services, programs and facilities on all 26 UW System campuses that support the mission of the UW System;

WHEREAS, without this funding source, many of these necessary student services would no longer be able to be provided, causing a decrease in enrollment, retention and graduating students on every UW campus;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Wisconsin Statute, these funds are allocated through a committee of approved students, representing the entirety of the student body, called the Student University Fee Allocations Committee (SUFAC);

WHEREAS, under current law, SUFAC and all other public institution fee allocation committees are required to maintain viewpoint neutrality, as established by US Supreme Court decision “Southworth v. The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System;”

WHEREAS, Viewpoint Neutrality requires SUFAC to allocate these fees in a neutral manner, meaning they cannot take into consideration the point of view or opinion of each organization, or discriminate against specific organizations due to their viewpoints;

WHEREAS, if the current system for segregated fees were changed to include an option for students to decline to pay allocable segregated fees, viewpoint neutrality may no longer apply to allocation of these fees;

WHEREAS, if viewpoint neutrality no longer applied to decisions made, certain opinions or viewpoints would no longer be protected and funding for services or organizations may no longer be provided;

WHEREAS, to not jeopardize viewpoint neutrality, the current system should remain in place to protect equal funding opportunity;

WHEREAS, all students should have an equal ability to access services and opportunities provided by segregated fees;

WHEREAS, if segregated fees were to become an optional cost, Federal Post 9/11 GI Bill and some Financial Aid sources could not be used by any student to pay the allocable segregated fee because these funding sources cannot be used for optional student fees;

WHEREAS, without being able to utilize these various funding sources, many students would not have the ability to pay for allocable segregated fees even if they wished to;

WHEREAS, many services provided to all students through allocable segregated fees are impractical or impossible to provide solely to those who have paid fees under a system where students have;

WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire’s Student Senate stated that the “[current] system put in place to allocate these allocable segregated fees provides students the resources and opportunities to gain valuable knowledge and experience that will better prepare them for the Wisconsin workforce” and that an opt-out would “would eliminate programs and activities essential to a UW-Eau Claire education”;

WHEREAS, the UW-La Crosse Student Association stated that the opt-out will create “major funding losses and budget uncertainties from year to year” and that this “goes against the needed steps to stay fiscally responsible” while also stating that “services and opportunities that would be negatively impacted by this proposal include student bus and safe ride services, varsity athletics, multicultural programs, music programs, theatre,

campus radio, student government and many other student organizations;”

WHEREAS, UW-Madison’s ASM has stated that “the transportation budget is one example of where problems may occur [with an opt-out]. Sixty-eight percent of students at UW-Madison picked up a bus pass last semester. Students depend on access to transportation on our 936-acre campus, and would struggle to get to classes” if the opt-out were to pass;

WHEREAS, a UW-Manitowoc student government press release stated that “our small campus would face severe restrictions on programs” such as “an athletic program which has successfully attracted students from as far as Milwaukee [and] a very successful theater that has attracted considerable community support and participation;”

WHEREAS, a UW-Marshfield/Wood County student government press release stated that “student organizations and activities that would be adversely affected by this proposal include Student Ambassadors, The Peer Tutor Club, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, the Art Gallery, Student Government, Student Activities, The Villas Council, The International Club and any future student organizations” and “departments that would be adversely affected by this proposal include Drama Production, Music Production, the Success Center Tutoring Services, Athletics and Continuing Education;”

WHEREAS, UW-Milwaukee’s Student Association stated that the allocable fees “are allocated to vital campus resources such as the Military and Veterans Resource Center and Transportation Services” and that “UWM serves more veterans than any school in the six state region. We would be unable to meet their unique needs if we did not do our best to serve them, as they did and continue to do for us” with UWM veterans writing an open letter to the legislature in conjunction with these sentiments;

WHEREAS, a UW-River Falls student government press release stated that the opt-out would “likely result in the termination of many student oriented programs and services, therefore jeopardizing the success and well-

being of the nearly 6,000 students of UWRF;”

WHEREAS, UW-Stout’s Student Senate stated that “allocable student fees provide event and activity support for the majority of UW-Stout’s 158 student organizations”, and that “the structural changes suggested in the Executive Budget would cause considerable financial uncertainty and would seriously impact [the] budget model;”

WHEREAS, UW-Washington County’s student government has stated that “allowing students to opt-out of their allocable student segregated fees will not only devastate, but potentially eliminate, [programs] that our students utilize on campus;”

WHEREAS, UW-Waukesha’s Student Association states that “we are honored to help fund different student services such as Veteran’s Organization, theatre, athletics, Diversity and Pre-College Center and over 30 clubs and organizations” and that an opt-out would create a situation where “the continuation of beneficial services would be affected and possibly be cut altogether;”

WHEREAS, UW-Whitewater’s committee responsible for allocating the fees has stated that “these fees are an absolute necessity to not only our campus, but to all other UW campuses in the state, and it would be doing a disservice to students to allow them to opt out of paying them,” as well as the fact that the fees “provide a home for veteran students on campus, allow students with disabilities to do things they love, create important leadership opportunities where students can grow as individuals” among many other opportunities;

THEREFORE, UWRF strongly opposes the recommendation to allow UW System Students to have the option to decline to pay allocable segregated fees;

THEREFORE, UWRF requests all members of the Wisconsin State Senate and Assembly to oppose any provision allowing students the option to pay allocable segregated fees and removing this section from the final budget before passage;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon approval, this resolution shall be forwarded on to Wisconsin State Senator Sheila Harsdorf and UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen.

The Student Voice is taking applications for all positions for the fall 2017 semester:

Editor
Assistant Editor
Front Page Editor
Sports Editor
News Editor
Viewpoints Editor
Etcetera Editor
Chief Photographer

Staff Photographers
Columnists
Reviewers
Freelance Reporters
Cartoonists
Business Manager
Circulation Manager

To apply, fill out the Fall 2017 Student Voice application on the Student Voice FalconSync page!

EDITORIAL

This year’s Finals Fest looks to top recent lineups

On Wednesday, UW-River Falls Student Involvement announced the performers for this year’s Finals Fest: Lizzo and Jesse McCartney. Collectively, it’s safe to say that the campus lost it.

Lizzo is an alternative hip hop artist from Minneapolis, and she’s quickly becoming well-known as a performer and activist. Jesse McCartney, as anyone who was a preteen girl in the early 2000s remembers, is an actor, singer and former boyband member.

When the performers were announced in the University Center on April 5, there was an impressive turnout. People were surrounding the platform and standing on the stairs, waiting for the big reveal.

It’s exciting to see students so genuinely pumped about something happening on campus. From the line at Einstein Bros. Bagels to the residence halls, everyone has been talking about it since the announcement. It has been quite a while since the campus was buzzing so collectively about an announcement like this.

We’ve admittedly been underwhelmed as a campus for the last few Finals Fest events. People seemed to either love or hate last year’s lineup of Autograf, J. Buzzi and GenerationNOW Entertainment. The year before that, those of us who were not country music fans were not interested in seeing Gloriana or Brothers Osborne. This year, we can look forward to a more diverse lineup that should interest lots of different people.

Props to Student Involvement for pulling this off, because the office killed it this year. It’s nice to see UWRF book a performer who has more depth to her than just her music. Lizzo speaks about body positivity and intersectional feminism, stuff that many of us can admire. It’s also exciting to see UWRF getting someone who is semi-local but has achieved national success. She was featured on “BoyTrouble,” a song by Prince, and she’s appeared on “Full Frontal with Samantha Bee.”

Additionally, nostalgia is clearly “in” right now. Between choker necklaces making a comeback and Netflix putting effort into making things like “Fuller House,” this generation is definitely feeling positive about nostalgia. While it’s true that Jesse McCartney has been releasing music since he charmed the world with “Beautiful Soul” in 2004, there’s no doubt that his appearance will be a feel-good cap on the year as we flashback to those memories.

Finals Fest will be held on May 5 at UWRF, and the Student Voice feels “Good as Hell” about it!

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

STUDENT VOICE

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Ask Colleen: The flirty male friend

Colleen Brown

Advice Columnist

Dear Colleen,

I met this guy while I was out, and right away I asked him what his intentions were. He said just friends, so I gave him my information. I have a boyfriend, so I wanted to make sure I wasn’t crossing any lines before talking to him. Lately, we have been talking on and off, and I think he may be flirting with me, but I am not sure. I don’t want to give him the wrong idea either. I also think I am feeling guilty because I am attracted to him. Should I stop talking to him? Do I need to ask what his intentions are again?

From,
Don’t want to lead him on

Don’t want to lead him on,

This is a tricky question for many reasons. One, just because a guy approaches you while you are out doesn’t mean that he is trying to be your next boyfriend, but at the same time, it can be hard not to think that. Right?

It’s good that you set your boundaries right away with him by asking what his intentions were. I don’t think talking to another guy would necessarily be considered crossing boundaries with your boyfriend, but it all depends on the boundaries you and your boyfriend have created.

If you think he’s flirting, chances are he is 100 percent flirting. There really isn’t a way around this. Honestly, I could go on to tell you what I think is appropriate or isn’t appropriate, but it doesn’t matter what I think. That’s between you and your boyfriend. As a couple, you may have never had to talk about these types of situations.

Maybe this is the perfect time to talk about it. Just tell him

what’s going on and see what his reaction is. He’ll probably think he’s flirting. I’m pretty certain he doesn’t want another guy talking to his significant other, but this forces you two to have this conversation and put you guys on the same page in case you run into this type of situation again.

I totally get that you don’t want to give the guy you met the wrong idea. This can sometimes be problematic. There is a very thin line between being nice to someone and flirting. Let’s be real, it’s really hard to spot the difference from both perspectives.

You say you are feeling guilty because you are attracted to him, and I’ll tell you straight up that isn’t a good sign. Feeling guilty about talking to someone leads me to believe that you think or know you are crossing a boundary you shouldn’t be. No biggie! It’s good that you are aware that this is happening. Being aware is the first step in changing this from flirty conversation to just friends.

If you feel like you need to clarify his and your intentions, talk to him about it again. If things keep crossing a line you don’t want to, then maybe his intent was always to be more than friends. Either way, it doesn’t matter what he wanted; it matters what you want.

Maybe being friends with this guy isn’t plausible, or maybe he has no idea that he’s sending you flirty vibes. Just keep your ground and stick to the boundaries you want.

I do think it is important to talk to your boyfriend about this. Obviously this is a concern for you, and keeping your boyfriend in the loop with make things less complicated in the end. Remember, boundaries can only be in place if you set them.

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.

Culture shock gives people chance to step out of their comfort zones

Li-Yuan Hsu

Columnist

Before coming to the United States to study, I received a warning from my Taiwanese professor. She told me that there would be some challenges waiting for me that would not easy to overcome, especially since this is my first time living abroad.

She called this challenge “culture shock,” which I did not really understand until my first class for spring semester started. Although I always earned an A+ in my English classes in Taiwan, I still had trouble following the language.

To me, the conversation between the professor and my classmates sounded like someone fast-forwarding a movie while I was watching. I failed to catch what they were talking about and missed most of the discussion during class.

I also figured out that my classmates were very active in class; they raised their hands to answer questions instead of waiting for the professor to call on them to give the answer. That was really different than the students in my home country, which made me feel confused and anxious in the first two weeks.

That was my first moment of culture shock in the United States, and the moment felt like a hurtful reminder that I was not in my “home country” anymore.

For those of you who might study abroad in the future, here are the symptoms of culture shock. You will feel lonely and sad for most of your class time. If you were an extroverted person in your home country, you might turn into an introverted person because you will lack confidence, become quiet and be unwilling to interact with other people.

It sounds terrible that you change your personality just because of culture shock, but it was the thing that really happened to me. And, believe me, if you do not try to overcome culture shock, it will not disappear but exist continually.

After being depressed for the first two weeks of the spring semester, I decided to turn the tables, because becoming a depressed person was not my target for studying abroad.

There’s a saying that goes, “When in Rome, do as the Romans do.” The first thing I did is try to raise my hand and share my ideas in the class, despite the fact that my ideas were not perfect. I tried to be brave, and that made me feel confident again. Some of my classmates even discussed my ideas with me after the class, which gave me the chance to have some small talks with them.

The second thing I have tried is to join some association activities such as being a hostess at the Chinese New Year Gala. When I spend time practicing this task, I feel valuable and not depressed anymore. The feeling of accomplishing a big job is the best way to regain your confidence and energy.

Now, I can give speeches in class, and I feel free to chat with my classmates. Being a hostess also helped me overcome stage fright, which I believe is beneficial to my job in the future.

What I learned from these experiences is that culture shock can destroy your belief and goal of studying abroad, but it can be a chance to work on yourself, as well. The only thing you need is to have the courage to do something that you had never done in your home country.

Li-yuan Hsu is a senior majoring in journalism and finance. As an exchange student from Taiwan, she is interested in American culture. Her hobbies include watching movies, traveling and writing. She used to be a reporting intern at a TV station and a journalist at a student-run newspaper in her home country.

March Madness takes over television

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

As per usual, I seem to be the only person I know who has elected to spend not a single minute of my time on the phenomenon that is the basketball tournament March Madness.

Perhaps you have heard of this thing that takes over the month that follows February? It is difficult for me to drum up support for sporting events in general, least of all one where its coverage dominates television to this magnitude.

And, if it was not apparent by now, I am not really into sports whatsoever. I, for one, still cannot quite get past how much attention a game of basketball can garner, or that the athletes are unpaid while their coaches will often make much more than the president of the college they represent! Am I the only one who thinks this is not quite right?

Perhaps I am focusing too much on the numbers or on the money behind this mega-sporting event, but it is hard not to when the actual sport itself does little to hold my focus. While other members of my house shout and exclaim at the games being broadcast on television, I can only look at them in bewilderment.

Why do my parents feel compelled to roar their approval or displeasure at a team from a college they have never attended? Why do they suddenly seem to care so much about this team only when they began to play in the particular March Madness game? It does not make any sense to me.

This year, along with my general confusion about why March Madness is an event of this magnitude, I had another element of this yearly tradition to puzzle over: the Gonzaga

basketball team. The first few times the word “Gonzaga” spewed from the television speakers and snaked its way across the room and invaded my ears, I thought it was surely a made up word. I may be indifferent to basketball in general, but I had at least thought I knew the names of most of the schools participating in March Madness.

Gonzaga, as it turns out, is a real university located in Spokane, Washington. The team, often referred to as the “Zags” (because why not, I guess?) is not a newcomer to March Madness as I thought upon first hearing their name the other day. The university the team represents is a private Roman Catholic institution named after Aloysius Gonzaga, an Italian Jesuit saint.

The team has been a participant for many years. I was a little disappointed to learn that the history of the school contradicted my early theories on the origin of the name, which I thought sounded like someone could not make up their mind over “gorgonzola” or “garbanzo” and just decided to combine the two.

Against my better judgment, my eyes strayed a few times from the non-basketball activities I was engaging in to an actual basketball game. This mysterious basketball team, with its obscure name, its freakishly tall player with an even stranger beard and the team’s element of “underdog-ness” lured me in and kept my attention. Well, some of it. I have not actually lasted a full game yet, but I think I might try again next March.

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.

Mike Pence’s dining rule is problematic, not noble

Katie Galarno

Columnist

Last week, the world was reminded that Vice President Mike Pence once said he wouldn’t eat alone with a woman who wasn’t his wife, and I laughed so hard I nearly ended up on the floor.

This interesting little tidbit was part of Washington Post reporter Ashley Parker’s feature story on Pence’s wife, Karen. In it, an interview with Pence from 2002 is referred to in which Pence says that he won’t dine with a woman who isn’t his wife, and he doesn’t go to events where alcohol is served without her, either.

On some level, I get it. Seeing a man who holds a position in public office sitting across a table from a woman who isn’t his wife might raise speculation. Even though we know that men and women meet for reasons other than to sneak around behind a spouse’s back, our minds might go there right away. I’m sure we’ve all seen tabloid headlines where a public official or public figure was spotted out with someone, causing the infidelity rumors to run wild.

I also understand that doing business with someone doesn’t always mean going to dinner. That being said, a study published by the Harvard Business Review in 2013 said that the most successful negotiations take place over a meal.

Certainly, I’m not saying that Pence practicing this has meant that all women were excluded from working with or for him. Still, it seems only logical that having this limitation would lead to him working largely with men instead of women, and men being awarded more opportunities for one-on-one conversation.

While it is yet to be determined whether Pence still adheres to this practice, that way of thinking is reflected in the makeup of the White House staff. In February, USA Today reported that twice as many men than women were working as top White House aides. I have a hard time believing there isn’t at least some link to beliefs like this.

Some are praising Pence for the dedication to his marriage and his family. I say this is ridiculous. Dedication to your family is one thing. Telling your significant other where you are or who you’re meeting with is a great practice. In my opinion, that should happen. What shouldn’t happen is excluding half of the workforce so that you don’t have to deal with it.

What is the logic here? To me, it’s just reinforcing the idea that being around women is too much a temptation for men. The implication is that Pence may risk being unfaithful in his marriage if he’s around a woman. Does he not trust himself? If that’s the case, what does this say about how he views women? It sounds to me like he eyes all of them suspiciously, as potential dangers to his marriage. How can we believe he looks at women as professionals if he won’t even be alone with them?

No one seems to know with certainty Pence’s reasoning for following this practice. It could be a reference to famous Christian evangelist Billy Graham, who some know this rule to be named for. It could just be an agreement between Mike and Karen Pence. All kinds of scenarios can be imagined, from him not trusting himself to her not trusting him. Maybe it’s just a way to avoid the speculation that can come with someone in the public eye being seen with someone else.

Whatever the reason, this bizarre way of doing business continues to baffle me. Imagine if heterosexual women in professional fields tried to only eat with and spend time with other heterosexual women. If that seems ridiculous to you, that’s because it is! As women, we’d never get to climb the career ladder.

I think of what it would be like as a journalist to encounter this. Sometimes journalists and sources meet in public places for interviews. Sometimes the journalist is a woman and sometimes the source is a man, and vice versa, obviously. If I tried to set up a conversation with a male source and he told me he couldn’t meet for coffee without his wife, I would look around for hidden cameras. It’s just too absurd to be real.

Katie Galarno is a senior majoring in journalism. She is currently the assistant editor of the Student Voice and hopes to continue a career in editing after graduation. She is best summed up by a “10 Things I Hate About You” quote. “Likes: Thai food, feminist prose and angry girl music of the indie rock persuasion.”

‘Ghost in the Shell’ a thrilling visual experience with an underwhelming attempt to be emotionally impactful

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

Major (Scarlett Johansson) is the first of her kind: a human who is cyber-enhanced to be a perfect soldier. She is part of a team that is devoted to stopping the world’s most dangerous criminals. As she prepares to face a new enemy, Major discovers something that makes her question her existence. Was her life stolen instead of saved?

I just want to start off by saying that I have not seen the original anime “Ghost in the Shell” movie, so I really don’t have anything to compare this film to. I have heard that it is one of the more memorable anime movies, and I have a feeling that this movie will be somewhat of a letdown if you are a big fan of the original anime.

Let’s start with the positives first. Johansson is really good in how she portrays the character of Major. I think that the struggle she goes through is believable. With Major being

the first of her kind, where does she fit in? She knows she isn’t human anymore, but her brain is while the rest of her is cyber-enhanced. There is a great scene where she meets with a woman and just asks her what things feel like. Major wants so desperately to feel once again, but her machine shell can’t. It is a beautifully sad scene where she battles with who she is.

The most obvious appeal to this film is its visual aspects. With neon bright colors everywhere within a dark and gloomy city, it really makes for a stunning contrast. Paired with a great soundtrack and some good action, the visual appeal is definitely there.

The action feels like a combined mix of the action style of Lilly and Lana Wachowski (“Matrix” trilogy) with that of “I, Robot” and “Lucy” (also starring Johansson). However, sometimes it begins to take itself too seriously and the action becomes a little too serious to bring that fun viewing factor full front.

“Ghost in the Shell” really is fitting with the theme of the film. Being a human ghost with a conscious trapped within the shell of cyber-tech is a strong central aspect that I really like. This theme is mainly focused on this throughout the first half, and it works really well.

The emotional appeal and connection is there for me, as well, as I feel for Major and her longing to find her place within the world. However, as the plot reveals itself and new themes come into play, the emotional appeal and punch isn’t quite there anymore.

I don’t think that the conclusion is as emotionally impactful as the film wanted it to be. I have no idea how the original anime ended, but I hope it ended with a bigger punch to the ole’ emotion box.

Overall, “Ghost in the Shell” is a fun ride with all of its visual appeal, but it lacks a little toward the end with an emotional tug at the heartstrings. If it looks appealing to you, I’d suggest you see it. It’ll be a fun viewing experience. However, if you are on the fence about seeing it, I’d say wait to rent it.

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.

STUDENT voices

Compiled by Samantha Decker



Travis Sprague
Junior
“Heaven to visit my grandparents.”



Madison Sandquist
Freshman
“Santorini, Greece.”



Tori Rahn
Freshman
“Cancun, Mexico.”



Jess Jansen
Sophomore
“The Jurassic Period.”

If you were put in a teleportation device right now, where would you go?

Be the first person to find Freddy’s lost feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes to the Falls Theatre!

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

The winner will be announced on the Voice’s Twitter account: [@uwrfvoice](https://twitter.com/uwrfvoice)

UWRF women’s lacrosse may become varsity sport



Photo by Monique Barrett

The UWRF lacrosse team is taking the steps to become the tenth women’s varsity sport on campus.

Destrey Zarfos

Falcon News Service

The UW-River Falls women’s lacrosse club team is beginning the process of becoming a varsity sport. Recently, the university administration approved funds to hire a coach, the first step of many in the process. Interim Athletic Director Crystal Lanning said nothing is officially set in stone just yet, but the pieces are in place. “We made one step in the process towards adding a varsity program, and we’ll be using the next couple weeks to figure out what the timeline might be if we do get the approval to actually launch a varsity program,” she said. Going from a club to a varsity program takes a lot of planning. The athletic department is working to set up the building blocks. “The first step was making sure that we were going to have staffing,” Lanning said. “You wouldn’t want to start a varsity program without having support, to have a staff member. The next step will be formulizing what operation costs might be and finalizing how we can fit them into our sport module, who they would play, where they would play, all those different types of details. So that is where we will be working, probably through the rest of the spring semester.” Funds have been allocated to hire a coach, but no one has

been chosen for the position just yet. In addition to coaching, the new hire will have to handle other tasks to help the team move forward. Discussions taking place in the next few weeks will help to make the job requirements more clear. Multiple factors led to the women’s lacrosse team being chosen rather than the men’s. Lanning said the athletic department has been exploring women’s lacrosse for several years. The sport is progressing rapidly in the area. “It’s a growing sport in our region at the high school level, in the Twin Cities area. At the collegiate level, there are some new women’s programs in our competitive regional area,” Lanning said. “There are three Division III programs in the Twin Cities area, there is two in Iowa, there is a whole conference on the eastern side of the state and the primary focus is on women’s lacrosse. With men’s lacrosse, we wouldn’t have regional competition. Schools are adding women’s lacrosse first.” The potential new lacrosse program puts female athletics at the forefront of a charge for diversity and inclusion. “We are also looking at it as a potential way to increase our participation numbers for female athletes, which is something we’ve been looking to do with our Title IX compliance numbers,” said Lanning. “This would be an opportunity for us to add some quality, high-level competition opportunities for

female athletes.” Jordan Johnson, a senior at UWRF, is the president of the women’s lacrosse club team. She said that the sport was not offered at her high school, and she began her lacrosse career at UWRF as a freshman. “I’ve always loved sports and being active and thought lacrosse would be a great new challenge and a good way to escape from school and work,” Johnson said. As a club team, the group has relied heavily on the work of members like Johnson to keep the program running and progressing. “Right now, as a club team, the officers of the team do everything ourselves,” Johnson said, “from making our own schedule, handling the finances and leading practices.” Johnson said she is confident that the team would be able to make the transition from club to varsity. “The women’s athletics at UWRF is very strong, and I’m proud to say we have a lot of amazing athletes on our team that would be a great addition to varsity sports on campus,” she said. UWRF currently has nine women’s varsity sports.

Athlete of the Week: Grace Curran

Zach Dwyer

zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Grace Curran, a senior from Taylor, Wisconsin, put in a strong performance in all three of her running events on Saturday at the Hamline Invitational. Curran finished fifth in the 100m dash with a time of 12.73 seconds and No. 12 in the 200m at 26.60 seconds. She also ran a great season opener of 16.38 seconds in the 100m hurdles. The Student Voice sat down with Curran to discuss her first performance of the outdoor season and her goals for her final season on the track. **Q: How many years have you been sprinting at UW-River Falls? Which events have you run?** A: I’ve been in track since I was a freshman. I originally came in as a hurdler for freshman and sophomore year. Last season, I transitioned over to the sprint side of things, and I’ve been a sprinter up until this past indoor season. This outdoor season, I’m going to be transitioning over to the multi, which are the combined events. **Q: What is the multi and how many events do you compete in?** A: It’s where you do seven events in one track meet, and it’s based on points in these events: 100m hurdles, 200m, 800m, long jump, high jump, shot put and javelin. It’s over two days, with four events the first day and three events the second day, so I’ll be learning a lot of new things. **Q: How did it feel to put in a pretty solid performance in your first meet back on the track?** A: It was really good. I was really surprised with the marks that I got, and I hadn’t done the hurdles in over a year. I came back and almost got to my PR (personal record). I almost got to my PR in the 200 and wasn’t too far off in the 100. I’m not

used to doing that many events in a track meet, but they’re starting to ramp up how many events I do to get me ready for the multi. It was fun to not have to focus on one thing too much. **Q: What felt strong about your races on Saturday? Was there anything you noticed that worked the same as in practice?** A: In the hurdles, we’d been working to get me to three step the whole race, which is getting three steps between each hurdle. I was able to actually do it all the way through, but by the end I was definitely stretching. We’d been working with that a lot in practice. For the 200, the start wasn’t great, and I noticed some of the girls were ahead of me by the end of the curve. I’ve been improving on my finish and keeping my arms moving, and I passed a few girls that way. **Q: What are your expectations for the team this outdoor season?** A: I think we have a pretty good team going in. It’s definitely a challenge, because pretty much all the WIAC schools are bigger than us and have more numbers. We’re all putting up good marks, and us older ones should be able to get back to our PRs. We’ve had some really good distance runners, and the ladies that have come in the past few years are really hard workers, and it’s fun to see how much they’ve improved. **Q: What goals are you trying to accomplish in your senior season? What can you still improve on in the coming weeks?** A: I’m trying to just do something different, because I originally came in to do the multi. It’s cool to see how everything comes full circle and happens how it’s supposed to. My coaches tell me I can place at conference in [the multi], so I think it’ll be fun to see how it actually happens.



Kathy M. Helgeson/University Communications

Q: What impact do you think you’ve made on the team? What will you remember most about your time on the track and field team after you finish your senior season? A: As someone who has been here all four years, I hope I’m remembered as a leader and someone who sticks up for their teammates. One of my personal goals this year is to stay positive. The thing I’ll remember most is the friendships and bonds I’ve made here. My main friend group is my team, and I met my fiancé on the track team. We both have this group who has supported us on this journey.

UWRF summer sports camps help raise team funds

Zach Bares

Falcon News Service

With summer right around the corner, UW-River Falls coaches are getting ready to host their summer sports camps. At UWRF, all of the head coaches for each sport are in charge of their camps. They decide how many, and what exactly will be instructed at each camp. A lot of universities the size of UWRF employ the same method of letting the coaches decide. Falcons Head Football Coach Matt Walker said he would like to do more summer camps, but the lack of staff members makes it difficult. “We would love to do more, but my staff is already under the average Division III staff in terms of numbers and pay,” Walker said. Walker said that he can pay his staff a little bit with the money the teams make from the camps, but it’s not enough to take up more of their time with a larger number of camps over the summer. All of the teams get to keep 100 percent of the money they raise through the camps. Women’s Basketball Head Coach

Cindy Holbrook uses the money to buy things like new uniforms and shoes for her team. Walker takes a little bit of a different approach. “It basically helps the back end of our budget,” Walker said. The football team spends its money on recruiting trips and team travel expenses. All of the things that would normally stretch the budget can be supplemented, at least a little bit, by camp fees. Holbrook said she finds value in a couple of different areas of her team camps. “The biggest things for us is, one, is it creates connections with kids. And then also that ends up being one of our biggest fundraisers,” Holbrook said. Holbrook also said she finds the camps help connect with the community. She said that one can get so caught up in what they are doing on campus that it’s hard to always know what’s going on in the community. The camps provide an outlet to engage with the surrounding area. The football team doesn’t necessarily have the same approach in terms of community outreach with its camps, but it does other things throughout the year to connect, such as its BRIDGE program and Youth Day with Falcons.

Although some people might think the camps are a recruiting tool for college coaches, at UWRF that’s not the case. “A lot of the girls we recruit play AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) in the summer. We don’t get them at our camps,” Holbrook said. The NCAA has loosened its regulations the last couple of years when it comes to scouting players while they’re attending camps. “With the NCAA deregulating the last few years, we will now use our camps as an evaluation tool,” Walker said. The football team will host two camps over the summer. The first will be an individual and team camp from June 21-23. The second is a 7-on-7 passing camp, and will be completed in one day on July 12. The women’s basketball team will host four separate camps, all in June. All of the camps are for individual players and will focus on individual drills and instruction. Men’s basketball, volleyball and softball also host clinics and camps. Details on summer sports camps may be found online at <http://bit.ly/2oDCGg0>.