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Student Government Association election postponed due to ballot inaccuracies

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Inaccuracies in the Student Government Association (SGA) election ballot have caused the voting process to start over, with students having to re-submit their ballots.

On Monday, April 17, a ballot was published on the SGA FalconSync page for the student body to vote for members of the SGA, including student body president and vice president, for the following academic year. Students also have the opportunity to vote on two referendums to pass the creation of the Greenovation Fund and the Student Shared Governance Modernization Act.

Inaccuracies on the ballot included names of candidates being left off and incorrect instructions when it came to how many at-large senators students could vote for.

The election, which was originally intended to run from April 17-21, has now been postponed, with the release of the ballot soon to be determined. Students who have already filled out the form on FalconSync will have to re-submit their ballot in order for their vote to count.

The Oversight and Rules Committee is responsible for the

election, including setting the date and duration of the election and the language used for the referendums. The Chair of the committee, Dana Redlin, is responsible for carrying out and overseeing the election. In doing so, she receives a \$1,000 compensation.

Redlin declined to comment.

Several SGA candidates expressed their concern and disappointment regarding the issues on the ballot and the postponement of the election.

“It’s unfortunate, but I think it’s been nice having the continuous support throughout this campaign from students and them being very understanding of this,” said Zain Kaiser, a candidate for student body president and vice president.

Abby Wendt, student body president candidate and current Allocable Fee Appropriation Board (AFAB) chair, said that she believes the election starting over will affect voter turnout overall, although she understands why it’s necessary step.

“It will just be a lot more work for the candidates to tell our voting public that they will have the opportunity to vote and that they have to vote again,” said Wendt. “It’s disappointing, especially since we thought it would go so well, but at least we now have the extended time for voting. It’s just having people

go out there again and vote.”

The Student Senate will be holding a special session in order to discuss how to properly deal with the mistakes of the Oversight and Rules Committee.

In a statement published to the SGA Facebook page Wednesday morning, Student Body President Chris Morgan urged members of the Senate to create legislation to suspend the role of the committee to approve the election ballot and to grant temporary emergency power to Senate Advisor Gregg Heinselman.

“It is clear that those who have been tasked and compensated to perform this role have failed to do so,” said Morgan in the statement, “in so, to the students at UW-River Falls, I promise that I will use the remainder of my term to hold these individuals accountable as well as implement the appropriate reforms that will insure proper elections in the future.”

Both Morgan and Heinselman declined to speak further on the issue.

The special session will be held on Sunday, April 23 at 8 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.

Consumerism addressed as part of original sketch comedy ‘STUFF II: Consumption Dysfunction’

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A new kind of production is being put on at UW-River Falls in the form of the upcoming original sketch comedy “STUFF II: Consumption Dysfunction.”

Part scripted sketches and part improvisation, part comedy and part social commentary, “STUFF II: Consumption Dysfunction” aims to point out – and make fun of – the role consumerism plays in one’s daily life. UWRP Professor of Stage and Screen Arts Ken Stofferahn is directing the production, along with guest artist Joshua Will.

“It’s based on this idea of how much stuff we have versus how much stuff we really need,” Stofferahn explained. “There’s also some very poignant scenes that talk about how stuff, how technology, how consumerism affects our relationships and affects our environment.”

Nick Churchill, a UWRP junior stage and screen arts major, is appearing in the production. He said that the goal of the cast and directors is to inspire both laughter and a takeaway lesson for the audience.

“Sure, this is a fun show. You come out to have some laughs; it’s sketch comedy,” Churchill said. “But the thing is to kind of open people’s eyes up about maybe their own ‘consumption dysfunction,’ so to say... Stuff can help you, but it can also hurt you.”

“STUFF II: Consumption Dysfunction” holds a unique piece of history behind it. Stofferahn said that, 17 years ago, he and Will worked on a production at UWRP that also talked about consumerism, hence the “II” in the new production’s title.

“It was the first time that University Theatre, at least in my career and my knowledge, ever tried something like this, to write a piece on an idea,” Stofferahn said.

The original production was different in nature, but Stofferahn said that the decision to revisit the topic was because it exposes students to the unique process of tying writing, improv and performing together.

The process has been ongoing for the past year, originating with Stofferahn and Will exploring different topics and researching the history of consumerism. Students were then cast and given some reading material for J-term. After a long process of meeting and writing, rehearsal and production is wrapping up as “STUFF II: Consumption Dysfunction” gets fine-tuned for opening night.

Stofferahn said that what makes the production unique is that it is original, not based on a script written by a playwright. Most of the sketches were written by UWRP students, others by Stofferahn and Will.

Churchill is one of the students who took part in writing some of the sketches, two or three himself and a few more in collaboration with other students. He said that the process of writing involved activities like improv games and discussions, as well as a unique aspect.

“We would have an assignment every night after rehearsal,” Churchill said, “and that would be something they would tell us to go do, whether it be write a sketch or just generate ideas that we could use and just pitch later.”

Churchill said that this collaborative method of production was something new for him, because he wasn’t just memorizing lines.

“I really felt like I was a part in really bringing the show to life and creating a piece of art,” Churchill said. “And just having a really good group of people behind this who share that same insight and same passion as you do really helps that process come along.”

UWRP students appearing in the production include



“STUFF II: Consumption Dysfunction” is being performed in the Blanche Davis Theater in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building on April 20-22 and 27-29.

Churchill, Thomas Heid, Jessica Strabel, Jana Knudsen, Jack Groskreutz, Gina Strzyzewski, Grant Morrison, Tiffany Schwichtenberg, Emma Johnson, Nate Brown, Corey Fern and Mya Ennis.

Performance dates for the production are set for April 20-22 and 27-29. All shows will start at 7:30 p.m. in the Blanche Davis Theater in Kleinpell Fine Arts.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for UWRP students (with student ID) and those under the age of 18 and \$8 for people aged 60 and up. Tickets can be purchased at the box office in KFA, at 715-425-3114 or at marketplace.uwrf.edu.

Photo courtesy of Marty Donnelly

News Briefs: Interactive Ag Day to be held at UWRF April 25

The UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter will host the fifth annual Ag Day on Campus on Tuesday, April 25, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The interactive event is free and open to the public. (This event was originally scheduled for April 18 but was rescheduled because of wet weather.)

With generations removed from the farm and increases of viral farming videos circulating social media, it’s no wonder people want to know where their food is coming from. This year’s event is themed “Who’s Your Farmer?” to encourage people to know at least one modern farmer. During the event, educational and interactive booths, food samples, farm animals and equipment will be set outside in the University Center mall on the UWRF campus to help event attendees meet farmers and agriculturalists.

Please note: The evening event will go on as planned on April 18 if it was not impacted by the wet weather: A free beef and potatoes meal with all of the fixings will start at 5:30 p.m. in 200 Agricultural Science. Guest speaker Donna Moenning of the Center for Food Integrity will begin her presentation at 6 p.m. Moenning lives on a crop and livestock farm in south-east Minnesota with her husband and three children. She also serves on the Minnesota FFA Foundation Board.

“Agriculture is a vast industry; it’s important that consumers have a trusted farmer or agriculturalist they can turn to when... that questionable video pops up on their social media feed or they hear about a farming practice they aren’t so sure about,” said Ashley Bergsbaken, an Ag Day coordinator.

“During this event, it is our goal to allow students and community members to see firsthand the wide array of products and services agriculture gives to us each and every day. We hope attendees will be able to leave our event with a new-found viewpoint for the occupations in agriculture and the technology that goes into producing our food, fuel and clothing.” remarked Matthew Kortbein, an Ag Day coordinator.

The UWRF Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter was first established on campus in April 2012 and is associated with the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (wfbf.com), Wisconsin’s largest general farm organization. Much like Wisconsin’s diverse agricultural landscape, Farm Bureau members represent all farm commodities and all farm sizes and management styles. Farm Bureau’s mission is to lead farming and rural communities through legislative representation, education, public relations and leadership development.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/agdayuwrf.

UWRF department honored with 2017 Regents Award

The Animal and Food Science Department at UW-River Falls has been honored with the 2017 Regents Award for Teaching Excellence.

The department is home to the animal science major, the largest enrolled major on the UWRF campus. The department also houses the dairy science major, annually ranked as one of the top three largest undergraduate dairy science programs in the nation in terms of enrollment.

The department has a long history of teaching excellence. Over the years, 10 department faculty members have been awarded the UWRF Distinguished Teacher Award, the highest award bestowed on the UWRF campus. In their nomination materials, Gary Onan, chair of the Animal and Food Science Department, noted three components of the department teaching philosophy that contribute to their success:

- Hands-on laboratory experience: Most courses across the broad discipline areas and sub-areas have laboratory components.
- Out-of-classroom opportunities: This includes opportunities such as internships and work experiences on the UWRF farm including management opportunities, intercollegiate competitions, undergraduate research, international experiences and student organizations.
- Effective academic advising: All academic advising is handled by the 15 faculty members in the department.

The Animal and Food Science Department has been able to

foster teaching excellence in its faculty through the evaluation process. All faculty, whether probationary or senior faculty, are assessed using an evaluation tool where 95 percent of the evaluation is based on factors that the department feels are important for student learning.

Moreover, there is an informal open environment and camaraderie among the faculty members that promotes teaching development. Faculty members willingly share materials and techniques with new faculty hires and encourage them to participate in the scholarship of teaching and learning.

The department also routinely funds opportunities for faculty members to enhance their teaching effectiveness through workshops, professional conferences or the purchase of equipment and technology.

Approximately two years ago, the department embarked on a curriculum review and revision process in response to the changing demographics of students (particularly the increasing percentage coming from non-farm backgrounds) and the ever changing dynamics of the animal industries. The core of the new and reworked courses will be offered starting in fall semester 2017.

Tom Westerhaus, a retired pre-K-16 teacher and administrator, served as a facilitator for the department curriculum review process. In his letter of support for the award nomination, he complimented the department on the caliber of the curriculum review.

“The department agreed on three general concerns that the new curriculum needed to address,” Westerhaus said. “In selecting these, the department clearly chose a more difficult, long-term and systemic approach to curriculum redesign, as opposed to an easier, short-term and more surface curriculum review process.”

In a second letter of support for the award, Greg Lardy, department head of the Animal Sciences Department at North Dakota State University said, “One of the best measures of the effectiveness of a program is if other academic institutions seek your graduates for their graduate program. Students trained at UWRF all came well prepared for graduate education.”

Several alumni also provided support letters for the nomination.

Laura Olenski, DVM at Lodi Veterinary Care, shared comments on several professors who were influential in her academic career.

“Dr. Justin Luther found a way to organize an infinitely complex subject: reproduction, in such a way that I referred back to my college notes to clarify veterinary school instruction,” Olenski said.

Ruth Wagner, a calf and heifer manager at a large dairy operation, said, “... the most important thing I was taught was how to ask the right questions. When problems arise...I know where to look. When I’ve exhausted my own resources, I know whom to ask.”

Onan accepted the award on behalf of his department at the Board of Regents meeting April 7. In his remarks, Onan said the department strives to strike a balance between the hands-on, skill based activities and the basic and applied sciences and this seems to serve its graduates well in the industry.

He went on to praise the dedication of his department faculty and support staff who struggle with work-life balance so that their students are afforded all the opportunities mentioned above.

“This extends to the herd managers on the farms who allow students to make mistakes, which leaves them with an indelible learning experience,” he said.

Before concluding his remarks, Onan shared one area of concern he has for the future. He has been involved in hiring new faculty for nearly 10 years and, although his department has been fortunate to make some excellent recent hires, he has seen the pool of applicants for positions shrink significantly.

In general, in the agriculture industry, there are up to two positions for every qualified applicant, and the industry is prepared to compensate new hires very well. He allowed that there are some benefits to working in academia as compared to industry, but the competition for qualified applicants in increasingly challenging.

Dale Gallenberg, dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) at UWRF, was also present at the April 7 meeting. Gallenberg felt Regent James Langnes, who formally presented the award to Onan on behalf of the Board of Regents and UW System and had recently visited the Animal and Food Science Department, captured it best when he said his favorite thing about the visit was the passion exhibited by members of the department. “Passion is hard to fabricate...their passion there is very real,” he said.

For more information about the Regents Teaching Excellence Awards, visit <https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents-regent-awards-2/regent-awards/>.

For more information, email laura.walsh@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4714.

Undergraduates showcase research at state capitol

State legislators joined UW System and institutional leaders in welcoming 125 students and more than 50 faculty mentors to the State Capitol for the UW System’s 14th Annual Research in the Rotunda event April 12. Six students participated in the event from UW-River Falls.

“UW System institutions help develop the innovators, entrepreneurs and researchers of tomorrow. It is an honor to watch the students’ intellectual and academic growth, and these projects clearly demonstrate their problem-solving skills,” said UW System President Ray Cross. “The UW System has earned a national reputation as a leader in undergraduate research, which contributes to Wisconsin’s workforce and economic development. The research done by our students has the potential to inform public policy and influence decisions made by the private sector.”

Undergraduate students and their faculty advisers from across the 26 UW System campuses filled the Capitol rotunda to share their research findings on a variety of important topics with legislators, state leaders, UW alumni and other supporters. The student research displayed at the Capitol extends well beyond the campuses. Students investigated real-life issues affecting Wisconsin citizens and communities, and many topics involved multiple years of study.

Students participating from UW-River Falls are listed along with their hometown and the title of their research:

Jacquelyn Maher of River Falls, “Baseline Inventory of Native Pollinating Insects at New Biomonitoring Locations in Washburn County and Pierce County, Wisconsin.”

McKenzie Sobkowiak of Holmen, “Determining Fertility in the Mare Using Reproductive History, Age, Vulvar Conformation, Rectal Palpation, Ultrasonography, and the Results of Uterine Culture and Endometrial Biopsy.”

Alexandra Spaulding of Merrill, “Evaluation of Natural Background Concentration and Basin-Wide Non-Point Source Pollution of Phosphorus in the Kinnickinnic Subwatershed.”

Sarah Degroote of River Falls, “Modeling Intestinal Tissue and Bacterial Microbiome Interactions: An Application of the Newly Developed “Histo-Genesis IV” Bioreactor System.”

Dagan Hathaway of Menomonie, “Testing Properties of Light and Bell’s Inequalities Using Spontaneous Parametric Down Conversion.”

Kate Vruwink of Wisconsin Rapids, “Without a Roof: A Journalistic Study of Homelessness Across Wisconsin.”

For more information about UWRF participation in the event, email Professor Lissa Schneider-Rebozo, director of Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity, at elizabeth.schneider-rebozo@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3903.

For more information about the event in general, visit <https://www.wisconsin.edu/research-in-the-rotunda/>.

UWRF Glass Club hosts Spring Sale

The UW-River Falls Glass Club is holding its annual Spring Glass Sale April 29-May 2 in the Falls Room located in the lower lever of the University Center.

All glasswork available for sale has been hand-blown by student artists working out of the glass studio on the UWRF campus. The glasswork includes functional objects such as drinking glasses, platters, vases and paperweights, as well as sculptural pieces.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, email the UWRF Glass Club at glass@uwrf.edu.

Student Senate Update: April 18

One motion was voted on at the Student Senate meeting on April 18.

Motion to Cancel Student Senate Meeting of April 25, 2017: A motion to cancel the Student Senate meeting on April 25 for members of Student Senate to attend an It’s On Us Week of Action event.

- Needed 3/4 majority vote to pass.
- Failed: 10 in favor, 6 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.

Campus Events Calendar:

- **Year of Brazil Pianist Jovino Santos Neto Friday, April 21, noon-1 p.m. Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts**
 - **RADD Jazz Series: Universal Language XIII Saturday, April 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts**
 - **Spring Choral Concert Sunday, April 23, 3-5 p.m. Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts**
 - **It’s On Us: Week of Action Monday, April 24-Friday, April 28 UWRF Campus**
 - **Tickling Giants Movie Screening Monday, April 24, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Kinni Theater, University Center**
 - **Ag Day on Campus Tuesday, April 25, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. University Center Mall**
 - **Diversity Dialogue: Microaggressions Tuesday, April 18, 3-5 p.m. Apple River Room, University Center**
 - **Saxophone and Guitar Ensemble Concert Tuesday, April 25, 7:30-9 p.m. Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts**
 - **What’s the Scoop? Wednesday, April 26, 4:30-6 p.m. 102 Hagestad Hall**
 - **Public Astronomy Talk/Telescope Viewing Wednesday, April 26, 8-8:30 p.m. 271 Centennial Science Hall**
 - **Free Bowling Night Wednesday, April 26, 9:30-11:45 p.m. St. Croix Lanes, River Falls**
- Visit uwrf.edu for a full schedule of events**

Weekly UWRF Crime Report

Tuesday, April 11

- A drug complaint was reported at McMillan Hall at 12:29 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

- An underage alcohol complaint was reported at May Hall at 11:48 p.m.

Friday, April 14

- An underage alcohol complaint was reported at May Hall at 12:26 a.m.

Editor’s Note:

Information for this section is taken from the UW-River Falls Police Department incident reports.

New microbrewery aims to fill community-oriented niche in downtown River Falls

Ace Sauerwein
Falcon News Service

Downtown River Falls is home to restaurants, thrift stores, bars — and now a microbrewery. Swinging Bridge Brewing Co. opened its doors March 17.

“Our beer, I guess, was a real hit,” said Mike O’Hara, head brewer and taproom manager. “We ended up selling out of the beer we made by the second weekend.”

Swinging Bridge Brewing owner Dustin Dodge said he has been searching for the right business to get into and had many ideas before settling on a brewery.

“When this idea came up I’m, like, ‘A brewery — this is exactly what this town needs. This would do well here,’” said Dodge. “I got in touch with the college, the Small Business Development Center at (UW-River Falls), and they kind of gave me an outline for a business plan.”

However, the process of acquiring a brewery is no simple task.

“The real challenge of opening a brewery is the licensing,” said Dodge. “You can’t even apply for the license until you have the building and the equipment... That’s what took us so long to open was we were waiting on licensing.”

Obviously, both Dodge and O’Hara have a strong interest in beer. O’Hara got his start growing up in Detroit, Michigan, where the craft beer scene is influential. O’Hara tried a couple of craft beers and was hooked.

“I decided to just buy a brew kit and try my hand at it and started entering my beers in competitions for feedback,” said O’Hara. “[I] started winning awards, so I thought I’d try my hand at getting into a brewery.”

O’Hara worked at Pitchfork Brewing in Hudson for a little over three years. Dodge heard O’Hara was looking to hold the same position elsewhere, and via a mutual friend Dodge and O’Hara made a deal.

“The most important thing was me and Mike’s vision for what this is for the community,” said Dodge.

Dodge emphasized serving the community of River Falls and said he has no desire to expand to the rest of the state. He wants to keep it local and focus on the entire community. With already a plentiful amount of college-oriented bars, Dodge wants to keep the focus more on community members and families.



Katelyn Anderson/Student Voice

Swinging Bridge Brewing Co., a microbrewery, opened its doors March 17 and is located on Main Street.

“We’re definitely not marketing ourselves as a college bar,” Dodge said. “We felt there’s a lot of community members that don’t have a place to go. Because a lot of people are leaving the town to go to nicer places, and we want a place here to keep people in the community.”

However, Dodge said everyone is welcome. Besides beer, Swinging Bridge offers food, homemade cream soda and coffee.

Currently brewing three different beers, O’Hara said he is looking forward to trying new and creative styles.

“The sky’s the limit,” he said. “That’s how it was when I home brewed it. It was so out of the box... I brewed what I like and, I don’t know, it seems to be working out.”

Swinging Bridge, 122 S. Main St., is open Thursday through Sunday, while Monday through Wednesday are designated brewing days. More information is available online at swingingbridgebrewing.com.

Summer music festivals bring variety of artists to Wisconsin

Matthew Clark
Falcon News Service

Music fans in western Wisconsin will have no shortage of music this summer.

In recent years, the region has started to fill the summer months with music festivals featuring artists from genres all over the popular music spectrum, including rock and roll, country, metal and folk. Despite a crowded summer market, area festival organizers have managed to bring in national performing acts while drawing large crowds. This year’s festivals are expected to be no different.

Two of the summer’s most popular festivals are located at the Somerset Amphitheater, one of the largest outdoor venues in the Twin Cities area. Holding anywhere from 20,000 to 40,000 people, each year the amphitheater bloats the small town population of Somerset, Wisconsin, to the size of a small city.

This year, the venue will host two popular events, the Northern Invasion Festival and the Summer Set Festival. Northern Invasion kicks off the summer on May 13 and 14. The festival typically features national touring metal and hard rock performers including Slipknot, Korn and Disturbed. However, this year organizers are branching out to appeal to a more mainstream audience with performances from Soundgarden, Kid Rock and Godsmack topping the bill.

Tickets for the event include single day general admission passes currently going for \$64.50, but the price is expected to go up to \$79.50 closer to the event. Other weekend, VIP or hotel packages are available at a variety prices. Those interested in the event can find more information online at northerninvasion.com.

The amphitheater will also be hosting the sixth annual Summer Set festival, which features several popular hip hop and electronic dance music (EDM) performers. The event draws people from all over the area to see some of the biggest names in the genres. Last year saw performances from now Grammy Award winner Chance the Rapper and EDM fan-favorite Skrillex. This year, from Aug. 11-13, the event is bringing in marquee names such as Die Antwoord, Run the Jewels and RL Girme.

Hip hop and EDM fans will have to pay anywhere from \$189.50 to \$229.50 for a regular ticket or \$495 for a VIP pass. More information is available online at somersetfestival.com.

After years of rock and country festivals in nearby Cadott, the city of Eau Claire is enjoying its own success with three popular music festivals including the Blue Ox Music Festival, the Eaux Claires Festival and Country Jam U.S.A.



Photo by Danny Clinch

Drive-By Truckers is among the bands that will be performing this summer in western Wisconsin.

From June 8-10, the third annual Blue Ox Music Festival will give music fans the chance to see performances from nationally touring bluegrass, folk and Americana artists including Sun Volt, Drive-By Truckers and the Punch Brothers. According to organizers, the festival brings in around 4,000 people each year and has grown to attract music fans from 49 states.

Jim Bischel, president of the Blue Ox Festival and Country Jam U.S.A., said that during the busy festival season, Blue Ox is able to stand out through its unique rural setting.

“Our fans really appreciate trees and nature and the beauty of the landscape that we have,” Bischel said.

Bischel said the festival is also expanding its reach by adding more genres to the fest.

“We tried to mix it up a little bit, rather than just straight bluegrass or straight folk,” Bischel said.

The city of Cadott, Wisconsin, also will continue its tradition of bringing in thousands of people for both Country Fest and Rock Fest. From June 22-25, music fans will travel to the city to see country superstars including Blake Shelton, Eric Church and Thomas Rhett. Fans can purchase a four-day pass for \$175 with additional fees for parking.

From July 13-15, Cadott will switch gears for Rock Fest. The festival will bring in thousands of hard rock fans for performances from Slayer, Avenged Sevenfold, Rob Zombie and Insane Clown Posse. A single day ticket is available for \$79. More information on these can be found at countryfest.com.

No information has been released yet on the popular local concert series “Chill on the Hill,” organized by UW-River Falls and the City of River Falls.

Check out the Student Voice
online at uwrvoice.com

EDITORIAL

It’s On Us Week of Action shows that sexual assault is everyone’s issue

The It’s On Us Week of Action is coming up, and it marks an effort by UW-River Falls to bring attention to an important issue: sexual assault on college campuses. The White House campaign has been going strong at UWRF for two years now, and we are continually grateful to see that it is still thriving on our campus.

This semester, the UWRF Student Senate approved the allocation of \$4,200 to fund the week’s events. Despite the feelings some may have about whether this is an effective use of funds, we think it is money well spent. After all, according to the campaign, 1 in 5 women and 1 in 16 men will be sexually assaulted in college.

A series of events will be held from April 24-28, including a t-shirt giveaway on Monday, a film screening and a volleyball tournament. We encourage everyone to attend these events and participate if able. The winning team of the volleyball tournament, for example, gets a \$100 gift card to Domino’s and another \$100 to the charity of their choice.

The film screening for the documentary “Yeah Maybe, No” addresses another aspect of sexual assault that often goes unaddressed: It can happen to anyone. The film follows Blake, a young man, as he struggles to come to terms with his past experiences of sexual assault. It also shows the need for supporting survivors, both in the legal system and in terms of general peer support.

If you can’t make it to any of the events, there are other ways you can participate. For example, wear jeans on Wednesday in support of Denim Day. The day was created by nonprofit Peace Over Violence in response to an Italian Supreme Court case. In the case, a rape conviction was overturned based on the assumption that the sexual assault survivor’s jeans were too tight, meaning she must have helped her attacker remove them and thus given consent – which is horrifying logic.

One of the pillars of It’s On Us is that we need to intervene and not just be passive bystanders. If you see two people leaving a party and one of them looks wary or too impaired to consent, for example, check on that person.

Sexual assault is everyone’s issue. In environments like college campuses, where young adults are figuring out how to view the world, raising awareness of issues like this is of utmost importance, and it’s for this reason we will continue to support It’s On Us for years to come.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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Read the *Student Voice* online at www.uwrfvoice.com

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.

The *Student Voice* reserves the right to withhold material for content, libel or space. It also 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.

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It’s important to show politicians we care about the planet this Earth Day

Dear Editor,

As Wisconsinites, we can count the founding of Earth Day in 1970 by Sen. Gaylord Nelson as one of the finest gifts our state has given to the nation.

Sen. Nelson launched Earth Day in a year of great constructive change that included President Richard Nixon’s signing of the Clean Air Act and the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency. In his State of the Union address, President Nixon declared the 1970s as “a historic period when, by conscious choice, [we] transform our land into what we want it to become.”

Our present hyper-politicized divisions can make us nostalgic for those days when a general bipartisan agreement to do what was best for the environment created landmark legislation.

The government initiatives of 1970 responded to health and environmental crises faced by the United States. Today’s crisis is far more widespread, threatening the entire world.

Present projections indicate that, by the end of this century,

atmospheric CO2 levels could reach the highest concentration in 50 million years, resulting in environmental and social chaos. It seems our peculiar misfortune that some of America’s most powerful leaders deny the threat that climate change poses to the environment and to the stability of civilization as we know it.

Robinson Meyer, who covers environmental issues for The Atlantic Monthly, has noted that in no other country on earth does a major right-center political party take a position of denial and inaction on climate change. The politicization of environmental issues in America is irresponsible and immoral.

Now, 47 years after its founding, another Earth Day approaches. An overwhelming majority of Americans support a healthy environment. Find a local event to participate in and let your elected representatives know you expect them to put partisanship aside and work for the good of the whole planet.

Thomas R. Smith, River Falls

Ask Colleen: Dealing with a lack of motivation before graduation

Colleen Brown
Advice Columnist

Dear Colleen,

I am a senior graduating in May, and I have lost all of my motivation. There are 17 days of school left, and the motivation is gone. I feel like I have hit a wall. I don’t want to write my papers, do my homework or really even study.

I know these things are important, but I feel like I just have too much to do and not enough time to do it, so I resort to putting everything off. I don’t know if it is the anxiety of graduating without a job, or the idea of leaving this place behind (if it has to do with leaving friends, I really don’t know).

I was wondering if you have any tips or tricks for finding motivation when we are this late in the semester and also this close to graduating. What do you do to keep pushing through all of your assignments and activities?

-Panicking with only 17 days left

Panicking with only 17 days left,

I did not realize there was only 17 days left! Wow, OK, that’s a reality check for me. It’s actually 22 days from the day this gets published until graduation, but you could be finishing early depending on your finals and whatnot. We don’t need to be technical.

Either way, time is coming to an end rather quickly. I think you hit the nail on the head (Is that the saying? Do people still say this?). Anyway, all of us soon-to-be-grads are feeling a lot of emotions right now. We’re excited to be done. No more homework, weird schedules or studying! Sure, all of those things sound great, but don’t rush it.

A lot of adults, and I mean real adults with jobs, health insurance and a retirement plan, have been telling me to take my time. “You have your whole life to work,” has been the

common phrase I have been hearing lately. They’re right. Live it up these last couple of weeks. Enjoy this time with your friends, and make the best of your last days in River Falls before they’re over.

It’s easy for me to tell you not to worry about a job or that a job will come your way. The truth is that I don’t have the answer to that. But I do know that you won’t get a job or a least the one you envisioned until you get that diploma! So keep that in mind next time you don’t want to study or write a paper.

Plus, like you said, graduation is less than a month away. Don’t give up now! You’ve come all this way and put in so much work, so don’t let your lack of motivation stop you from graduating. Put in the work now, and keep going strong until the very end.

I’ve wanted to drop out of college a handful of times; most of those were just me overacting about something, but I never did. My motivation is that I’ve made it this far and I’m not going to give up because I just don’t want to put in the work anymore. It’s not worth it.

We’re all burned out, and there’s no need to tiptoe around it. I keep myself going by reminding myself why I came to college in the first place. For me, I’m the first person in my family to get a four-year degree, and it means a lot to me to finish.

Maybe take some time to remind yourself why you came here in the first place? I think this will put everything into perspective. Yes, finals suck and the end of the semester can be packed with last minute assignments. Why do professors do this? But we always get through it somehow. Keep going, because soon enough, it will all be over. Finally, remember to have some fun while doing it.

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.

‘Girls’ showed the awkward reality of being a 20-something in this age

Lauren A. Simenson
Columnist

I was a latecomer to the “Girls” bandwagon. And by “Girls,” I do not mean the name for young women, or the word used often to inappropriately refer to grown women. Instead, I am talking about the HBO show “Girls” created by Lena Dunham.

I discovered “Girls” pretty late for a few reasons. When it first aired in 2012, I was 17, and the show just was not on my radar at all. I also did not have access to HBO at the time, and this was probably my biggest obstacle as to why I was not exposed to the show. The show did, however, begin to gradually gain my attention. This process was helped considerably by Lena Dunham, who just naturally seems to have that kind of take-notice-of-me effect on people.

When I finally decided to watch “Girls” last year, after obtaining a username and password for an HBO account, I consumed every episode at a voracious pace. I soaked up each word like a thirsty sponge, relishing each sentence of the cleverly written dialogue. I was enthralled. The characters of Hannah, Marnie, Shosh and Jessa were unlike any female television characters I had ever met.

Hannah was often pantless, shirtless or shoeless, and unapologetically selfish and immature. Marnie was a perfectionist who thrived on a diet of rules and spoke with callous authority. Shosh talked fast and wore loud outfits and seemed to be the only one of the four who ever had a clear goal for herself. Jessa was mysterious, beautiful and harsh, but also maybe the most insecure.

I say “was” for all these characters because this past Sunday was the final episode of the sixth and final season of the show “Girls.”

As I was a late convert to the show, this final season came with all of the surprise of a car accident. I barely had time to take all of the show in before it was all over, forever.

This show appeared at the perfect time in my life. I, like the women on the show, am also in my 20s and have no more direction than some and much more direction than others. I saw myself in all the girls. In Hannah, I too, vainly and selfishly, wondered what kind of mark I would be able to make on the world as a writer. Marnie and I share a fondness for

control and order and of obtaining those qualities through yelling. Like Shosh, I will be graduating from college soon, and do I have any idea what to do after? I wished I could be as carefree and as independent as Jessa.

“Girls” was a show that showed the griminess, the pain and the joy of life and of female friendship. Lena did not shy away from the nudity that life brings, the screaming, the fighting, the tears or the plain cluelessness and pure desperation that a person will go through.

It all seemed so real, more real than any other television show that depicts a group of friends living and working and forming relationships in New York City. Lena, as Hannah, and the rest of the girls of “Girls” are real, with real feelings and with real bodies that defy so many oppressive stereotypes that control how women should look and act and talk. These women showed the full range of the female character, or at least of a white female character, making her complicated and messy, lovable and cruel.

“Girls” also made me uncomfortable. The stark frankness and the variety of honest interactions of the characters of the show often made me cringe, wince and look away, as if not making eye contact with the screen would save me from any awkwardness.

The show made me confront myself about why it felt so difficult watching certain situations sometimes, and for that I feel very grateful. I feel privileged to have been able to experience Hannah, Marnie, Shosh and Jessa, who portrayed women who were all very far from perfect, who did not stay friends, who did not end up where they thought they would. “Girls” ripped the Band-Aid off of the secret reality of what it is to be a woman in her 20s.

To “Girls,” I say thank you for showing me and the rest of your avid fans what struggling to find yourself and your voice is like. Thank you for not apologizing for showing what real people look like, sound like and act like. Thank you, “Girls,” for being a show that showed life and love as gross and complicated and messy and weird.

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.

Engrossing your readers in fantasy works requires worldbuilding and characterization to be in sync

Bethany Lovejoy

Columnist

As a creative writing major, I have spent the past few semesters learning about how to properly craft a fictional story to gather readership. One of the most significant portions of this is world building, an element crucial to both fantasy and science fiction as a drama. If you are to hold your piece in a land far away, you must set the rules as to what can and can't happen in that land far away. A writer may spend a majority of their time on this question, fleshing out many rules of the world and deciding on the definitions of their realm. A good example is seen in the "Uglies" series by Scott Westerfeld. This series has fleshed out the rules of the universe. For example, you must undergo surgery to look "pretty" rather than relying on genetics. In the universe, nearly all questions are answered, there's a definite time period and reference to the era that it is decided that the readers


live in and a structure of government with several positions is designed. However, Tally Youngblood, the protagonist, falls flat. When you spend all of your time developing the rules of a world, you risk your main character falling flat. In "Divergent," we see a clear example of this. The main character is so laughably flat and unlikeable that I've heard many readers state the best part in the books is the moment when the main character's voice ceases and narration is moved to another character. Normally, the reader is able to power through these faults and gain interest in other characters that are more fully fleshed out, being that they are a part of the universe. However, there are moments that make you wonder if the main character really has a life or just exists. Though often panned by critics, "Twilight" is a book series beloved by its fans. "Twilight" is also a fairly good example of doing it right. Though not properly portrayed in the movies, Bella Swan's life is well fleshed out in the books. We see her friends other than the Cullens, her choice of isolation in "New Moon," the expectations of her daily life and we learn further of her childhood. In the books, Bella has her own group of friends and

spends time with them for an average amount of time before being engrossed in this world of vampires. We're all well aware of the rules of the world of vampires, and those rules that may affect Bella are elaborated on. While "Breaking Dawn" may arguably be a bit of world breaking through the introduction of a hybrid vampire, we are still aware of Bella and how her daily life has evolved alongside a larger elaboration of the evolution of her character. With characterization, it is easy to walk the line between fully developed and semi developed, or to rely too heavily on the world building, to excuse a majority of the lack of character. However, it is with the lack of character you can see a lack of investment in relationships. When a character is not fully fleshed, a reader can sense it. Talking horses and giant fire dragons or not, no amount of fantasy can make up for a plain main character.

Bethany Lovejoy is a sophomore majoring in creative writing and literature. She enjoys theater, snacking and sewing. In her free time she works at the Student Voice and collects fox themed items.

STUDENT *voices*


Compiled by Samantha Decker




Jaelyn Lee
Freshman
"Working at the butcher shop."




Brittany Young
Freshman
"Not having to wake up early."



Rachel Hanson
Sophomore
"Going to Europe!"



Ryan Odeen
Senior
"Taking summer trips."



Emily Juelich
Freshman
"Revisiting with old friends back at home."

Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor.

Email your thoughts to editor@uwrfvoice.com

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

For more information, email the editor at natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu

Rugby clubs appeal suspensions over hazing



The women’s and men’s rugby teams are currently facing suspension after reports of misconduct.

Photo courtesy of Katie Verkuilen

Zach Bares

Falcon News Service

After a long and at times difficult investigation by the Student Conduct & Community Standards office at UW-River Falls, both the men’s and women’s rugby teams will be suspended pending an appeal.

Under the suspension, the men’s team will be banned from participation for the next four years while the women’s team received a slightly shorter penalty of three years. Both teams are sport clubs overseen by UWRF Campus Recreation.

The investigation stemmed from a hazing complaint received by Student Conduct & Community Standards in November. The complaint was made by an anonymous member of one of the teams at UWRF.

Steve Stocker, director of recreation and sport facilities at UWRF, has overseen the club teams since 2007 and said the news was shocking.

“I’ve been here for 21 years, and I’ve never seen anything of this magnitude before,” Stocker said.

After receiving the complaint, the conduct and standards office launched an investigation that took place over several months and finally came to a conclusion just before spring break.

“Some of the students were reluctant, mostly on the men’s side, to give us information at first,” Stocker said.

Through their probing and questions, Student Conduct &

Community Standards staff found that there were numerous violations of campus policies as well as illegal activity within both the men’s and women’s club rugby programs.

“Both teams were in violation of the state of Wisconsin’s statute on hazing,” Stocker said. Stocker said he isn’t allowed to share publicly what exactly was happening in terms of specific acts of hazing but did stress they were in violation of state law.

Under Wisconsin law, “(n)o person may intentionally or recklessly engage in acts which endanger the physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating in connection with a school, college or university.”

A number of other campus and student organization violations occurred.

“They were serving alcohol to underage students along with misappropriation of funds,” Stocker said.

The two rugby teams are among 10 sport clubs at UWRF that are funded through the campus recreation fee paid by students. For spring semester, the fee was \$13.51 per student.

The teams were using money earned from fundraisers for the purchase of alcohol and then supplying it at parties and other social gatherings following rugby contests.

“In the investigation report, it was cited numerous times that the men’s team was obstructive to the process and difficult to get a hold of for questioning,” Stocker said.

However, after a couple of long months of questioning and

investigation, a few members of the men’s team came forward with what actually was occurring at parties and other rugby events and that led to the rest of the team revealing information, as well.

The disregard for compliance in the process was the main reason for the men’s rugby team receiving a longer suspension than the women’s team.

“The women’s team was remorseful, as well,” Stocker said.

It seemed that there was a consensus among those involved in the investigation that the culture was so bad that both teams needed a new start, hence the long suspensions of both teams.

“I think we’re dealing with a poor culture problem. We need extended training for our clubs’ officers and for participants,” Stocker said.

Members of both teams were unable to be reached for comment. However, former president of the women’s rugby team Melanie Eck said she wouldn’t have enjoyed her time at UWRF as much if the opportunity to play rugby hadn’t been available to her.

“It’s sad news to hear,” Eck said. “Rugby is becoming a more popular sport in college and high schools with it now being in the Olympics and the rugby community is outstanding.”

Both teams were awaiting results this week of their appeals of the suspensions.

UW-River Falls softball remains undefeated at home with doubleheader win over MLC

Zach Dwyer

zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The Falcons softball team continued its home-field advantage in 2017, taking down Martin Luther College 9-1 and 13-3 on Thursday to stay undefeated at home this season.

UW-River Falls has won all four of its games in River Falls this year, with the doubleheader on Thursday bringing the most lopsided wins of the year.

UWRF started the day off slow, with the game staying scoreless through the first two and a half innings. Sophomore pitcher Payton Speckel was on fire, delivering a ridiculous eight strikeouts in her first nine batters faced. She would finish with 14 strikeouts between the two games.

“Her pitches were on point and [Martin Luther] couldn’t read them. Hopefully she can carry that into the games this week because we all have confidence in her,” junior right-fielder Shannan Borchardt said.

The Falcons’ bats started firing in the bottom of the third, with five quick runs being put on the board. Ali Krohn added two RBIs in the third to stretch the lead to 5-0.

Martin Luther added one unearned run off an error in the fourth, but that would be the last time they put points on the board in game one. UWRF tacked on one more run in the fourth, and blew the game open on Mady Bunnell’s two-run home run in the fifth. Kaia Dorn brought home Borchardt in the bottom of the fifth to clinch game one and impose the mercy rule at 9-1.

“They love playing at home, because so many things come into play. They’re a lot more excited with having family and friends at the game, and they’re so much calmer and relaxed. It’s definitely a different team with music and walk up songs and a different mood,” Head Coach Amber Dohlman said.

But even with a dominant win in the first game, coming back focused for the doubleheader has been a challenge for the Falcons all season long.

“It’s hard [coming back right away], but Coach said she wanted us to come out right away and get locked in and get those bats going. That changes the tone as a whole,” Borchardt said.

The Falcons seemed to take the advice to heart, scoring six runs in the first inning and working their way through the order

to bring everyone around. The lead only grew in the second inning after a two-run double from Borchardt and a two-run homer from Maddie Studnicka. By the time the second inning was over, UWRF was up 10-0 in the blink of an eye.

“They’re all swinging and competing. The same person doesn’t always have to produce, and anyone one through nine can drive in runs. We’ve been focusing on quality at bats and it takes pressure off people,” Dohlman said.

After avoiding the early inning struggles that have plagued the team, they faced another challenge in the third inning. Audrey Trimm crushed a three-run home run to left center for Martin Luther to bring the game to 10-3.

“They got two girls on base on bloopers, but we came back [after the home run] and stayed focused. It was 10-3 at one point, but we came back and got more runs and it didn’t really faze anybody,” Borchardt said.

This growth in handling adversity will be important for UWRF moving forward. With the season starting to wind down, the team seems to be improving every week.

“You have to go out and compete, because nothing is guaranteed. The bats are alive right now, and the pitching is starting to get better and we’re starting to get into a groove. Success is happening, and hopefully that’s contagious,” Dohlman said.

Borchardt and Krohn had huge days at the plate for the Falcons. Krohn was 6-7 with four runs and four RBIs, while Borchardt added six RBIs and three runs in the second game alone.

The Falcons now set their focus on a busy week of ac-



Ali Krohn (#20) slides into home during the Falcons sweep of Martin Luther College. Krohn went 6-7 at the plate that afternoon.

tion. They host UW-Stout on Wednesday before traveling to University of Northwestern on Thursday, UW-Platteville on Saturday and UW-La Crosse on Sunday. Playing these eight games in four days will be one of the most crucial stretches of softball in the team’s season.

“Hopefully they go into conference this weekend and can pull out sweeps of Stout and Platteville and pull off another win somewhere. I’d be really happy with three of four [wins]. Realistically, we’re fighting for the five spot [in the WIAC playoffs],” Dohlman said.

UWRF will look to sweep the teams below them in conference and split with the stronger teams to maintain a strong finish in WIAC play. The Falcons currently sit at 2-2 in conference and 10-15 overall. They will look to maintain their current pace on their six-game road trip this week.

Community supported agriculture, food awareness gains popularity in River Falls area

Lisa Erickson
Falcon News Service

With people caring more about where their food comes from and about helping local farmers, community supported agriculture (CSA) is gaining momentum in the River Falls area.

The first CSA farm in Wisconsin started near Milwaukee in 1988. The farms operate by offering shares to a limited number of customers, who agree to pay a fee in exchange for weekly delivery of a box of fresh produce.

“This is our sixth year operating as a CSA farm,” said Adam Greeson of Sweet Top Farm in Deer Park, Wisconsin. Greeson moved to Deer Park after renting farm land in River Falls for three years.

CSA farms like Sweet Top have been slowly increasing the number of people who buy a share.

“We have 65 full shares that people buy and over 100 half shares that will be delivered each week,” said Greeson.

The Midwest, and the Madison area in particular, have proven to be fertile ground for CSA farms and communities, according to the Fairshare CSA Coalition. For over 20 years, the Fairshare Community Supported Agriculture Coalition (formerly the Madison Area CSA Coalition) has made it easier to link people who are concerned about the food they consume to local farmers in their communities who grow quality veg-

etables and other produce in Wisconsin.

Typically, members of the CSA farm purchase a share in advance. Cost of a full share ranges from \$425-600 for the season. A half share, which is delivered every other week, costs about \$250-330.

When customers buy a share, they are committing to the farm for the season and helping cover the initial annual costs of the farm operation. In return, members receive boxes of the farm’s produce or products throughout the growing season. People also know more about local food production and where their food comes from.

The very first CSA farms started during the early 1960s in Germany, Switzerland and Japan.

According to Fairshare, CSA grew out of concern for urbanization and food safety. Groups of consumers and farmers in Europe formed cooperative partnerships to support farms by paying the full costs of ecologically sound, socially equitable agriculture.

Japan leads the world in CSA farms.

In 1965, mothers in Japan concerned about the rise of imported food and the loss of arable land started the first CSA projects, called Teikei. The largest cooperative network in Japan is called the Seikatsu Club and is made up of 600 farms that supply food to more than 22 million people, according to Fairshare.

Locally, the owners of Sylvan Hills Farm in Menomonie expect to start delivery to a drop site at the Whole Earth Grocery Co-op at 126 S. Main St. in River Falls.

Each year, Sylvan Hills Farm owners Larry Diehlmann and Jackie Kujak deliver to the Twin Cities, Hudson, River Falls and Menomonie, located less than an hour from customers. Sylvan Hills Farm produces over 90 varieties of organic produce.

A local farmers market is another place to get fresh, locally grown vegetables.

“We have been selling vegetables at the River Falls Farmers Market since it started,” said Bill Kelly of Cedar Hill Farm and Greenhouse in River Falls.

Kelly is dedicated to his customers and is at the market every week with traditional items and some new or unusual produce like white corn.

The River Falls Farmers Market operates 3-6 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays next to Dick’s Fresh Market, 1121 S. Main St.

For more information about CSA farms or to sign up for a share online, contact Cedar Hill Farm and Greenhouse through its website at cedarhillgreenhouse.net, Sweet Top Farm at sweettopfarm.com or Sylvan Hills Farm at sylvan-hillsfarm.com.

News Briefs Continued:

Annual Colt Sale set for May 6

The 41st Annual UW-River Falls Colt Sale is set for Saturday, May 6. Fifty-six high quality 2-year-old horses that have been trained by UWRF students enrolled in the Principles of Training Horses (Animal Science 350) class will be offered for sale at the UWRF Campus Farm at 1475 Wasson Lane, River Falls.

The sale preview will start at 11 a.m. in the Brainard-Kasten Colt Barn arena with the student trainers riding their horses for potential buyers. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and the student trainers will be available over lunch to answer questions about their horses. The sale will begin at 2 p.m.

Buyers are welcome to bid by phone, but they must be pre-registered. The pre-registration form can be found on the UWRF Colt Sale website at www.uwrfcoltsale.com under the “Sale” tab. In a tradition begun with the 40th sale in 2016, UWRF alumni are invited to gather under the tent for lunch, where they can learn about updates being made on the Campus Farm and have the chance to win a door prize.

The Colt Sale website also features photos, videos and sires and dams for the 2017 colts. Final visual media and the sale catalog (including full performance pedigrees and descriptions of riding qualities) will be posted on the website by April 17. Weekly updates on their training progress over the course of the semester can be found on the Colt

Sale Facebook page at www.facebook.com/uwrfcoltsale.

For the first time, more information about the UWRF Colts in Training program will be available at the Minnesota Horse Expo April 28-29 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. In a single semester, the students turn a barely halter broke and never saddled or ridden colt into one that is well-trained under saddle and ready to be auctioned off at the annual colt sale.

Instructor Nathan O’Connor, accompanied by four students and their horses, will give a presentation in the AgStar Arena at the Fairgrounds on Friday, April 28, from 5-6 p.m. and again on Saturday, April 29, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Students will also be on hand over the weekend in the State Fair Horse Barn to answer questions about the auction and the Colts in Training Program.

For more information, email laura.walsh@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4714.

UWRF to offer summer ACT test preparation classes

UW-River Falls will offer test preparation classes in June and July for high school students planning to take the ACT, a popular admissions test measuring academic readiness for college. Students may attend one of two, four-day sessions, beginning June 19 on the River Falls campus or July 17 at the UWRF Hudson Center in Hudson.

“Students will receive an in-depth review of the exam materials, insight into strategies for succeeding on standardized tests and a comprehensive study plan,” said Randy Zimmermann, director of UWRF Outreach and Continuing Education. Class sessions use real test questions to show just how

these skills are tested, he added.

The UWRF ACT Summer Institute consists of 20 hours of classroom instruction covered in an intensive four-day format. Students receive instruction from an ACT test preparation expert and access to extensive online review tools. Lessons include test-taking strategies, question formats and the ACT test components for math, English, reading comprehension and science reasoning.

The course fee of \$449 includes all classroom and online sessions and course materials. Students also receive access to online review sessions and open office hours in the time leading up to fall exam dates.

Advance registration is required, and discounts are provided for early registration. Session dates, course descriptions and registration forms are available at go.uwrf.edu/ce.

UWRF offers the ACT Summer Institute in partnership with Educational Testing Consultants, a leader in higher education test preparation. Each year, Educational Testing Consultants helps thousands of students at major colleges and universities across the United States. Educational Testing Consultants provides a proven program with a record of success and highly trained top-quality instructors.

UWRF provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at <http://www.uwrf.edu/ContinuingEducation/> or can be obtained by calling at 715-425-3256, 1-800-228-5607 or e-mailing outreach@uwrf.edu.

Check out the Student Voice at uwrfvoice.com

Follow the Student Voice on Twitter @uwrfvoice

‘The Fate of the Furious’ an action-packed, wild ride

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

With “The Fate of the Furious,” one of the most successful film franchises in history is back! Dom (Vin Diesel) has brought everyone together to create a family. However, in the middle of a job, he betrays his family and starts to work for Cipher (Charlize Theron). What does she have on Dom to make him turn on his family?

What started out as movies focused on street racing has over the years evolved into giant heists and saving the world. A lot of people have issues with this.

Why? Can you imagine how repetitive it would be to have movie after movie of just street racing? This series has continued to adapt to make each film bigger, crazier and, most importantly, different. After eight films, it is impressive that they have continued to keep it fresh and keep us guessing about what is going to happen next.

Speaking of keeping us guessing, ever since the first trailer was released, the world has been wondering why Dom would betray his family! This has been keeping me guessing and anticipating this film for months now.

While, of course, I can’t tell you what this reason is, just know that it is a good enough reason to justify his actions. This reason creates a lot of emotional scenes that bring some emotional depth to the films.

Now, I do have to say one thing: I feel like Dom could have communicated this reason to his family sooner. While it is a little frustrating, it would have hindered the grand finale without having that big reveal. I really do get it; I was just a little frustrated.

With the “Fast and Furious” movies, you

have to go into the film knowing it will be over-the-top and unrealistic. If you go in with this understanding, then you are probably a big fan of the franchise. If you don’t, then this movie and franchise is not the one for you.

“The Fate of the Furious” is no different than the rest with the giant, crazy special effects and action sequences. I went into this film wanting to be entertained and to see some really cool cars and some great action, and that is exactly what I got.

The two best aspects of this film both involve Jason Statham. The first is the dynamic between Statham’s character, Deckard Shaw, and Dwayne Johnson’s Hobbs. They have this really awesome love-hate relationship that is hilarious to watch develop. For a part of the film, they are both in jail in cells across from one another, and their banter is terrific.

The second aspect is a scene during the grand finale that involves Shaw and something I can’t say. Just know that it will have you bursting out in laughter!

Being that the movie is two hours and 20 minutes long, there are some slower filler scenes that seem to drag on a little, specifically in the middle. When the action comes back, however, it sucks you right back into the film so it’s nothing to worry about.

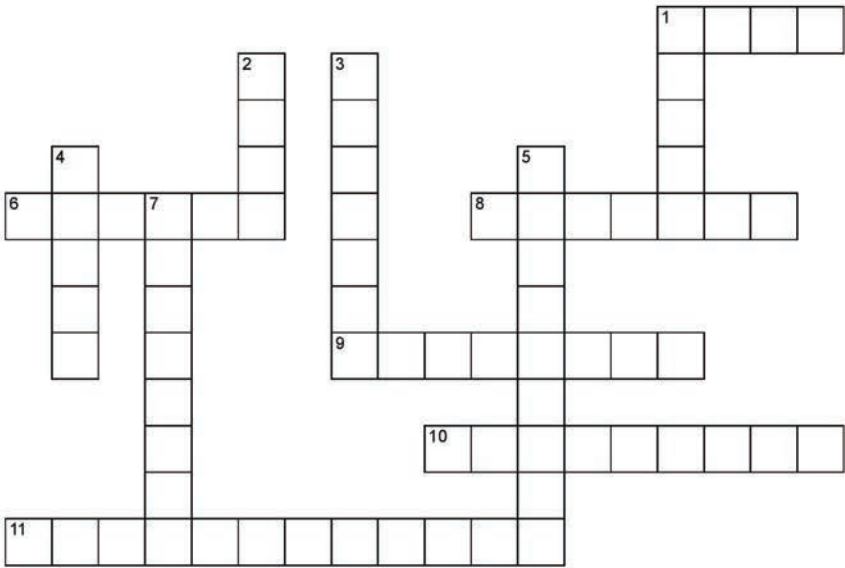
While this is not the best film in the series (“Fast Five” is my favorite), I do feel this is right up there in the running for second or third. Overall, it is a wild ride and I had a great time.

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.



Puzzle of the Week

River Falls Bar Crawl

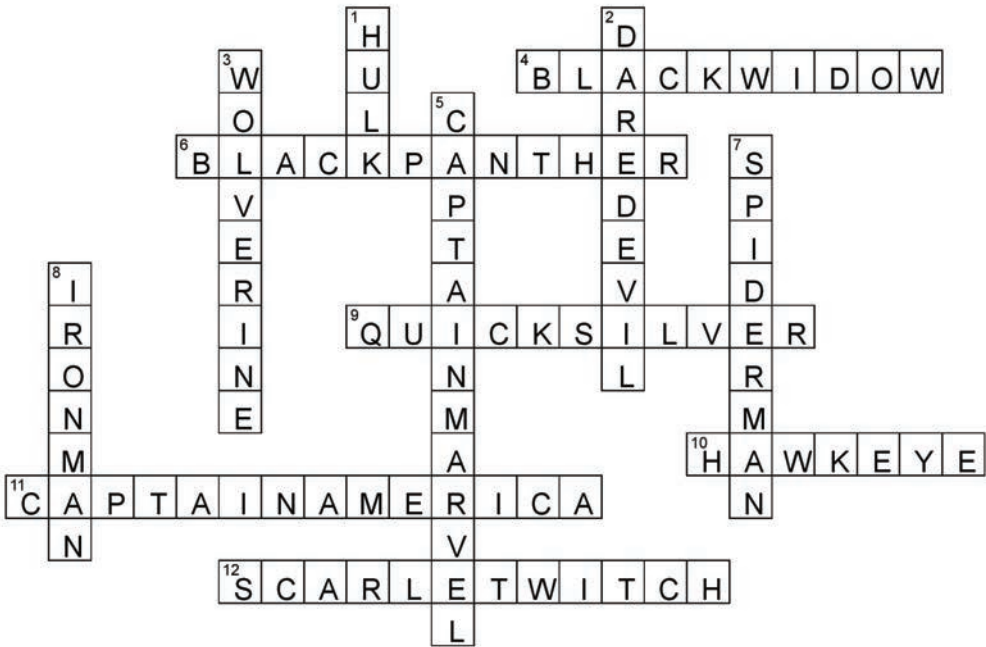


- ACROSS
- 1 2-4-1's are available at this sports bar during certain times every day of the week
 - 6 This year's shirts display different ways to say this around the world
 - 8 You can watch the liquid courage kick in as people participate in this at Shooter's Pub every Thursday
 - 9 The logo for Johnnie's bar contains this type of clover
 - 10 This corner saloon's location fits its name
 - 11 This bar and grill has a Wednesday special featuring its signature jumbo tacos
- DOWN
- 1 Tuesday night is the night to play this at Bo's 'N Mine
 - 2 This bar's outdoor patio visible along Main Street has only been there a few years
 - 3 This bar and restaurant is within the Best Western Campus Plus
 - 4 Emma's has held an annual contest where participants enter this food for 22 years
 - 5 This bar and grill won the 2013 burger battle and holds burger nights on Wednesdays
 - 7 You can be this age, not 21, to dance in the back section of Moonshiner's and After Dark on Thursdays

Puzzle created at puzzle-maker.com

Last Week’s Answers

Marvel Characters



CHECK OUT THE STUDENT VOICE ON TWITTER: @uwrvoice

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!

Now Playing: “The Fate of the Furious”

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

[@uwrvoice](https://twitter.com/uwrvoice) and facebook.com/Uwrfstudentvoice