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STUDENT VOICE

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A treat for some, a trick to others, parking regulations to resume on Halloween night

Nathan Lukasavitz
Falcon News Service

River Falls business owner Craig Rogaczewski is enjoying the additional parking options that became available to his customers and staff back in May, after finding it necessary to relocate his company store from Walnut Street to Pine Street due to a lack of places for vehicles to park.

In annual fashion for River Falls, the ongoing struggle for parking becomes slightly more intense as the city enforces its winter parking restriction that goes into effect immediately after Halloween festivities come to a close in the early morn-

ing hours of Nov. 1.

The winter parking restrictions follow an odd/even schedule, requiring all vehicles to be parked on the side of the street that corresponds with the current date.

“It’s based on what it is after midnight, so the morning of, basically,” said Mike Stifter, operations director for the city of River Falls. “That’s what dictates whether it’s odd or even.”

The whole purpose of the odd/even parking restriction, which lasts until March 31, is to keep one side of the street entirely free of vehicles so the city’s public works department can most effectively clear the streets of snow on days and nights when a given snowfall calls for removal.

“Last year we had 17 snow events,” Stifter said, “and that meant someone came in to deal with snow. It might have been one operator truck salting a bridge or an intersection, but 17 times where it was a snow event that we responded to.”

A lack of snow events around the time the restriction goes into effect can be a factor that makes it easy for citizens to forget the policy and receive a ticket as a reminder, which is the reason the city intends to “rely on some warning tickets early in the season to get people educated, reacquainted, reoriented,” Stifter said.

However, regardless of snow on the ground or in the forecast, the city will issue tickets for vehicles in violation



An odd/even parking sign is posted in the public parking lot at the corner of Elm and Second Streets in River Falls, Nov. 1.

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UW System’s free speech policy, Young Americans for Liberty spark controversy at UW-River Falls

Tori Schneider
Falcon News Service

“I felt really nauseous.”

That’s how Ardin Fischer described her feelings when reading comments written on a large piece of paper that students had written on, an activity facilitated by the Young Americans for Liberty in the University Center.

“Some of the stuff I saw was a little disturbing. A little concerning,” Fischer said. “I saw the N-word on there.”

Elijah Anderson, vice president of YLA, said that there were no racial slurs on the large piece of paper and that the goal of the activity was to raise awareness about the newly established student organization and to get students to be more open minded.

“The hypothetical ideal goal would be to tell people that just because you have a different opinion from someone else doesn’t mean you have to shit on them and keep them from having that opinion,” Anderson said.

Freedom of speech has been a hot topic around UW campuses recently.

The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System published a draft of their “Commitment to Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression” regent policy document on Sept. 25.

The policy outlines new guidelines for handling student conduct regarding free speech and expression on UW System campuses.

New policies require compliance by the universities, leaving work to be done for administrators like Gregg Heinselman, assistant chancellor for student affairs at UWRF.

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From farm fields to Florida: UWRF students’ research yields rewarding and valuable trip

Sophia Koch
Falcon News Service

Stella Pey is a senior in crop and soils who will be graduating in May. She spent this past summer doing research work for Holly Dolliver, associate professor of geology and soil science at UW-River Falls.

The research involved testing crop land that had been taken out of use to see how well the soil had recovered. One field, Pey said, had been left unused for five years, another for 30. They tested properties such as aggregate stability (which affects erosion) and microbial biomass, and their research ultimately found that only a handful of properties were fully recovered after five years. Most needed at least 30 years to recharge after being used to intensely grow crops.

The research process, Pey said, taught her a lot. “I think I learned a lot about the processes of soil and just how those processes work over longer periods of time,” she said. “But then I also learned things just about organizing a project and what it means to conduct research – what it means to be faced with all these challenges and then overcome them.”

After finishing off the research and analyzing her data, Pey joined up with a group of 16 other students that were traveling to Tampa, Florida, to present their research in a competition for the 2017 International Annual Meeting: “Managing Global Resources for a Secure Future.” The event was hosted by the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America, and it took place over the weekend of Oct. 21.

Pey went on to win two awards; one prize was a first place on her manuscript and the other a second place on her research oral manuscript. The awards, she said, will strengthen her applications when she begins looking at graduate programs.

Katie Henk is a senior crop and soils major, and she also attended the Florida convention. It was her first time attending the event, which happens every year and which brings together some 4,000 combined students, scientists and professionals from 57 different countries.

“We got to hear a lot of different research that’s going on throughout the entire world,” Henk said. In addition to the research presentation competitions, there were field trips, panels and workshops that participants could attend when they weren’t preparing to compete. Henk got to explore a local national forest, visited a pioneer village where she tried fresh sugar cane; and went on a tour of the University of Florida’s research farm.

“It was 1,100 miles of pure research,” she said.

The trip to the Florida research convention is but a small part of a growing undergraduate research program available

to students at UWRF. The students who go on the trip are the ones who have already shown the dedication and hard work necessary to propose and carry out a research project, and the convention offers them a chance to show off their work and potentially advance their career.

“These competitions are especially well suited for students that are going to graduate school,” said Veronica Justen, assistant professor of crop science at UWRF and one of the faculty members who went along on the trip. “This is a great networking opportunity for them to interact with professors that could be their graduate school advisers.”

The grant that funded Pey’s research stipend over the summer was an Undergraduate Stipends and Expenses grant for \$2,000, which she got from the Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity program.

The USE grant, said URSCA Director Lissa Schneider-Rebozo, is the replacement for an older grant that was once called the Summer Scholars Award. It was originally funded

by the chancellor’s office, but when it was transferred over to the URSCA program, there was no funding to go with it. To make up the loss, URSCA began using the USE grant to replace the Summer Scholars Award.

The Summer Scholars Awards were, at one point, much larger than the grants currently given out under the USE grant. The budget cuts in 2016 affected URSCA along with the rest of campus. Rather than the \$3,500 award that was given to students to fund their research, Schneider-Rebozo said, the max amount for projects like Pey’s are set at \$2,000.

The tradeoff, Schneider-Rebozo said, is that the URSCA program has been awarding grants to a higher number of students than ever before. The URSCA list of “past recipients and grant recipients” reports 78 people from 2016-2017 who received the USE grant. By comparison, 2012-2013 lists only 25.

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Seventeen UWRF students and three faculty pose during a research convention in Tampa, Florida Oct. 21.

Photo courtesy of Holly Dolliver

News Briefs: Abbott Concert Hall at UWRF to undergo \$1.3 million renovation

The State of Wisconsin Building Commission has given approval for the University of Wisconsin-River Falls to renovate Abbott Concert Hall in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. Gov. Scott Walker’s office announced funding for the project by news release last week.

“We are grateful for the support of the State Building Commission for this exciting renovation project at UW-River Falls,” said Chancellor Dean Van Galen. “Abbott Concert Hall is an important venue which supports academic programs and student experiences, and enhances the cultural vitality of the entire St. Croix Valley.”

Abbott Concert Hall, built in 1973, is showing significant wear. The renovation will replace aging and obsolete building services, augment the electrical and light system, replace all fixed seating, construct a new orchestra pit platform and cover and improve acoustics in the theatre.

All catwalks will receive new fire-retardant and acoustically treated plywood floor, the control room window and flooring will be replaced to improve soundproofing, and the wood wall finish panels will be replaced by fiberglass to improve acoustic performance and reduce noise generation, among other improvements.

At present, the fixed seating in the facility shows structural and folding mechanism failures in addition to heavy wear on the fabric. Replacement parts are no longer available. Likewise, the lighting control system has failed components for which replacement parts are no longer available.

Funds for the project were initially requested from the state in 2014, with the first funding approved a year later. Last week’s approval means the work can now begin.

Bids for the project are expected to be let in June 2018 with construction starting in August 2018. The renovation is scheduled to be complete by January 2019.

River Falls Lit. Crawl brings enjoyment to all

On October 14, River Falls hosted their second Lit Crawl, including five different Main Street venues and over 20 local, regional, student and professional writers. Co-organizers Rob-in Boles, Elise Gregory and UWRF professor Kate Maude were thrilled with attendance throughout the afternoon.

Student writers from area elementary schools began the day’s reading in the River Falls Public Library Story Room, having learned about poetry in the weeks leading up to the RF Lit Crawl.

Local and regional authors Dan Woll, Jeannine Ouellette and David Wood awed the Gallery 120 audience with an eclectic array of drama and satire in a novel excerpt, lyric essay and short story.

Riverwalk Square hosted a full room for emeritus professors Margarita Hendrickson and Michael Norman along with talented UW-River Falls creative writing students Gloria Bartel, Brianna Brasser and Sam Scarlato.

At Kinnickinnic Clayworks, the ceramic artworks shone alongside literary members of the Kinnickinnic Valley Writers Cooperative. Robin Boles, Miriam King, Kay Lee Penton, Alison Reimers and Leslie Thomas shared novel excerpts, short stories and poetry.

Literary celebration continued throughout the evening at Junior’s Restaurant and Taphouse where Bryan Mulrooney welcomed readers to a warm, inviting open mic with tributes to the renowned poet Theodore Roethke and local literary talent Thomas R. Smith.

Tom Hendrickson kicked off the open mic readers with powerful poems. Literary locals such as Wanda Brown, Shelley Tougas, Michelle Hanson, Jera Terreng, Catherine Olson and high school writer Celia Olson regaled a standing room-only crowd. Donated items from local businesses, artists and published authors were raffled off throughout the evening.

Throughout the day, a great sense of community was fostered between writers, audience members and local businesses.

For full article, visit: <http://www.riverfallsjournal.com/life/events/4350498-river-falls-lit-crawl-brings-enjoyment-all>

Bowls for Hope event invites funds requests from charitable orgs.

Each year the University of Wisconsin-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the Bowls for Hope event where proceeds raised help a worthy nonprofit organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley. Applications are now open for the 2018 recipient of this charity event.

The 2018 Bowls for Hope event is Tuesday, March 6, from 5-7 p.m. at UW-River Falls.

To be considered for the 2018 Bowls for Hope proceeds to benefit your St. Croix Valley nonprofit organization, complete the 2018 Request for Funds form found at <https://www.uwrf.edu/BowlsForHope/>. Interested charitable organizations should submit their requests online by Monday, Nov. 20.

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

The 2017 Bowls for Hope event raised \$6,000 for Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County - Moolah for Milk Program. Since 2010, Bowls for Hope has raised more than \$46,000 for St. Croix Valley charitable organizations.

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

UW-River Falls expands options for admissions test preparation classes

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls has expanded its test preparation classes for students who plan to take pre-college or graduate school admissions exams. Adding to the ACT, GRE and GMAT exam classes began this summer and fall, the Continuing Education Office now provides classes for the SAT and LSAT exams and schedules for all exam preparation classes into 2018.

“Our preparation classes provide an expert review of the exam components and insight into strategies for succeeding on these standardized tests,” said Angela Whitaker, program manager.

Many colleges require SAT scores for undergraduate admission, she said, and the LSAT admissions exam is required by nearly all law schools approved by the American Bar Association (ABA), most Canadian law schools and other law schools.

The UW-River Falls test preparation classes are provided in a live-online format, where a highly qualified instructor delivers content live via the internet to provide the interactivity of a classroom experience with the convenience of an online course, Whitaker said. Along with expert instruction, students receive a textbook, workbook, and practice exams with real test questions. Students also have access to class recordings for review after their class ends.

More information about course content, registration fees and class schedules for all test preparation classes is available at <http://go.uwrf.edu/testprep> or by emailing testprep@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls offers its test preparation courses 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.

Student Senate Update: Oct. 24

SGA Advisor Gregg Heinselman discussed segregated fees, which are currently frozen and which means that SGA’s budget will not be able to increase this year. This could potentially affect the proposed Green Fee from the office of sustainability.

Heinselman also discussed D2L, which will potentially be replaced by a new program. Heinselman does not know when this change will take place, but guesses that it will be sometime next fall. SGA has the opportunity to participate in a focus group to discuss the change.

Two new senators were sworn in: CEPS senator and On-Campus senator

The information in this update comes from the minutes posted to the Student Government Association Falcon-Sync page every week and from the live tweet posts gathered by Student Voice staff. The Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.

Looking for advice?

The Student Voice has an advice columnist. To send her an anonymous note, find the Student Voice on Facebook or Twitter and click on the Google Doc link.

Follow the Student Voice on Twitter

@uwrfvoice

Campus Events Calendar:

- Science Career Forum Lecture**
Friday, Nov.3, 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Kinnickinnic Theater and St. Croix River Room, UC
- BFA Thesis Exhibition II**
Friday, Nov. 3, 3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday, Nov. 6-10, 3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Kleinpell Fine Arts
- Men’s Hockey vs St. John’s University**
Friday, Nov. 3, 7:05 p.m.- 9:05 p.m.
Hunt Arena
- University Theater: “The Skin of Our Teeth”**
Friday-Saturday, Nov. 3-4, 7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.
Davis Theater, KFA
- Open Mic Night**
Friday, Nov. 3, 8:00 p.m.-10 p.m.
Falcon’s Nest, UC
- Women’s Hockey vs Bethel University**
Saturday, Nov. 4, 2:05 p.m.-4:05 p.m.
Hunt Arena
- RADD Jazz**
Saturday, Nov. 4, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Abbott Concert Hall
- Traveling Karoke**
Saturday, Nov. 4, 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
TBD
- Diversity Dialogue: Volunteerism**
Tuesday, Nov. 7, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
University Center
- Awareness Through Performance**
Tuesday, Nov. 7, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Falcon Center
- UWRF Band Festival**
Wednesday, Nov. 8, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Kleinpell Fine Arts
- “The Mask You Live In” Film Screening & Discussion**
Wednesday, Nov. 8, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
University Center
- Culture Fest**
Thursday, Nov. 9, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Abbott Concert Hall, KFA
- Speaker: MJ Hegar**
Thursday, Nov. 9, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
University Center

Visit uwrf.edu for a full schedule of events

Weekly UWRF Crime Report

Wednesday, October 25

- Welfare checks was reported at Ames Suites at 6:49 p.m.

Saturday, October 28

- All drug complaint was reported at McMillan Hall at 12:56 a.m.

Sunday, October 29

- All drug complaint was reported at Grimm Hall at 9:10 p.m.

Monday, October 30

- Welfare checks was reported at Prucha Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 31

- All drug complaint was reported at Parker Hall at 10:25 p.m.

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

River Falls Blue Bike Program looks to expand new program after promising first two years

Zach Dwyer
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

It’s a simple concept. You take a bike, you put it back. No credit card transactions, forms or other ways to discourage letting people get out and ride. This is the mission of the Blue Bike Program in River Falls. The program was launched in the spring of 2016 during an Earth Day celebration in Veterans Park, with five bike racks being placed around the city.

At the beginning of 2016, there were locations at Crankworx Bike Shop, 101 S. Main St.; Our Neighbors’ Place, 122 W. Johnson St.; Kleinpell Fine Arts Building at UW-River Falls, Hoffman Park and the Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park.

Mike Noreen, the conservation and efficiency coordinator for the city of River Falls, said that the volunteer staff tries to keep about 5-7 bikes stocked at each rack to allow as many people to participate as possible.

The program began as an idea from Blue Bike committee member Deb Lucero. Noreen said that Lucero saw the idea implemented in Stockholm, WI, as people biked from one art gallery to the next in the small town. The program in Stockholm was on a smaller scale, and River Falls wanted to expand the practice.

“We worked with a couple of different organizations where we would receive free bikes,” Noreen said. “Our responsibility was to go pick them up, and we picked up about 100 to 120 bikes from Free Bikes for Kids. They provide us with the bikes we’re looking for, and they’re already repaired and ready to go.”

The program looks for cruiser style bikes with no gears and kid’s bikes with a banana seat or chopper handlebars.

“We want to have a distinct-looking bike,” Noreen said. The huge supply of about 150 bikes is stored at the River Falls power plant. Once a rack is empty for a few days or a bike is beyond simple repairs, volunteers on the committee for the Blue Bike Program come in to supply fresh bikes. The rack at Our Neighbors’ Place was specifically put in place to help those at the homeless shelter use the bikes for getting around town. Hoffman Park at First National Bank Field is the most popular for children, according to Noreen. Bikes by the baseball field are even specifically sized for kid’s use. However, bike racks at KFA and Whitetail Ridge Corporate



Mike Noreen, the conservation and efficiency coordinator for the city of River Falls, gets ready to ride one of the blue bikes outside North Hall, Oct. 26.

Zach Dwyer/Falcon News Service

UW System’s free speech policy, Young Americans for Liberty spark controversy at UW-River Falls

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The administration must decide what does and what does not violate the policy. This means drawing a line to determine what is and isn’t considered hate speech.

“We want to air on the side of open, free debate but we don’t necessarily want freedom to be exploited. So where is that line? It’s an interesting judgement place and we’ve got to figure that out,” Heinselman said. “We will use our campus mission and values to determine that. I think we have a very good core position on that because of our mission and values but that doesn’t mean that every student within the community embraces and supports that mission and values.”

When breaking down the policy, Heinselman said he tries to think about what the first amendment means on a college campus and the history of student unions.

Heinselman said that the purpose of a student union, like the University Center, was originally for the interaction of students and the exchange of ideas. They were started as debate societies on college campuses where students could debate about what was going on in the world at any time.

“We are a forum of expression,” he said. “That’s what public education is about. Our campus is a state university. Most spaces on campus, all spaces on campus, should be safe. Most spaces on campus should be an open forum of expression.”

Students may not always feel like all spaces on campus are safe. According to Heinselman, there has been an increase in bias incident reports coming in this year compared to in the past, and a lot of them are classroom related.

Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Martin Olague has been in his position at UWRF since spring 2017. The responsibility of the intake of bias reports was passed on to Olague from Heinselman when Olague took the position. Olague said he isn’t sure that the number of bias incident reports has gone up, but that the reports that are coming in are more intense.

“I think students are being bolder with their comments because it’s okay to do so, you know? That that’s been the message that’s been sent at the national level I think and I think students are just being bolder with it,” Heinselman said.

Heinselman believes that as a community we have lost the ability to understand how to debate an issue without attacking the individual. Olague would also like to see that change.

“In that free speech, are you going to have productive dialogue or are you going to just attack someone just based off on identity? I think that’s kind of where these things get murky. But hopefully as an office we can push that conversation,” Olague said.

Heinselman said campus is going to take some time to adjust to the new policy and it will be interesting to see how a new student organization like YLA is going to blend into that at some level.

“It’ll be interesting to track that and see how it does on campus,” he said.

Fischer is open to the idea of debate but believes the paper activity gave people a chance to hide behind anonymity.

They took the opportunity to write their own message. “Free speech is great and all but your free speech will have consequences depending on what you’re saying,” Fischer said. “You have the ability to affect people with your voice and I think that’s something a lot of people don’t really understand when they say they want free speech.”

Anderson said YLA wants the paper debate similar to a Reddit feed and everyone should feel free to express their opinions freely when the group does the activity again in a week or so.

The group knows that some things that students write may be considered offensive to others.

“That’s going to happen, you know,” Anderson said. “If I say fiscal conservatism is the best way to manage government, some people are going to get offended by that, but just because you’re offended does that automatically render it hate speech? Not according to the definition of hate speech, at least in a legal code.”

Hate speech is defined as “speech which attacks a person or group on the basis of attributes such as race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or gender.”

“Personally, I think getting offended is great because automatically, to me, getting offended is kind of shocking the established quo in your brain,” he said. “Kind of forcing you to acknowledge this reality you had previously, either A, thought was impossible, or B, thought was so outrageous that you couldn’t even consider it or think about it.”

YLA wants the board to be an ongoing discussion. The same people can come back and add to their old ideas.

“Words are words,” Anderson said. “They’re not actions. There’s a difference.”

Park have both been removed this year because of the lack of use and difficulty in supporting the number of bikes being used.

UWRF police officer Steve Nygaard has seen the good and bad parts of the program after its second year of operation.

“It’s a good program that needs fine-tuning,” Nygaard said. “We’ve picked (the bikes) up on trails, in the weeds and had complaints from neighbors about the bikes being left in their yards.”

Nygaard said that not having to purchase the rental is great in theory, but makes it hard to hold people accountable. This tends to allow a minority of people to damage the bikes and just leave them, neglecting to put them back in a rack to be picked up.

Noreen says the committee plans to run the Blue Bike Program again in 2018, primarily focusing on stocking the three main locations that have shown success. While he sees a need to change up the program due to damaged bikes, he realizes there’s no simple fix.

“It’s totally anonymous and we don’t have a chip on them,” he said. “There’s a lot of bikes returned, but some aren’t. We’re continually looking at other options, but we still want to serve the children.”

Noreen said that adding a chip or card reader may also erode the mission to serve those in need. He said it may seem like, “if you don’t have a phone or the app or a credit card, then the program’s not for you.”

Vendors have already been coming in to the committee to pitch solutions and possible strategies for how to maximize the program. However, the program is still seeking to be accessible and community-oriented by not charging for the bike share program, which is different from the pay-to-ride structure in the Twin Cities.

A treat for some, a trick to others, parking regulations to resume on Halloween night

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of the policy during the dates that the restriction ranges from. Last winter alone, the River Falls Police Department issued approximately 2,300 citations for alternate parking, according to Ailene Splitterger, the police services specialist supervisor.

Citations for alternate parking are \$20 per ticket, according to Splitterger, which is a small price compared to the other potential consequence that the city occasionally finds necessary to impose.

“It’s very expensive to have your vehicle towed,” Splitterger said, “and we turn around then and we pay the tow company. If you don’t pick up your car, then we have to eat all of that, and then we try to sell the vehicle at auction.”

College students in River Falls are aware of the potential consequences for failing to adhere to parking restrictions. In some cases, students find ways to avoid paying the fees for the parking options available to them on campus, according to Rogaczewski, who moved his business explicitly due to problems with parking.

“The city needs to work with the college and figure out how to come up with more parking for the college students and not (rake over) these college students with parking on the campus,” Rogaczewski said. “That’s why Walnut Street was filled up with college students – free parking all day long, no limits, so they filled the street up with parking. I witnessed it every single day, and the city would argue with me that that doesn’t happen. So the city doesn’t really know what’s going on in their own city, obviously.”

For more parking information, visit the City of River Falls parking web page at: <http://www.rfcity.org/index.aspx?nid=336>

From farm fields to Florida: research yields valuable trip

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Justen, similarly, said that she has seen a rise in the number of students participating in undergraduate research. Where once she might have only taken five or six students along to the research convention when she first began working at UWRF, this year she had 17. This suggests that more students are taking advantage of undergraduate research opportunities. There has been a lot of effort to get the word out, Justen said.

There has also been a lot of effort to cultivate a community of researchers, particularly within the crop and soils department. Schneider-Rebozo added that faculty who are highly involved in research themselves tend to result in better student research.

“If the faculty mentor is doing research,” Schneider-Rebozo said, “they are statistically much more likely to be successful mentors.”

Now that the competition is over, students such as Henk and Pey have several paths they can take with their research.

Both will be expected to present their research at the URSCA Fall Gala on Dec. 12, but from there they have the option to continue with their research or move on to something else. Henk said she hopes to use her summer studies to land a job at a local chemical-testing company. Pey said she plans to start looking into graduate programs now that she has established her ability to conduct research.

“I put a lot of work into it,” Pey said. “Definitely worth it.”

EDITORIAL

Academic course cuts at Superior restrict options

UW-Superior is the latest school in the UW System to undergo a major overhaul of its offered academic programs. The university will suspend nine major programs including journalism, sociology, political science and theater, according to an article from the Duluth News Tribune released Tuesday. A total of 15 minors will also be suspended, including geography and physics.

One of the reasons for the cuts given by Jordan Milan, director of strategic communications at UW-Superior, is that, “Research shows that if you provide too many choices and too many options for students, it can get very overwhelming, which can result in them making misinformed decisions ... This often happens with particularly first-generation students, which 46 percent of our student body is first-gen.”

This line of reasoning is problematic for several reasons. First, Milan’s quote suggests that students don’t have the maturity to choose their own paths in life. The point of college, especially for a first-generation student, is to branch out and explore the different career options that the world has to offer.

General education classes, which include subjects like geography, theater and political science, are an important part of a college education. They may not contribute directly to the career path that a student wants to pursue, but what they offer is a broad, general knowledge of the world. These gen. ed. classes also tend to teach skills like basic writing and critical thinking, which contribute indirectly to any major that a student decides to pursue.

Streamlining these options will hinder the forward progress of UW-Superior. Current students will be able to finish off their majors, but anyone new intending to join these slashed programs will have to change plans. For many, this may mean avoiding UW-Superior entirely and going somewhere else. Potential students might even be turned off from the UW System in general and opt to seek education in states like Minnesota.

While this topic mainly affects the students, current faculty at UW-Superior have also been forced out of their specified teaching positions. They aren’t being laid off, but they’re being reassigned to gen. ed. courses that “aren’t necessarily in their area of expertise,” according to Jackie Weissenburger, interim provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs for UW-Superior.

At UW-River Falls, there have been similar cuts in the past. Our campus has a severely diminished foreign language department after the 2016 budget cuts, and class sizes for gen. ed. courses have been on the rise ever since. Our campus stands in danger of repeating UW-Superior’s mistake.

We at the Student Voice urge campus administration to keep these points in mind. Certain programs may not bring in as many students as, for instance, the animal science major, but they are valuable assets to students that may not yet know exactly what they want from their college experience. One of UWRF’s most attractive qualities is that it offers a robust selection of gen. eds, and it needs to maintain these programs if it wants to keep a reputation as a university devoted to the liberal arts.

Editorials represent the opinions of the Student voice Editorial Board and are prepared by the editorial staff.

STUDENT VOICE

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Crisis in Yemen raises questions over American Halloween spending habits

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

Children in bright Halloween costumes with their chubby hands clenched around buckets of crinkly-packaged candy filled the feeds of my various social media accounts this past week.

In sharp contrast and in increasing amounts since this summer, pictures and videos of emaciated children with their eyes bulging out of gaunt faces have also been filling my social media feeds. My stomach has been turning over and clenching in guilty knots, not just because of all of the festive candy I’ve recently been consuming but also because of the sharp dichotomy of realizing that I have so much while others have nothing.

It is, or should be, no news that children and adults in Syria – to name one place where starvation is happening – have been facing extreme food shortages for years now because of the war they are embroiled in. Over the summer, images of listless and grey-faced Yemenis children began to show up in videos on my Facebook.

In an Aljazeera report from March of this year, “more than 20 million people in four countries [are] at risk of starvation and famine.” This famine is the largest in the United Nation’s 72-year history. In a more recent article from October of this year, Aljazeera calls the seven million starving Yemenis the “war the world forgot” as the conflicts in Syria have captured the most global interest.

The famine in Yemen is called a “humanitarian disaster” in this same October article, and is due to the fact that Yemenis are currently in the middle of a now three-year civil war and are almost totally dependent on food imports. The civil war has effectively blocked any imports from coming in. The intense fighting in the country and lack of necessary shipping

ports has stopped any distribution of life-saving nutrition. Aljazeera notes that 17 million do not have access to food and 6.8 million are in famine.

Meanwhile, in other parts of the world, children are going from house to house collecting candy.

The National Retail Federation reported that for Halloween this year, Americans will spend \$9.1 billion on the holiday with \$2.7 billion of that total just going towards candy. It is a new record high for the United States.

According to Stephen O’Brien, the UN humanitarian chief, a March 2017 Aljazeera report said that \$4.4 billion was needed by July for humanitarian food aid to stop starvation and famine. Of the \$4.4 billion, \$2.1 billion of that went solely to Yemen.

In a security council meeting at the United Nation’s building in New York on Oct. 10, Director of the Coordination and Response Division in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian affairs said that the Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan was at 55 percent, or \$1.3 billion, but that the ultimate goal of \$2.1 billion had not yet been reached. His goal is to get the rest of the money and reach the 12 million Yemenis who need life-saving aid by the end of this year.

It is hard for me to comprehend 12 million starving people, let alone \$2.1 billion dollars. Considering that it is now November, I cannot help but not be optimistic about the chances for getting all of the money necessary to complete this vital mission.

It is troubling to me that Americans spent four times the amount of money on a holiday than what is needed to provide life-saving resources to people living in just one famine-stricken place in the world.

Lauren Simenson is a senior 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.

Ask Abigail: How to buy affordable makeup that isn’t tested on animals

Abigail Erikson

Columnist

Dear Abigail,

I’ve recently been getting more interested in makeup but I keep running into a problem when I go to purchase new makeup. I only want to buy makeup from brands that don’t test on animals but I also can’t afford to spend \$20 on one eyeliner. Do you know of any good cruelty-free makeup brands that fit a college budget? Why do brands test on animals anyway?

Sincerely, An Animal Lover

Dear Animal Lover,

I’m so happy that you are looking into cruelty free cosmetics! This isn’t something that many people choose to do so I applaud you for this decision.

Testing beauty products on animals is something that is widely known but usually swept under the rug and forgotten about. The main reason that cosmetics brands test on animals is that the FDA requires certain tests be done to ensure that a product is safe for humans.

The problem with this is that the cheapest way to do these tests is on animals such as rabbits. To test products on humans requires a lot more money because those humans

want to be reimbursed for their trouble and the risk they are taking. This leads to lower priced cosmetic brands, or drug store brands, opting to save money and run the cheaper tests so they can make more money.

Despite this, there are still many brands that are committed to being cruelty-free, and they are often very vocal about that choice. Some brands that are readily available at Target or Wallgreens and on the lower end of the cost spectrum are Wet N Wild, Essence, Elf and NYX. The prices of most of these brands range from \$1-10 and I would recommend any of their products to you.

Some brands that are more in the middle of the price range are Pixi, Sonia Kashuk and Pacifica. These brands can be a little harder to find; Sonia Kashuk, for example, is a brand that is exclusive to Target, but they are well worth the hunting you may have to do. These brands are a bit more expensive but the quality is a little higher as well. My favorite mascara from Pacifica is \$13, and most mascaras made by CoverGirl, a brand that does test on animals, are around \$9.

It can be hard to find new products that are as good as your tried and true ones. It is good to note the return policy of some retailers. Target, for example, will accept open and used beauty products so long as it is within the appropriate time frame. This is a godsend when trying new things so you don’t end up with a whole drawer full of things you will never use. I wish you the best of luck in the new adventure and let me know your favorite product that you find!

Abigail

The basic guide to being a food critic

Bethany Lovejoy

Columnist

As we know, it is every basic white girl’s duty to either run a food blog or own a food Instagram.

As a professional daughter of a restaurant owner, I am an unofficial professional when it comes to food. We’ve spent a few years in the sit-down food industry, and I’ve also frequented quite a few restaurants. Therefore, it is my job – nay, my duty – to inform you of the proper ways to judge every single type of restaurant.

Mexican:

It is a fact bestowed by God that every Mexican food item is to be judged by its rice and its rice alone. Bland rice at a Mexican restaurant is not only an insult to Tex-Mex, but also an affront to the American food god.

It does not matter as much, however, if they have good hot sauce. A good hot sauce will numb you to even the worst of rice. Similarly, a gracious amount of cheese should move said restaurants up in your ranking unless you are someone who doesn’t enjoy happiness. Cheese costs like ten bucks on campus, so get as much of your complimentary shredded cheese and wood pulp as possible.

Anywhere that serves burgers:

Promptly order the largest burger there. It doesn’t matter if it is nineteen pounds – order the largest burger you can pay for and bite into it.

Does it taste like beef? Good.

Put a lot of ketchup on it, even better.

Wait until the nearest patron gets tomatoes.

Decide that is an appropriate size for tomatoes.

Receive said tomatoes and immediately discard them because it is not an appropriate size, as there is not an appropriate size.

Bam, you just reviewed the heck outta burger joints.

How to review bars:

I cannot legally drink so I am not a master of bars yet, but my basic understanding is to order hot wings.

If the spice level is so high that you cannot taste it, you have successfully ordered hot wings. Compare those hot wings to all other hot wings you have ordered; is it hotter? Hotter equals better.

Burn your skin.

Also something something eat the cheese curds.

How to review Chinese buffets (only go to Chinese buffets):

How much food did they let you take? Was it truly unlimited? If not, zero stars out of zero stars.

What is the mouth feel? The salt ratio? Is there soy sauce? Soy sauce equals quality.

Do they limit how many crab rangoons you are capable of grabbing per a plate, and do they let you take a second plate for crab rangoons? Really get the mouth feel for these rangoons, the more cream cheese the better.

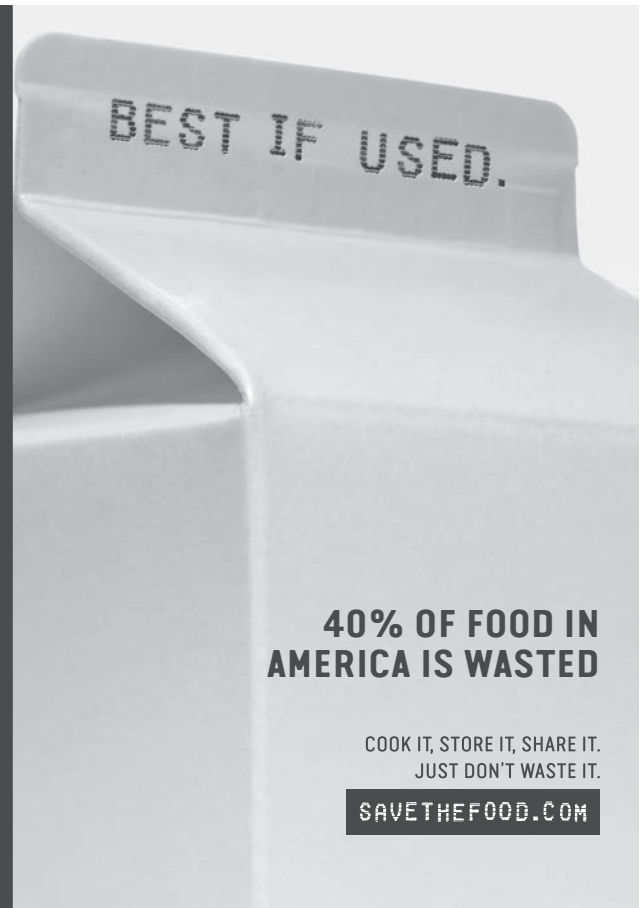
All other buffets:

See rules above.

Remember, a major part of any food review should be how photogenic it is. Be willing to give or take three stars based on the lighting of the restaurant and the presentation. To become an elusive food stallion of epic food reviewing, you should be able to shove food from every type of restaurant mentioned above into your mouth at the same time.

If you are incapable of such a thing you shall never be a true food blogger.

Bethany Lovejoy is a Creative Writing major who enjoys enjoys sleeping but rarely gets it. She has many papers to write and one paper to write for. In her freetime she enjoys the finer things in life such as food and (nonalcoholic) drinks. If you’ve made it this far in the paper you can make i even futher and read her movie reviews on ecetra.



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STUDENT voices

What is your midterm pro-tip?

Compiled by Yasmine Ruetz



Alayna Rudolph - Freshman
“Don’t procrastinate”



Anna Miller - Sophomore
“A lot a naps, coffee, and late nights”



Lucy Landaeta - Junior
“Cry.”



Logan Garrick - Junior
“Coffee, candy, and crying”



Quinton Lee - Junior
“Stay focused, but know when to call it a day”



Rylee Fabry - Senior
“A relaxing night and taking plenty of naps.”

UW-River Falls women’s cross-country team runs to first national ranking in school history

Zach Dwyer

Falcon News Service

It was a warm September day when the UWRF women’s cross-country team lined up for one of their most difficult races of the year. Following cold temperatures during training and a mild end of summer, the temperature soared to over 90 degrees by the time the Roy Griak Invitational began at the University of Minnesota. The meet is often one of the toughest on the schedule, and this year would be no different.

“It’s one of the hardest courses, and it’s extremely hilly,” junior runner Linsey Tolkkinen said. “It was super-hot, and a lot of people had to drop out of the race.”

Despite the difficult conditions, every Falcons runner finished the daunting race. Tolkkinen managed to finish, coming in sixth place at 23:50. Senior Abby Fouts led the way for the Falcons, finishing in third place with a time of 23:30.

As a team, the Falcons finished third on the day. This was an impressive feat for the size of the meet, with 12 teams and 160 runners competing. The Falcons had only finished in seventh place at Griak the previous year, highlighting the level of improvement the team has accomplished this year.

The Falcons are now ranked in women’s cross country for the first time in school history at number 35 in Division III. UWRF finished first as a team at the UWRF Falcon Invitational and the Lawrence Invite, with Fouts finishing in first place in both races. Coaching changes and individual growth have begun to pave the way for improvements in practice and at meets.

“When I came in my sophomore year, I was running mid-to back-pack, and I wasn’t stellar,” Fouts said. “But I had coaches who believed in me and pushed me towards being better.”

Fouts has been forced to make the adjustment to running by herself this season due to her pace at running so far up the field. She said she has always relied heavily on her teammates, whether it was pacing off of Tolkkinen or encouraging

other runners during the race.

“For the Lawrence meet I was on my own the entire race,” Fouts said. “It was very hard and exhausting ... and very nerve-racking to not have anyone next to you, but it was a big confidence booster.”

Both wins are the first in cross-country under third-year head coach Danielle Douglas. She came to UWRF after coaching at Division I Mississippi Valley State for three years. Douglas oversees both the track and field and cross-country programs, while also creating the weight training program and doing the logistical side of the job. However, her ability to bring in a former assistant coach has been one of the keys to success this season.

“(Coach Joseph Chebet) coached with me before (at MVSU), and he jumped at the opportunity to coach with me again,” Douglas said. “He’s very personable with (the runners) and he believes in their ability. He puts a race and mile attack together with them and shows them where they were in the meet.”

The race and mile attack show the runners where they were at different points in the race and how they moved up or fell back. It is beneficial for teaching a runner how to make their way through the race and how they paced themselves.

Chebet’s new methods have increased the profile and outlook for the future of the program. Douglas said she has already begun to receive more recruits to fill out a full roster next season, with improved morale and results from athletes being a key selling point.

Chebet’s work with the distance runners has had an immediate effect on the athletes. The team has gone through three different cross-country coaches in the last three years and has never experienced the success they are currently enjoying.

“The team has always struggled in the past with coaching changes,” Tolkkinen said. “We don’t stay for a coach, but we stay for each other and because we love the team.”

Tolkkinen said this level of dedication for the program will continue to bring in new recruits to the cross-country team.

UWRF currently has one of the smallest teams in the conference but has continued to be a force at meets this season.

“It’s amazing what we can do with eight girls, when other schools may have close to 30 girls,” Tolkkinen said. “We make the best with what we have, and that definitely makes it more impressive and special.”

While the new ranking has been special for the cross-country team, Fouts maintains that the focus hasn’t shifted.

“It does a lot for us and gives us a huge confidence boost,” Fouts said. “It’s really motivating to see that even though we’re a tiny little team and school, we have power. But we still need to train as though we’re not ranked and achieve more things.”

One of those accomplishments was their third-place finish at the WIAC championships meet on Saturday. Fouts finished fourth individually, and the team achieved their second top-three performance at conference in program history.

But beyond a strong finish at conference, this UWRF team has their sights set on regionals. Tolkkinen went so far as to say that it has been the team’s ultimate goal since she came in as a freshman to make it to nationals as a team, not only as individuals.

Cross-country may seem like an individual sport, but it still maintains a team atmosphere. Fouts said that success in meets is all about race strategy and where you finish in the race. Contrary to track and field, individual times don’t carry the most weight.

“Each course is different from everything else,” Fouts said. “It’s important to focus on placement more than time. Placement determines who goes on to nationals, so it’s about passing more than watching your clock. You can control that more than your time.”

The individual improvements by UWRF women’s cross-country runners have made their goal of reaching nationals something that has never felt so close. The team travels to the NCAA Midwest Regional on Nov. 11 to qualify for the National Championships.



Linsey Tolkkinen, left, and Abby Fouts run at the Falcon Invitational on Sept. 8.

Tori Schneider/University Communications

The Student Voice is taking applications for all positions for the spring 2018 semester:

- Editor
- Assistant Editor
- Front Page Editor
- Sports Editor
- News Editor
- Viewpoints Editor
- Etecetera Editor
- Chief Photographer

- Staff Photographers
- Columnists
- Reviewers
- Freelance Reporters
- Cartoonists
- Business Manager
- Circulation Manager

To apply, fill out the Spring 2017 Student Voice application on the Student Voice FalconSync page, or find a paper copy of the application outside the Voice office (304 North Hall) and return to the editor or assistant editor.

Coach Q&A: men's basketball coach Jeff Berkhof



Kathy Helgeson/University Communications
Jeff Berkhof, men's head basketball coach at UWRF.

Zach Dwyer

zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Jeff Berkhof enters his 12th season as the head coach for UW-River Falls men's basketball. He has the second most wins in program history, only trailing his former coach Rick Bowen for career wins. Last year his team finished 25-4 and won the WIAC regular season title and WIAC tournament. The team also completed a 17-game win streak, the longest in program history.

Berkhof was named the 2017 WIAC Coach of the Year and was also named the NABC's Central Region Coach of the Year. Additionally, he received Wisconsin's Division III Coach of the Year by the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association. The team loses captains Grant Erickson and Garret Pearson from last season, but returns a majority of the roster.

The Student Voice sat down with Berkhof to discuss the team's upcoming game against University of Minnesota-Duluth and expectations for the coming season.

Q: What was your playing experience like at River Falls?

A: It was great. I was a junior college transfer and the first year was an adjustment to the program and the coaching. My second year we lost quite a few seniors, so I knew I was going to be called upon to score the basketball more. I worked extremely hard to develop and become a better scorer, and I worked as hard as I ever have in my life. I had a really good senior year where I was all-conference and averaged 17 points per game and had a couple of 30-point games. It was one year of adjusting and one year of performing well.

Q: Did you always plan on coming back as a coach?

A: I knew I wanted to get into college coaching, but it's like, 'how do you do that?' I had an opportunity right after graduation to go up to the University of North Dakota and work a basketball camp. I got invited back up there to be a volunteer assistant. Ben Jacobsen, who's the Northern Iowa coach now, befriended me and gave me a nice opportunity. But once I got up there I didn't feel like it was the right place for me. Rick Bowen gave me the opportunity to volunteer with the Falcons and I jumped on it and had great timing. Assistant coach Paul Costanzo got a job with Dick Bennett with the Wisconsin Badgers, and the assistant job became open. John Walsh and myself split the assistant position here. I was very grateful that Rick Bowen gave me the opportunity to be the assistant coach when I was only 24 years old.

Q: What does it mean to honor Coach Bowen in the first game in Page Arena?

A: It's going to be a great night. Don (Page) was an icon here at River Falls, so it's neat to honor him and Rick Bowen, who put River Falls basketball on the map. His son Matt Bowen coaches at UMD, and being able to honor him with the court dedication is very well deserving.

Q: What events are planned for the exhibition game on Saturday?

A: We asked alumni and friends for support and they helped us raise enough money to get all the members of last year's team a championship ring. It's something that Rick Bowen also did back in 2004 when we won the regular season title. It's nice we can honor the team from last year and then we can put that behind us and go on to 2017-2018.

Q: What does the coaching staff look to observe in the

players during exhibition games?

A: It's hard to simulate game-like situations, so I look forward to that. I look forward at seeing who plays well together because we have some new rotations. I want to see how the new guys are going to react when the lights are on and people are in the stands watching them.

Q: How will the losses of Pearson and Erickson affect the team in the opening weeks?

A: Grant was a tremendous leader and they knew we were in good hands. We need to fill that void and I think we can. Garret was a tremendous player and brought inside and out scoring ability and toughness. I'm confident we can replace them, but they were two really good players and it might take a little time. We have some depth at those positions and are ready to play. We're still trying to determine at practice and the exhibition who those players will be.

Q: What steps can Alex Herink still take after being WIAC player of the year?

A: Alex has worked hard this summer. He's hungry and last year was a feeling out process as a newcomer. But we've expressed to Alex that we need him to score more, and he's definitely up to that task.

Q: What did this team learn from the NCAA tournament run last season?

A: Our guys are hungry to get there again. If you're a competitive team in our league and you can somehow get in that NCAA tournament, there's a bunch of teams capable of playing in the NCAA championship. It's just a matter of a bounce the right way in the tournament format. That's step one, and the next is to play longer into March. We have a tough road coming out. We were 10-1 in nonconference last year and that was helpful for us getting into the NCAA tournament.

Q: How long will it take for the new court to feel like a home-court advantage?

A: It's definitely a different venue. We may find that teams dreaded coming to Karges, but now teams may be looking forward to coming to beat us. Teams will want to come in and beat us in our new, shiny home. We have a lot of home games and we tried to do that this first year. Our guys have been shooting well in practice and I hope we establish it's a home court advantage right here on Nov. 4. We have to be fundamentally sound and play together and play with toughness, and those will be the key things to making it a home court advantage.

Sports Recap

Women's Volleyball

The Falcons closed out their season by splitting two games at the Bethel University Triangular on Saturday. After dropping their last two WIAC games of the year at home earlier in the week, UWRF responded with a 3-1 win over Augsburg College on Saturday. However, the team couldn't finish the season on a winning note when they fell to Bethel 3-1. Amara Meyer and Dakotah Poitra each had 21 kills through the two games on Saturday. Hailey Huseth added 47 assists through both games, while Hannah Robb led the team in digs with 51. Robb also set the single season dig record with 644 on the season. UW-River Falls finishes their 2017 season with a record of 19-15, while going 0-7 in conference.

Football

UWRF lost in heartbreaking fashion to #3 ranked UW-Oshkosh on Saturday, coming up short 31-28. Ben Beckman had his best performance of the year at quarterback, completing 24 of his 40 attempts for 322 yards and a touchdown, earning him WIAC offensive player of the week honors. The success through the air came early as Trent Monson caught a 49-yard pass from Beckman to go up 7-0 in the first quarter. After running back Michael Diggins added a touchdown in the second quarter to go up 14-7, the UW-Oshkosh Titans scored two touchdowns and a field goal in the second quarter to enter halftime ahead 28-14. However, the Falcons fought back in the second half to take the lead with only six minutes left after two more touchdowns on the ground by Diggins. UW-Oshkosh wouldn't allow UW-River Falls to pull the upset on the road, going on a 10-play, 61-yard drive to go ahead 31-28 with only a few minutes remaining. The Falcons tried to move the ball up the field to get in field goal range, but turned the ball over on downs with a minute remaining. Diggins continued to be a strong offensive threat by totaling 106 yards and three touchdowns on 26 carries. Nic Studer and Trenton Monson also had huge days at the wide receiver position. Studer had 12 catches for 155 yards, while Monson added 6 catches for 111 yards. On the defensive end, the strong UWRF defense was led by Joey Leonard with eight tackles and Max Praschak with seven. With the loss UWRF drops to 3-5 on the season and 1-4 in the WIAC. The Falcons travel to Stevens Point on Saturday to look at breaking the current four-game losing streak.

Men's Hockey

UW-River Falls got off to a tough start this season, dropping two games on the road this weekend against Concordia University and Milwaukee School of Engineering. The Falcons were ahead 3-1 on Friday night after goals from Eddie Matsushima, Joe Drapluk and David Landau. Concordia responded with a goal only twenty second after UWRF's third goal, and Concordia put two more into the back of the net in the final period to prevail 4-3. The Falcons also got out to an early lead on Saturday against MSOE, as Max Doner scored a power play goal in the opening minute of the second period to go ahead 1-0. But as was the case against Concordia, the Falcons allowed three goals in the third period, all in the last eight minutes of regulation. UWRF tries to bounce back this weekend when they host Saint John's on Friday and Augsburg on Saturday.

Women's Hockey

The Falcons began their season with one of the toughest draws in the country, facing #3 ranked Norwich and #2 ranked Adrian at the Adrian College Tournament this weekend. UWRF tied Norwich 3-3 on Saturday, with Callie Hoff and Kora Torkelson scoring their first goals in a Falcons uniform. Carly Moran added a power play goal in the second period, and Torkelson's goal with only three minutes remaining secured the tie for UWRF. Neither team scored in overtime, and the Falcons made three of their five shots in a

shootout to advance to the Bulldog Bowl championship game against Adrian on Saturday. Adrian proved to be a tougher challenge by taking down the Falcons 3-0. The bulldogs added two goals in the third period to pull away from the #4 ranked Falcons. UWRF looks for their first win of the season when they travel to Bethel on Friday night. The teams will have a rematch the next day at Hunt Arena for the Falcons home-opener.

Women's Soccer

UWRF closed out their season with a 3-2 loss in the first round of the WIAC playoffs against UW-Oshkosh. The Falcons outshot the Titans 26-15, but couldn't get a stop in overtime when Oshkosh put a ball past Haley Crosby to clinch the win. Kayla Windingstad and Maggie Koehler both added goals in the first half to put the Falcons up 2-1. However, the Falcons couldn't put the game away in regulation and failed to score the rest of the way. UWRF finishes their season at 5-14-1, with a 2-4-1 record in the WIAC. Both conference wins came in the last week of the season to clinch the sixth seed in the WIAC playoffs. Abby Soderholm finished the season as the top scorer for the Falcons with six goals and seven assists. Windingstad finished with five goals this year, while Koehler added four.

UWRF Sports Schedule

November 3 Women's Hockey at Bethel 7 p.m.

November 3 Men's Hockey vs St. Johns 7:05 p.m.

November 4 Football at UW-Stevens Point 2 p.m.

November 4 Women's Hockey vs Bethel 2:05 p.m.

November 4 Men's Basketball vs UMD 5 p.m.

November 4 Men's Hockey vs Augsburg 7 p.m.

Home games in BOLD

YOU DON'T WANT THEM RESPONDING TO YOUR TEXT.

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Ad Council NHTSA

Fantastical ‘Albion: The Enchanted Stallion’ leaves the viewer with more questions than answers

Bethany Lovejoy

Reviewer

We all knew that girl in high school who had an obsession with horses. You know, the girl who seems kind of normal until you get to her house and see shelves and shelves of plastic horses staring down at you with their beady eyes. They use mane and tail shampoo for both their head and their horse and there are photos of the girl and her horse in matching hairstyles.

We have a few horse lovers on campus, maybe not to that extent but there’s an emphasis dedicated to them.

I am not a horse person, but I invite you to stomp your hooves and shake your tails as I review a movie made solely for them:

Give it up for “Albion: The Enchanted Stallion.”

At that title, you may be thinking, “Whoa! What a magical and amazing title! Is this movie available on Netflix and other streaming services?”

It is.

Anyway, this horse-loving girl takes care of her father who has been recently handicapped and immediately hops into the plot for all of us; she had a dream about this totally gorgeous stallion.

And her dad’s like, you know what? Sure. Cool. Reminds me of something.

Have you heard about Kelpies? They’re super pretty and awesome but they murder people left and right. They just entrance young horse lovers and invite them into their satan realm. When you dream about really pretty horses you are probably dreaming about satan horses who wish only to murder you.

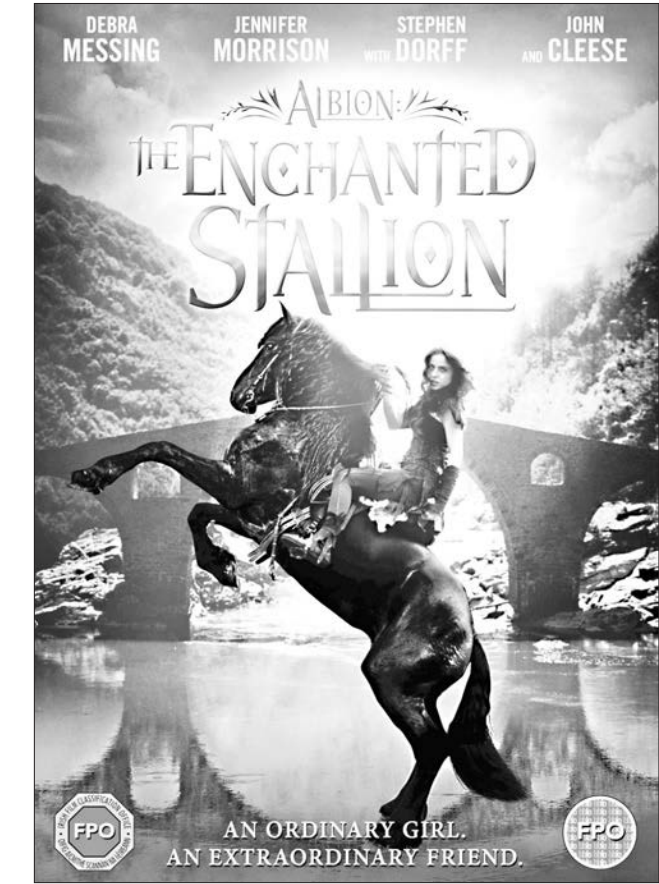
Evie, who is about 12, works at a horse barn and just sort of hangs with horses. No one around her really understands her deep emotional bond with horses or her crippling debt. She is like one of the sole providers of her family, by that I mean the sole provider.

Evie constantly feels sad because rich kids get more horses and poor girls can’t even own horses. They can only follow the light of the almighty Jesus, take care of their parents and pray for a horse to be bestowed upon them.

And pray she does, not understanding the economic difficulties of having a horse or why she cannot spend every waking hour with a horse.

Neigh, says Evie, I deserve a horse for Christmas.

I didn’t even realize that horse Jesus fantasy movies were a



niche that you could sell to people.

But there are some serious grooves going on in this movie, the soundtrack is bumping, and I got a little horse trot dancey going on as I waited the eleven minutes required for magic, beautiful horse time.

The horse is nice looking, I think? For a horse. I’m not really a horse expert but ten horses out of ten? It was a very black horse with a cool horse mane.

Satan horse (the black horse) was like “get on me Evie, you said you wanted a free horse unbounded from economic difficulties and here we are.” Evie kind of resisted but then totally ignored everything her father had told her about the world and decided to go ride with Satan.

And Satan basically threw her into a magical world because Satan does not care about your handicapped father, job or economic difficulties. Welcome to a medieval hellscape where people trade cheese for healthcare.

Satan takes her to this glowing devil rock and starts grunting pretty heavily at her to go in there and the rock turns out to be this cave with a professionally made stone staircase. And there are hieroglyphics that talk and a scepter of truth. But, really

poorly made.

None of this matters because it turns out that the horse is a man? A werehorse? Awesome. But she’s only 12, so not awesome. The horse guy is about forty and took this young precious child into another world and we’re supposed to be all cool with this old forty-year-old man kidnapping her.

Evie is reasonably mad about this and the badly animated hieroglyphics laugh at Evie like she’s an idiot.

Albion is a land and not a horse. If you guessed that the fantasy world is set in western medieval society despite this girl being from Vermont, you are correct.

Why?

Because fantasy.

Anyway, the whole point of this is to defeat these evil guys who have taken the Satan horse’s homies’ crib. Where this movie falters, though, is that the evil guys are pretty cool and make the other guys look like they just suck, and turn into horses to kidnap children. All the evil guys want to do is to stay in the sunlight where there is food, fresh air and sunlight.

And the mane point of the horse homies is to lock these other dudes underneath the earth for being the occasional jerks. You know, back into the hellscape where they starve and never see the sun again. This way they can frolic with their horses and abduct as many children as they want.

There’s also a redheaded Merida rip-off and her friend who looks like Newt Scamander? He’s not the guy who plays him though, he just looks like him.

They’re on the side of goodness and put up with the hick child.

Really, the sad part is that all of the side characters in this movie are far better than the main character. The main character’s only real traits seem to be being American and enjoying horses. She is down to earth for these two reasons and does not need to do anything else.

The main part that dis-settled me about this movie was that it had this weird, absurd humor with no explanations and things just sort of randomly happened all the time. It tried to act like it was Nanny McPhee and be all, “This happened because of magic.” But instead, it just turned out like this weird train wreck of a movie that tried to rip off Narnia by adding a horse.

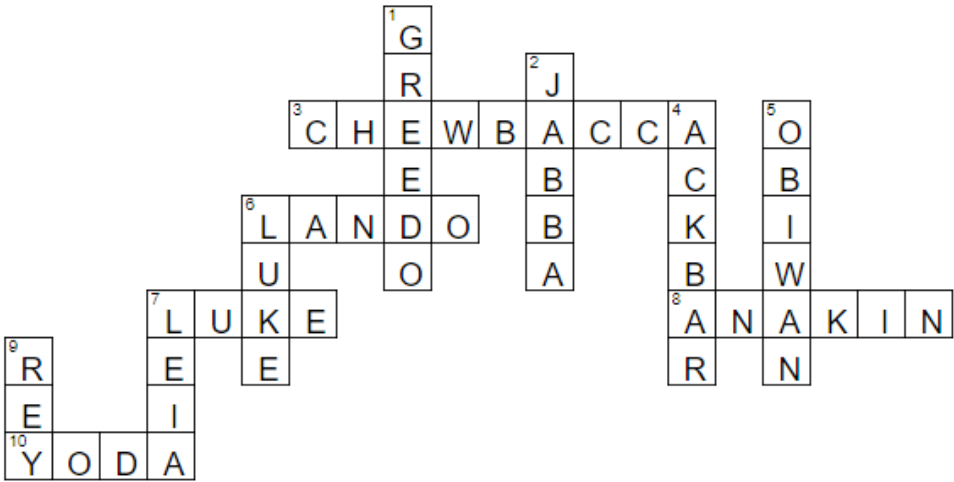
I watched it twice, and I honestly cannot tell you what happened because I cannot make sense of anything except that this chick was all about horses.

Some stars out of five? Maybe one? Maybe five? I have no idea what happened aside from horse kidnapping.

Bethany Lovejoy enjoys chicken tenders, trips to Aldi with her mom, and pasta.

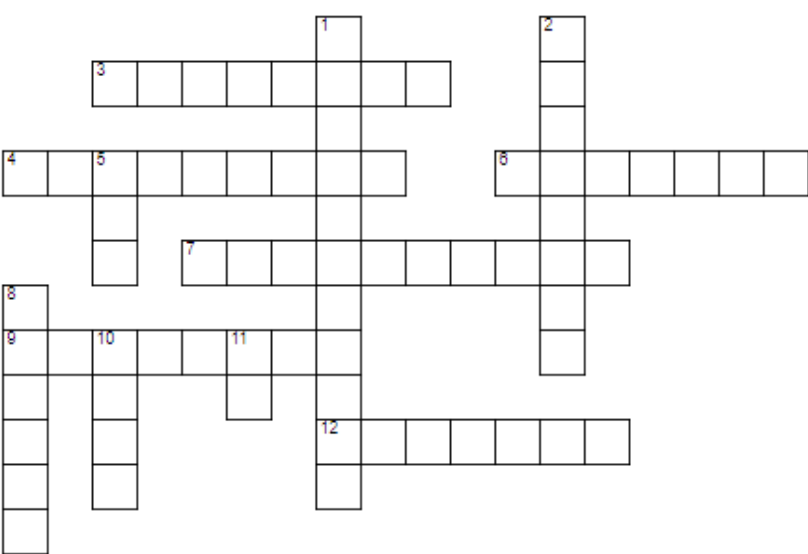
Last Week’s Answers

Star Wars Characters



Puzzle of the Week

Horror Movies



- ACROSS
- 3 Australian psychological horror film about a shadowy monster in a top hat.
- 4 German adaptation of Dracula.
- 6 Bram Stoker’s famous vampire.
- 7 Horror/comedy parody film featuring Ghostface.
- 9 Children’s horror story by Neil Gaiman where a girl has to escape her “other mother.”
- 12 An aspiring writer gets cooped up in a hotel, goes insane and tries to kill his family.
- DOWN
- 1 A house is invaded by malevolent, child-abducting ghosts.
- 2 A little girl is possessed by a demon.
- 5 Two men are chained in a bathroom, and one has orders to kill the other.
- 8 The original slasher film where Ghostface appeared.
- 10 You watch the videotape and die seven days later.
- 11 Stephen King story featuring Pennywise the clown.

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Find Freddy’s lost feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes to the Falls Theater!

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Now Playing: “My Little Pony” and “It”

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