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# STUDENT VOICE

University of Wisconsin River Falls

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## ‘Silent Sky’ uses small cast to highlight the work of female astronomer Henrietta Leavitt



*Tori Schneider/University Communications*

**Cast members in the UW-River Falls production of “Silent Sky” are Becca Donley as Margaret Leavitt (left), Emma Johnson as Henrietta Swan Leavitt, Lynnina Alden as Annie Cannon, Kaleb Wick as Peter Shaw and Brooke Hafner as Williamina Fleming.**

Zach Dwyer  
Falcon News Service

The early 1900s was an influential time in history, with women finally integrating into the workplace and gaining the right to vote. One woman who is highly regarded today for her contributions in this era was Henrietta Leavitt, who is notable for her work in astronomy.

Leavitt was an unlikely trailblazer in discovering how expansive the universe truly is. She attended college in Massachusetts but had a serious illness that left her severely deaf. She had moved with her family back to Beloit, Wis. after losing her hearing, but knew her calling was back in Massachusetts in one of the top observatories in the world.

In the play that portrays her life, titled “Silent Sky,” Leavitt expects to be able to do more theoretical work and get involved charting the stars right away. However, she quickly finds out that she is stuck working as a human “computer,” with limited opportunities to give her theories or thoughts on the work she’s charting.

“Science was not very kind to letting women in,” UWRF Physics professor Eileen Korenic said. “But they just didn’t give up, and eventually they could prove themselves. They had to say, ‘This is my heart’s desire and I will stay with it.’”

Korenic is a professor of astronomy, and she said that it wasn’t until these female “computers” tracked the data that it became clear to most astronomers that there may be other galaxies beyond our own.

This male-dominated society is where the production of “Silent Sky” begins. The play opened in the Blanche Davis Theatre this past weekend at UWRF, and it continues this Thurs-

day through Saturday. The play by Lauren Gunderson details Leavitt’s journey from living with her family in Wisconsin to taking on a job as a volunteer at Harvard to study photo images of stars to determine their magnitude, or brightness.

The characters are some of the biggest reasons that director Robin Murray chose the play to be performed this semester. The Stage And Screen Arts Department chair was a costume designer and professor for over 20 years and has now directed her sixth play at UWRF in addition to her teaching duties.

“I saw it as a play with strong women characters,” Murray said. “It has a really nice background that people can learn from it. I wanted it to have some kind of message about history and what we can learn from these women.”

Murray also said that the lives that the main three “computers” led (Leavitt, Anna Cannon and Williamina Fleming) fit into the contemporary woman’s challenge to reach equality.

“We need to be inspired by the passion of these women to keep going, even though they had to struggle,” Murray said.

Murray got input from the Women and Gender Studies Department, along with consultation from the Physics Department about the astronomical aspect of the play. A main point of the play hinges on Leavitt’s work on studying Cepheids, which are variable stars that eventually helped astronomers discover the distance to other galaxies.

Murray had to make sure the actors fully understood what they were saying so that the audience could understand the intent of the astronomical language. Actors were also prepped by participating in a reading group of Dava Sobel’s book “The Glass Universe,” which detailed the women of the Harvard Observatory and how they measured the stars.

The cast only had five members, which is smaller than most

productions the University Theatre performs. Murray said this allowed for a lot of behind-the-scenes work to be done by bigger student roles, including having a student assistant director and the stage manager designing sound.

She added that it’s easier to direct a play of this size, but it puts a bigger challenge on the actors to be performing for that length of time with few breaks. This is especially true for Henrietta’s character, who was played by Emma Johnson.

“Henrietta is off for only a moment or two at a time, and it is a difficult thing to do,” Murray said. “When I cast, I knew I had to know they could learn all the lines and sustain the character, and they need a lot of energy. It’s an analogy to an athlete. It takes a lot of physical stamina, and they have to take care of themselves and have their voice hold up.”

The small play was also an opportunity to flesh out the characters, according to Kaleb Wick, who played Henrietta’s “adviser” Peter Shaw.

“It’s also fulfilling because you can then put yourself in the spotlight and create these unique characters and capture the interest of your audience,” Wick said. “It’s harder with large cast shows to create distinct characters. But here you can really solidify what kind of person you are.”

Wick described his own character as a culmination of all the men at Harvard, and a victim of his time. He added that Shaw probably felt threatened by the work that these women were able to accomplish.

“Part of what’s holding her back is the rigid, male-oriented society,” Wick said. “It keeps her from discovering it sooner, and she probably would’ve found out about the blinking stars much quicker if she could’ve used the telescope instead of just using the plates.”

The plates, or pictures of stars, that Leavitt used to make her discoveries are still in the Harvard archives. A lot of discoveries stem from the work that Leavitt accomplished, and it completely changed the way people thought about the universe. Edwin Hubbel, famous for his telescope, would never have been able to give us the gorgeous shots we see today if not for Leavitt’s work.

Leavitt accomplished her discovery through years of hard work, during which time she wouldn’t even go home at night and would instead sleep at her work station. She eventually found out that the blinking patterns of the Cepheids was a way to determine their distance as they went from bright to dim to bright again.

“The whole time she’s been told that this is the way the universe is, and you shouldn’t even try to prove that there’s more,” Wick said.

However, her dedication allowed humans to understand the sky in a whole new way. Astronomy professor Korenic brought up an example of how to understand the way Leavitt’s discovery changed our knowledge. She compared it to knowing how bright a 100-watt light bulb is. Then, if you see the same light bulb across the street, you know it’s just as bright, but it’s at a different distance.

In the same way, the variable stars, or stars whose brightness fluctuates, can be observed by observing the pulsation period as they go from dim to bright. The known luminosity is then compared to the observed brightness to find the distance to the star.

Henrietta Leavitt died in 1921, but the effects of her discovery are still being felt almost 100 years later. “Silent Sky” will finish its run at the University Theatre with Friday and Saturday showings at 7:30 p.m.

## Newly formed Professional Sales Club gives students opportunities to learn networking skills

Charlie Swanson  
charlie.swanson@my.uwrf.edu

The college experience is not something that has an absolute definition. Attending class, living on campus, celebrating homecoming, long days and late nights and the Ramen noodle diet generally come to mind when describing what it is like to be a college student.

Part of what makes being a college student enjoyable is the newfound freedom and flexibility. There is a variety of diverse opportunities and activities that students can get involved with. Unfortunately, many students either choose not to get involved or simply do not know about the options available to them.

The Professional Sales Club at UW-River Falls offers students an opportunity to enhance their college experience. Reid Wilson, president of the Professional Sales Club, said that the club’s main focus is on networking.

“We want club members to be comfortable around professionals and to make connections,” Wilson said.

One of the ways that the Professional Sales Club has attempted to acclimate students to the professional world is through a panel event with the College of Business and Economics, or CBE, which took place on Tuesday at the Ann Lydecker Living Learning Center. At

the event, a panel of sales professionals from Uline, Fastenal, Penske and Cargill answered students’ questions.

Students were able to get expert advice about what life is like working in sales, what employers are looking for in interviews, how the hiring process works and even internship opportunities. Matthew Block, 22, originally just attended to be with his friend. However, after the event was over, Block was surprised to find that he had learned valuable information.

“It wasn’t just sales orientated – it helped students get career ready,” Block said.

The CBE panel’s successful debut at UWRF marks what the Professional Sales Club hopes will become a long-standing tradition on campus. Adam Dickinson, head of Advertising and Promotions for the Professional Sales Club, envisions the CBE panel becoming at least a yearly event, if not occurring every semester.

Dickinson said he believes that this event provides students with more one-on-one time with high level professionals than they may find at other networking events such as the Career Fair.

“The Career Fair can be very daunting. This event is more personal,” Dickinson said.

In addition to arranging more of these events in the future, the Professional Sales Club has a tour planned at a 3M facility. On this tour, club members will be introduced to sales reps and they will further learn how to communicate among

professionals.

Membership in the club is not limited to business and sales majors. Corey Hawe, vice president of the Professional Sales Club, said that the club is open to anyone and that they are looking for underclassmen who are willing to stay for the duration of their college career.

Preparing for a career after college can be very stressful for students. Classroom regimens are designed to teach students the skills related to their specific major, but there are some skills that cannot be taught in the classroom.

Networking and learning how to interact with professionals are skills that are best learned through personal experiences. The Professional Sales Club offers students with the chance to interact with professionals, learn how to get jobs and internships and learn how to “sell yourself.”

While the club’s main goal is helping students network, it also strives towards creating a fun environment for its members through planned events.

“We are trying to show that clubs can be fun and productive,” Wilson said.

The Professional Sales Club is trying to break the mold of what is expected of academically based clubs by highlighting important skills that are not always taught in the classroom. For more information on the Professional Sales Club, email Wilson @reid.wilson@my.uwrf.edu.



# News Briefs:

## River Falls city council votes to remove Kinni River dams

After years of discussions and study, the River Falls City Council has reached a decision regarding the issue of relicensing the city’s two hydroelectric dams.

At its regular Tuesday, Feb. 27 meeting, the council unanimously approved a resolution, after approving several amendments, that endorses a long-term vision of a free-flowing Kinnickinnic River, but also approves the relicensing of the hydroelectric project for the final time. The resolution includes plans for removing first the Powell Falls and then Junction Falls dams.

The council spent much time and deliberation approving several amendments to the resolution.

The approved version of the resolution, including the approved amendments states:

- The city will remove the Powell Falls dam and hydro-electric facilities, and complete associated stream restoration by the target date of 2026. The city will also document this process and evaluate it as the Junction Falls removal process is planned.
- The city will remove the Junction Falls dam and hydro facilities, and complete associated stream restoration by the target date of 2035-2040. If the need for dam removal becomes more immediate due to ecological reasons, it can be removed sooner.
- The city and stakeholder organizations will form a public-private partnership which will seek funding for these and other river corridor projects. This partnership will also address any projected revenue loss from accelerated dam removal.
- Any dam or hydro related costs over \$5,000 will be reviewed by the Utility Advisory Board and any costs over \$15,000 will be reviewed by the City Council.
- The council approved adding language to specify that no city property tax dollars would be spent on dam-related projects. This was passed 5-2.
- The city will continue to pursue renewable energy policies and create more clean energy from other sources.
- The corridor planning process will “establish a fiscally responsible financing plan” for implementing the final corridor plan, including dam removal and stream restoration.

The resolution, as amended, was passed with no opposition, to general applause from the audience that packed the council chambers. Almost every seat was filled and some stood in the back.

Each council member took time during the meeting to thank the members of the Kinni Corridor Committee for their hard work over the past approximately 18 months, and to thank River Falls residents and other concerned parties for taking the time to communicate with city representatives.

“I just want to thank all of you for coming here and for communicating with me and the rest of the council,” said council member Diane Odeen. “It’s made me realize that River Falls isn’t really the river, it’s the people and you’ve all shown how dear this city is to you.”

Other council members also said they appreciated all the input from the community and the corridor committee, as well as participation in events such as Tech Talks and the planning charrette.

The city began the Federal Energy Regulation Commission (FERC) relicensing process in late 2013. FERC granted the city a 5-year extension of the license, giving the city until 2018 to decide whether to relicense or surrender the license.

The Kinni Corridor Project Committee began meeting in October 2016, and drafted the resolution that the council amended and approved during Tuesday’s meeting.

## Bowls for Hope event to benefit Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is March 6

February 26, 2018 – The 9th Annual Bowls for Hope public event held at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls is set for Tuesday, March 6, from 5-7 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center.

Each March the University of Wisconsin-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the event where proceeds raised help a worthy organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley. This year, Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is the benefiting organization.

For an entrance fee of \$25/adult and \$5/children age 12 and under, participants at the event may select and keep a bowl created in ceramic, pottery, fibers, wood and glass studio classes at UW-River Falls, 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. Guests have the opportunity to vote for their favorite soup and a “Chefs’ Choice Award” will also be awarded to the soup favored by the chefs participating in the event. A silent auction will also take place.

Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is a nonprofit organization that offers free parent education and family support to families in Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix counties. Its mission is to strengthen children, families, and communities by offering education, resources, and support.

“It is an honor to be named the recipient of UWRF’s 2018 March Bowls for Hope event,” said Agnes Ring, Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley executive director. “The proceeds from this event will help make it possible to meet emergency needs of families who are enrolled in our home visiting program. Our parent educators work with families one-on-one to understand child development stages and improve parenting skills.”

Participating restaurants:

Belle Vinez, Bo’s ‘N Mine, Copper Kettle, Junior’s Restaurant and Tap House, Kilkarney Hills, Kinni View Deli at Riverwalk Square, Mei Mei’s Cookies, River Falls Area Hospital Dining Services, Swinging Bridge Brewing Co., Chartwells Dining Services at UWRF, West Wind Supper Club, and Whole Earth Grocery.

Artists contributing bowls:

Marilyn Anderson, Donna Badje, Megan Bauman, Eoin Breadon, Cheryl Carter, Ingrid Bjerstedt-Rogers, Roger Evans, Jay Jensen, Randy Johnston, Kinnickinnic Clay Works LLC, Michael Luethmers, Pat McCardle, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Wendy Olson, S.C. Rolf, Rhonda Willers, Scott Zeinert, Rhonda Willer’s ceramic classes at UWRF, Eoin Breadon’s glass studio classes at UWRF, Renaissance Academy classes taught by Kyle Stapleton, River Falls High School ceramic classes taught by Taylor Berman, and Kelyn King’s class at Meyer Middle School.

Special this year are bowls made by Bob Brodersen from clay that belonged to the late Doug Johnson.

Nan Jordahl will provide live piano music throughout the evening.

Tickets can be purchased at the River Falls Chamber of Commerce, 215 West Maple Street; at the UWRF Chancellor’s Office, 116 North Hall; and at the Information Desk in the University Center on campus. Purchasing tickets in advance will guarantee a bowl. Tickets will also be available at the door. For questions about advance ticket sales, call 715-425-3201.

For more information, visit [www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope/](http://www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope/) or email [mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu](mailto:mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu) or [mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu](mailto:mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu).

## Works by Minneapolis-based artists Holliday and Rizzo on exhibition at UW-River Falls

February 26, 2018 – Works by internationally exhibited and collected Minneapolis-based artists Chad Holliday and Chloe Rizzo are on exhibition through March 23 in Gallery 101 in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

Utilizing traditional craft-based techniques and materials, the artists explore the tradition of form and object through their engaging individual and collaborative sculptural works. While Rizzo’s work is rooted in ceramics, her mixed media sculptures document the paradox of our human experience through the manufacture of formal objects, symbols, figures, and relics. Holliday works with the concepts of space and light through the use of glass. His multi-process explorations of technique and form seek to manipulate the light so as to create a multiplication of space.

A reception on Wednesday, March 7, beginning at 3:30 p.m. offers a chance to meet the artists and to hear about their creative process.

For additional information, call the UW-River Falls Art Department at 715-425-3266.

## ‘Year of South Korea’ program events announced at UW-River Falls

March and April will see a series of five special public events as part of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls “Year of South Korea” program.

Since the summer of 2017, UW-River Falls has highlighted collaborations and exchanges with South Korea, culminating in last month’s women’s hockey game between the Falcons and the South Korean national team.

In March and April, the focus shifts to innovation and public policy in a series of free public lectures and discussions both on campus and at the River Falls Public Library.

Here’s a look at the upcoming schedule:

Thursday, March 8 — H.C. Shin, vice chair and executive vice president, 3M Research and Development, Supply Chain Operations, Business Transformation and IT, Business Development and Marketing-Sales, will give the Innovator in Residence program lecture, “Leadership and Innovation,” at 1 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom, University Center. For more information, email [danielle.campeau@uwrf.edu](mailto:danielle.campeau@uwrf.edu).

Wednesday, March 28 — University of Chicago Professor Bruce Cumings will deliver a public lecture, “Provincialism and Internationalism in U.S. Foreign Policy,” at 4 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater, University Center. Cumings is the Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor in History and former chair of the History Department at the University of Chicago. The lecture is part of the Walker D. and Helen Bryant Wyman Visiting Professorship in History program. For more information, email [zhiguo.yang@uwrf.edu](mailto:zhiguo.yang@uwrf.edu).

Thursday, March 29 — University of Chicago Professor Bruce Cumings will participate in a roundtable discussion of his book, “The Korean War: A History,” at 2 p.m. in the Chalmer Davee Library breezeway, second floor. A reception precedes the event. The discussion is part of the Walker D. and Helen Bryant Wyman Visiting Professorship in History program. For more information, email [zhiguo.yang@uwrf.edu](mailto:zhiguo.yang@uwrf.edu).

Thursday, March 29 — University of Chicago Professor Bruce Cumings will deliver a public lecture, “American Policy Toward North Korea; Seven Decades of Failure,” at the River Falls Public Library, 140 Union St., River Falls. A reception begins at 6 p.m. with the lecture following at 6:30 p.m. The lecture is part of the Walker D. and Helen Bryant Wyman Visiting Professorship in History program. For more information, email [zhiguo.yang@uwrf.edu](mailto:zhiguo.yang@uwrf.edu).

Monday, April 2 — Jong-Kook Lee, consul general of the Republic of Korea in Chicago, will deliver a public lecture, “Korea-U.S. Relations; Past, Present and Future,” at 4 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic Theater, University Center. The Chicago consulate general’s office oversees the Republic’s interests in 13 Midwestern states. For more information, email [youngsoo.margolis@uwrf.edu](mailto:youngsoo.margolis@uwrf.edu).

Prayer services for Francis Johnson will be held at O’Connell-Benedict Funeral Home in River Falls on Saturday, March 3 at 3:30 p.m.

Visitation will be 4 p.m.-7 p.m.

## Student Senate Update: Mar. 2

Guest speakers from Recreation and Sports Facilities were brought in to discuss the recent social media backlash that happened in response to a series of posters detailing dress codes in the sports facilities.

· Many students online likely thought that the codes were there for modesty reasons. In fact, they are there to minimize the sharing of sweat and spreading of disease.

The Student Senate voted to make a statement condemning UW System President Ray Cross for his comments regarding shared governance within the UW System.

· Cross’ comments had to do with how shared governance (concept that faculty, staff and students have a say in UW System policy) is ineffective and bogs down decision-making.

· Student Senate would prefer that Cross make efforts to fix issues with shared governance rather than simply denouncing it entirely.

The Senate approved a motion to adopt a list of priorities that they hope to achieve. Included in the list were, among other things:

The Senate passed a motion to allocate \$400 from the Student Senate Funding Pool to remodel the Student Senate office space over spring break. The idea is to make the offices more accessible to the public.

*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.*

### Weekly UWRF Crime Report

**Tuesday, February 21**

- Vandalism was reported at George R. Field South Fork Suites at 9:31 a.m.
- All drug complaint was reported at Hathorn Hall at 9:19 p.m.

**Thursday, February 23**

- All drug complaint was reported at George R. Field South Fork Suites at 12:19 a.m.
- A motor vehicle accident was reported at the former sports and recreation center at 6:00 a.m.
- Welfare checks were reported at 321 E Cascade Ave at 1:02 p.m.

**Monday, February 26**

- A motor vehicle accident was reported 263 E Cascade Ave at 11:12 a.m.
- Theft was reported at Crabtree Hall at 1:00 p.m.
- A motor vehicle accident was reported at the corner of 6th St and Cascade Ave at 5:09 p.m.

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





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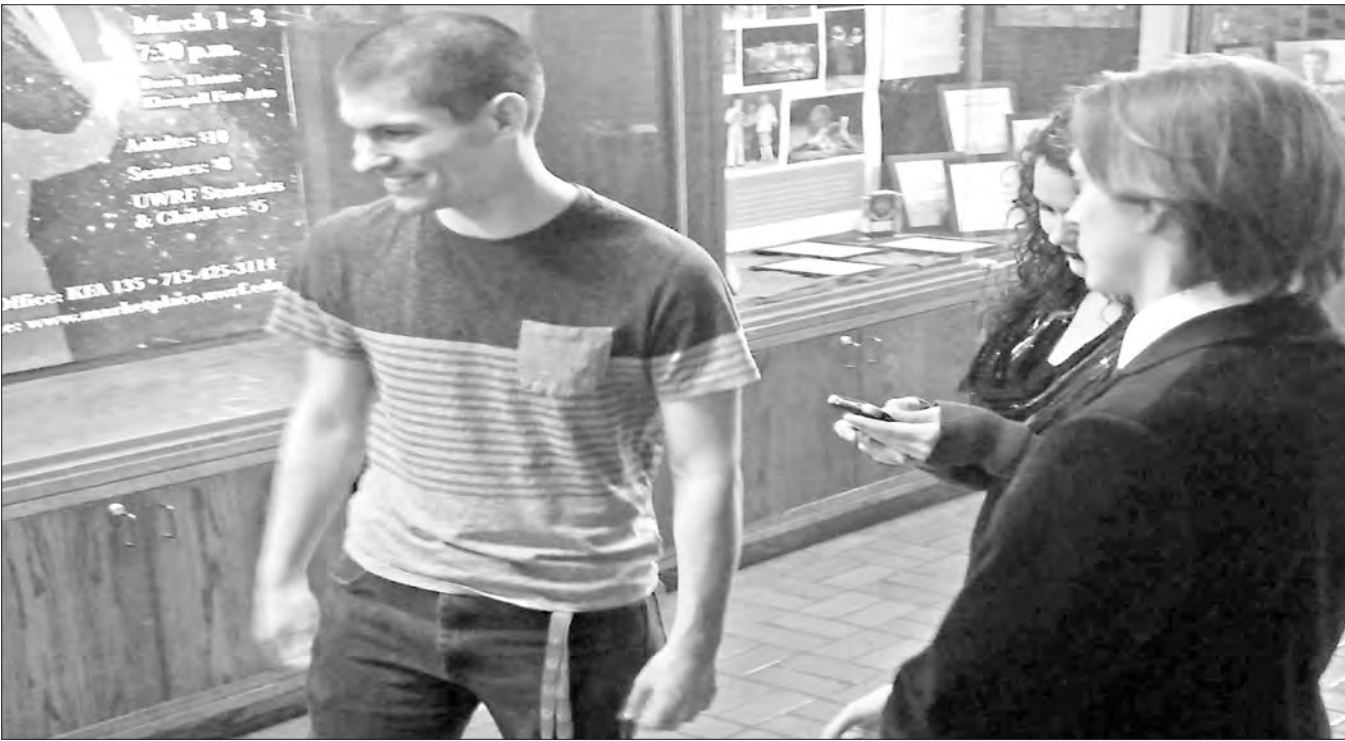
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# First time assistant director Corey Fern explores new space with ‘Silent Sky’ production



Nathan Lukasavitz/Falcon News Service  
**Assistant Director Corey Fern (left) standing alongside lighting crew members Kyia Britts and Jan Rozumalsi as they prepare to welcome the opening night audience to the Davis Theatre on Feb. 22.**

Nathan Lukasavitz  
Falcon News Service

While sitting in the Blanche Davis Theatre for the first time as a freshman, UW-River Falls junior Corey Fern realized he had no clue how to operate any of the equipment the students use to put on their productions.

More recently, when he accepted the role of assistant director for “Silent Sky,” Fern felt more than qualified for the position after 2 ½ years as a theater student.

“They really let you just make your mistakes and learn for yourself, which is an amazing opportunity,” Fern said. “They just train such versatile students, so I’ve learned how to hang lights and focus lights and patch lights, and I set designed a show; I’ve stage managed, and now I’m assistant directing, and I’ve also had a lot of on-stage opportunities.”

Fern shares numerous learning experiences with many of the other students involved in the “Silent Sky” production, which consisted of roles for 17 students, five actors and 12 stage crew members – a far cry from the 30 cast members who acted in the univeristy’s fall production, he said.

Ultimately aspiring to make a career out of teaching and directing university theatre, Fern had only one concern about his first time assistant directing.

“Because of the fact that I’m a student and I’m their peer, that was something that I was really worried about because it takes a lot of vulnerability to be on stage,” he said. “I put out there right off the bat that ‘this is a learning experience for me; this is a learning experience for you. I’m here to help you improve your performance, and I think it’s going to be great, and I think I have a lot to offer.’”

One of the main ways that Fern found himself improving the actors’ performance was developing methods for them to eliminate habits of awkwardness that they would portray on stage.

“People have different acting ticks,” he said. “Mine is that I

often want to play with my ring when I’m on stage, so I always take off my ring so I don’t get that tick. Some people have issues where they won’t make direct eye contact on stage.”

Having a cast of only five members was another factor that Fern believes really played to his advantage, allowing him the opportunity to give the actors more one-on-one attention than usual for directors or assistant directors.

“With it being a smaller cast, and with their respect for me and my respect for them, it’s been a great process,” he said. “I think that every single one of us has gotten astronomically closer.”

Another factor that Fern said he found helpful was his own personal enjoyment of the play as well as his acknowledgement of the contributions women have made toward astronomy.

That same appreciation for astronomy, as well as for the play itself, is exactly what brought sophomore Glory Duda to the theatre for the play’s opening night performance.

“We read this play in Acting I (SASA 121), last semester,” she said. “I really like stars and I really liked the play, so I wanted to see it on stage.”

Duda’s familiarity with “Silent Sky” gave her high expectations for the university’s rendition. However, after seeing the play, her appreciation for it had only grown stronger.

“I really liked the ending,” she said. “I think the end part is really, really well written – the part after she goes up and looks through the telescope and explains what happens to each of the (characters). They did a really good job of taking something that’s really big like space and the universe and bringing it down to this stage while still making it feel really big.”

While Fern has no plans to assistant direct another production at UWRF, he does intend to continue using the stage to make things appear real. However, he first plans to pursue his Master of Fine Arts degree after graduating from the university next spring.

# SASA sees growth, students gain valuable life experience

Chris Gregg  
Falcon News Service

Senior Kyia Britts has almost always felt at home either on stage or behind the curtains. She has been involved in theater since she was 8 years old, and she chose to attend UW-River Falls to major in Theater Arts to continue her passion.

Britts, like the other 55 current Stage and Screen Arts majors, chose the UWRF Arts department for their post-secondary education for a number of reasons – namely the size of the university.

“Even though our department is small, it is so worth it,” she said. “You can put your hands on every single part of theater and you get to experience it in a much different light than you would at a big university. Here someone might come in as an actor, but they might be stage managing by the end of their second year.”

The Arts department is part of the College of Arts and Sciences, which has 460 students enrolled. One of the central

majors in Arts is the Stage and Screen Arts program. From producing plays to designing sets and lighting, students gain valuable experience.

The experiences that the Stage and Screen Arts department offers varies from everything on stage to shooting and editing videos.

This experience allowed Britt to find her ultimate passion, she said. “I came in initially looking to act and have found my absolute passion in lighting. I never would have had that chance had I gone to a big university.”

The size of the university allowed Britt to get close to her professors, she added. “I can text them and ask them questions if I’m working on a project late. They’re always there for me.”

As a large portion of universities across the country have started cutting funding to art departments, UWRF’s appears to be thriving.

When the largest freshman class since 2009 came to the campus this fall, the Stage and Screen Arts program benefited. According to Robin Murray, chair of Stage and Screen Arts,

the program added 18 new majors – a 33% increase over the previous year.

Murray said that the department is graduating between six and eight majors annually. Graduates find work in a variety of industries based on their experience. Some go on to jobs in marketing or communications, video production for non-profits or even working in Los Angeles.

College of Arts and Sciences Interim Dean Tricia Davis said that she is very pleased with the developments and growth of the Stage and Screen Arts department.

“My goal for them is to keep doing what they are doing. My goal is to hopefully keep the growth in the student body which helps give us support getting more faculty members,” she said. “I love the art department, I love the theater department. Music. I think those are what make an arts and sciences program liberal arts.”

The Stage and Screen Arts Department also serves as a tool to reach out to the community. This is accomplished through offering a variety of productions open to the public.

“Having someone come up at the end of the show or even be in tears at the end of the show is really moving,” Britts said. “For them to sit there and say, ‘This will stick with me for the rest of my life,’ we’ve had people say that. We’ve had people say that they’ve been going through similar circumstances and they couldn’t believe that we were able to portray it so vividly.”

The current show, “Silent Sky,” enters its final weekend on Friday and Saturday. Directed by Murray, the show celebrates the late Henrietta Swan Leavitt. Leavitt used pulsating stars to calculate how far Earth was from distant galaxies, while she was working at Harvard College in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Britts agrees that the department is about more than just getting a degree; it’s about gaining valuable life skills.

“There are a lot of different people from a lot of different backgrounds who are involved here,” she said. “Whether they are majors or not – we all have that understanding of we might not agree with you, but we’re going to listen, because everyone’s opinion is valid.”

Britts said that learning to be able to collaborate and work with a lot of different people is important. This is especially important as mixed reactions to the UW System policy that expels or suspends students for disrupting events on campus.

Britts summed up the department: “We’re here to entertain, but there’s more to it than just putting on a show.”



Lauren Simenson/Falcon News Service  
**Brooke Hafner, Emma Johnson and Kaleb Wick on stage during the opening night performance of “Silent Sky.”**



# EDITORIAL

## Kinni dam removal has finally moved forward, but could be moving faster

A resolution was finally approved regarding the removal of the two dams that are blocking the Kinnickinnic River through River Falls. The final decision was unanimously in favor of eventually removing both dams, though the hydroelectric license will be renewed one last time.

This decision has been almost two years in the making, officially, and some members of the public have unofficially wanted to remove the dams for far longer. The wait is not over, however; it will be another eight years before the first of the dams – the Powell Falls facility – will be removed.

Part of the reason the project is taking so long is because the city will be working all the while to ensure that the stream is restored properly after the removal of the dams. The first dam will be a test run for when they move forward to take out the larger Junction Falls dam.

A bigger reason, however, is cost. An amendment was made on the resolution to specify that no city property tax dollars will be going towards these projects. Instead, the money will be raised by public-private partnerships through citizens and interest groups. This isn’t a fast process, and it will take years for the planning and fundraising to come together.

It seems like a bit of a stretch that the extensive funds necessary to remove these dams and revamp a river will be fully covered without the help of tax dollars. We think that the city should reconsider their promise that no property tax dollars will be spent on the project. At this rate, the current generation will not be seeing many of the resulting benefits from the project.

Overall, the dam removal has a lot of potential to enhance the city. One of the main points that the council brought forth was the tourism aspect. Restoring fast flow to the river through town will make the surrounding property much more aesthetically pleasing and encourage business owners to set up shop along its banks.

Faster rivers are also better for recreation. A continuous river flow will be more appealing to kayakers, because they will not have to interrupt their trip to portage around the dams. A faster, narrower river with more gravel is also better trout habitat, which will draw in fishermen.

The dams are also on their last legs. Studies of their structural integrity have shown that they are in need of repairs. The longer we take to remove them, the more the city has to spend on simply making sure that they don’t crumble on their own. The dams are generating a small amount of electricity for the city, but it is only a small percentage of the city’s power usage and does not make up for the cost of keeping these dams alive.

Already, the city’s recommendation has moved the project completion date forward by about 10 years. This suggests that it is possible to do this quicker. We think the city needs to take advantage of the momentum gained by the project, otherwise people will begin to lose interest.

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

# STUDENT VOICE

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# RiseUp, Western Wisconsin! motivates people to take action against injustice

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

This past weekend was the one-year anniversary celebration of the grassroots organization RiseUp, Western Wisconsin! RiseUp was started right here in River Falls and came together shortly after several River Falls community members came home from the first Women’s March in Washington D.C. in January 2017.

What started as a group of women protesting in Washington soon began to grow into a community of people, now over 230 to be exact, who wanted to take their political dissatisfaction and turn it into positive political action.

RiseUp’s mission statement directly reflects the purpose of the organization. “Amplifying voices to empower people” is a simple and straightforward message that’s intended to provide people with the motivation and resources to take action against injustice and corruption in our current political system.

The group provides action-oriented steps for achieving their mission on the main page of their website, <https://www.riseupwesternwisconsin.com/home>.

RiseUp wants to:

“Build a community network of people and groups advocating for human rights, education, the environment, democratic institutions, and accessible and affordable health care. Influence public policy votes by developing and/or publicizing community-based lobbying efforts and direct contact events such as town halls and local demonstrations. Give voice to the voiceless by encouraging dialogue based on fact, reason, and a shared sense of justice. Call out abuses of power and campaigns designed to divide us through fear, greed, confusion, or jealousy.”

Over the past year, members from RiseUp have occupied street corners in River Falls in order to protest against repealing the Affordable Care Act. They also marched in the River Falls Day parade while holding signs emblazoned with issues such as supporting public schools and protecting the environment. They also had signs that addressed topics such as immigration and health care.

RiseUp team members have also gone door to door to talk

to neighbors and friends about their differences and beliefs. Not only that, they hosted a town hall meeting because representative Ron Johnson would not come and hear what his constituents had to say, and they formed sub-committees focused on topics such as immigration and women’s health.

This past Sunday, to celebrate one year’s worth of community involvement and political action, RiseUp hosted the community event called “Rising Up, Reclaiming our Democracy.” It featured Wisconsin campaign finance expert Mike McCabe.

In the lower level of the River Falls Public Library, McCabe spoke to a full room of community members about the role of money in politics and how important it is that people view democracy as something we “do,” not just “have.” McCabe then took comments and questions from those assembled.

One highlight of the question and answer session was the importance of journalism in keeping people informed about the facts and truth. The session also highlighted that we are in an unprecedented time in history where journalism is being discredited and underappreciated. In reference to several comments and questions about the recent Parkland, Fla. school shooting, McCabe said that he is optimistic and hopeful that the young generation coming up will be our saviors.

As a journalism major and a millennial, his words were an incredible confidence boost to me. It was refreshing to hear someone defending a generation that so often gets bad-mouthed and dismissed. McCabe said that he disagrees with those who call younger people apathetic and uninformed about what is going on. He insists that the generation taking charge in Florida knows more about the world and what is going on than he did at their age, and the work they are doing in the aftermath of the mass shooting is just the beginning.

It is just the beginning for for RiseUp, Western Wisconsin!, which now has one whole year of enacting positive change on a local level. This is just the beginning, not only for this organization but also for its members. These members have committed to coming together to not just envision a better world, but to make a better world a reality.

*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.*

# ‘Fullmetal Alchemist’: when the characters write their own stories

Sophia Koch

Columnist

The book and corresponding TV series “Fullmetal Alchemist” is probably pretty much unknown to the general populace. However, among the overwhelmingly nerdy fan base for anime (Japanese cartoons), Fullmetal has a cult following and is often used to lure hapless non-nerds into anime culture.

Which then consumes them.

That aside, “Fullmetal Alchemist” fully deserves its cult following, and there is a good reason it’s so effective at getting people hooked on anime. Among other things, it features phenomenal world building, has a tight story with minimal plot gaps, explores interesting political concepts and is beautifully drawn and animated.

The greatest strength of Fullmetal, however, is the characters and the way they drive the plot.

The series is packed solid with characters. They’re all extremely interesting and have different backgrounds and colorful personalities. They’re also very distinct from one another because the series makes a point to give even the side characters full development.

Full character development is a difficult thing to define. You could say that it has to do with detail – the more details, the more fully developed a character is. However, I think level of detail has more to do with the distinction between main characters and side characters; we tend to know more details about the main characters because we spend the most time with them.

When determining whether a character is fully developed, I like to go use the test of: “do we know what they want and why they want it?”

A simple example from Fullmetal would be the character Gluttony. Gluttony is pretty straightforward: he wants to eat things all the time. Why? Because he’s hungry, and can

never satisfy that hunger because (spoiler alert) his stomach is basically a portal to another dimension. Everything he does, therefore, is linked to his desire to satisfy his insatiable hunger. Otherwise, he seems to be a pretty nice guy.

A character that is fully developed like this, even a side character, is a wonderful way of driving plot. Plot often runs on conflict, and one of the best ways to generate conflict is to create characters who have opposing desires. Gluttony, for example, wants to eat people. Most people don’t want to be eaten. Put him in an alleyway with your main characters, and suddenly you have conflict (usually in the form of a dramatic street brawl with lots of blue lightning flying around).

Think, then, what you can do with ten or twenty characters with development like Gluttony’s. Each one has a different desire. Each one is trying to get to that desire, and oftentimes desires clash. If two people want things that are too different (world domination versus saving the world, for example), you usually get enemies. If two people want things that are a more similar, they usually team up. Sometimes you get a situation halfway between – two characters think they want different things. Over time, however, they realize that they have similar values and begin working together. Or vice versa.

Character-driven plot is an ingenious writing method. If you create solid characters and fully understand how they would interact with one another, they will often write the story for you. Alliances and enemies will form, fights will break out and setbacks will befall your main characters. If the characters are three-dimensional, the story will be too.

Disclaimer: there are two versions of the TV show. One is called “Fullmetal Alchemist,” and deviates sharply from the books in an oftentimes confusing way. The other is called “Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood,” and is generally recommended as the better of the two because it more closely follows the original plotline from the books.

*Sophia Koch spends way too much money on books and periodically drops her phone in rivers.*

# Environmental protection should be considered a priority for our country

Carl Meeker

Columnist

The Environmental Protection Agency had its beginnings in the early 1970s, when it was created by then-Republican President Ronald Reagan. It was created as a result of increasing public concerns regarding the environment, which had been growing throughout the 1950s and 1960s.

In Rachel Carson’s seminal work “Silent Spring,” she addressed one particular environmental issue that had been gaining a lot of attention: the growing use of synthetic pesticides and their impact on environmental and human health. Of these pesticides, one in particular gained a lot of attention because of its pronounced effect on bald eagles: dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, also known as DDT.

DDT is especially problematic because it is a persistent

organic pollutant. This means that it is resistant to biological and chemical degradation, giving it the ability to last upwards of 30 years within the natural environment. Over time, DDT can be transported into lakes and rivers, where it can come into contact with the aquatic life living in those habitats.

Due to its resistance to degradation, quantities of DDT can slowly build up over time in the tissues of aquatic organisms as they eat the chemical and fail to completely get rid of it through excretion. This process is known as “bioaccumulation.”

Sometimes bioaccumulation can build up to fatal levels and outright kill an animal. Other times, however, the DDT quantities won’t quite reach that level, and the organism will go on living with a non-lethal accumulation of poisons in its body. This opens up opportunities for this smaller organism to be eaten by a bigger organism, which passes on the DDT to the next level of the food chain.



# Environmental protection should be a priority in the U.S.

Continued from page 4

Because predators tend to eat more than one prey animal (eagles, for example, eat more than one fish over the course of their lifetime), this means that animals that are higher up on the food chain tend to get higher doses of accumulated poison – a process known as “biomagnification.” For example, if an eagle eats two DDT-infected fish, it gets two small doses of DDT, neither of which will be going anywhere since the eagle isn’t capable of excreting the chemical either. Over time, the DDT will build up in the eagle’s tissues and

begin to cause problems. Over time, this biomagnification effect has had tragic results. Due to rampant use of DDT in the U.S., bald eagle populations in the country have diminished to a mere 487 nesting pairs. Under the Endangered Species Protection Act of 1966, these national symbols were listed as endangered and in critical threat to becoming extinct. This is but one disaster that fed into the growing outrage over environmental pollution within the U.S. There are many who say that regulating industrial waste and pesticide use harms the economic growth of businesses within the country,

and that economic growth is the most important of all considerations. I ask, however: without an environment to sustain us, how can our country exist? How can there be any business or economic system if there is no environmental system to support and sustain human life? Is economic growth the end-all-be-all of human civilization, or is there something greater?

*Carl Meeker is an environmental science major with plans to go into science, technology, and public policy.*

# Horoscopes by Stephanie - it’s a joke, my name’s Beth

Bethany Lovejoy

Columnist

*Aries*  
Your constellation has moved out of the line with its morals and values, which is why we have to have a serious talk this week. I know what you’ve been thinking: Buzzfeed is easy and they literally do nothing. Sure, it’s appealing and would really utilize your communications degree with an emphasis in memes. You know, though, you can only create so many videos about cats. Sure, you have loads of ideas about different cuisines they can eat and react to and you’ve memorized their chicken watch song, but ... Think about your life. Think about how you quote Buzzfeed. Do you really want to be 28 years old and taking pictures of Tumblr posts? Do you really want to compile sponsored lists? Do you have it in you to write that many quizzes? All I’m saying is, think about it. When your morals are all out of whack, you tend to go to a place that not many dare to go. Can you stand looking back in thirty years at your list of handsome chin dimples? Can you look through that comment section? *Taurus*  
Man, life has just been a seesaw for you this week. One second you’re up, the next second you’re down. Emotionally, you’re kind of in this weird place where all your want to do is wear knee-high socks and sleep on the ground. Then some days you’re wearing nice suits and eating seafood. Why are you so messy Taurus? Why is your life so unstable? It’s because the sun is whirling out of control towards your constellation. *Gemini*

Man, you’re really into Greek stuff lately. It started out with Greek gods, which was okay but basic. Then you got really into Greek food, and now you’re telling people you’re Greek. I know that something like 90% of you are not Greek, Gemini. I mean, it’s cool and everyone’s totally buying it – you’re definitely going to eat some gyros with a hottie. However, you need to be true to who you are, not to who Mars says you should be. Mars is probably the least-liked planet anyway. *Cancer*  
You get a short horoscope this week, and you’re going to wonder why that is. Like, what did you do wrong? Only the stars know. *Leo*  
Things didn’t work out well with that leathery guy last week. You know, that’s okay and everything. I’ve got good news for you: a job is on the horizon. It’s going be low-paying and you’ll likely hate it, but there it is. Like a beacon in the night. Or like Jupiter aligning with the sun as it spins out of control. Employment. *Virgo*  
Oh heck, you’ve been dating left and right. The stars have aligned, however, and a brand new Tinder match is in your future. Will you share many interests? No. Hobbies? No. Will they be interesting? No. You will, however, go out with them just to tell your friends about it and later point at the paper like, “oh my god that really happened!” Yeah, I mean, probably. *Libra*  
You might be graduating. Maybe you’re not. Either way, you’re going to wear a very long gown and a very stupid hat. From what Neptune and I understand, this isn’t by choice. Unless you’re super weird. *Scorpio*

You’re going to make a lot of pies, and by that I mean you’re going to unwrap them and eat them. They’re probably going to be Mrs. Freshley’s pies, which actually taste horrible and are an abomination to life. I’m so sorry – love yourself a little more and eat some Easy Mac or find better baked goods. This is horrible. *Sagittarius*  
You’re bringing back sweatbands. Sagittarius is in line with the sweaty constellation and you’re going to do it. This is amazing, because sweatbands are very versatile. You can wear them black if you’re goth, and white, blue and red if you’re a normie. Now no one will ever know you sweat ever again – hooray. *Capricorn*  
Your constellation is clustering, which means you’re going to start a new club on campus. Sadly, your previous ideas for the “Red Ant Society” and “Clowns for Kids Who Don’t Like Clowns” were rejected. However, your unicycle club is totally gonna make it this time. *Aquarius*  
You are sick. This is sad for me because I’m pretty sure I told Pisces to get vaccinated last week, but not you. You see, stars are tricky; they don’t really care about people and they certainly don’t care about my credibility. Now you have the worst cold ever and no cough drops, plus your stars are just sort of chilling under space clouds. *Pisces*  
You’re going to get a good grade on something. It’s actually not going to be school work, because you’ve kind of forgotten about that and all. It’s probably going to be something mediocre from your friends or some sort of Snapchat thing. Good grades, though. *Bethany Lovejoy is a very tired creative writing student. She sleeps on random pieces of furniture and overcommits to things.*

# PROFESSOR voices

Compiled by Yasmine Ruetz

If you had to give yourself a score on Rate My Professor, what score would you give yourself?



Joe Rein  
English Department  
“Maybe a 4.5. I’m certainly not perfect.”



Michelle Parkinson  
English Department  
“Some days I would give myself a 4.9, but most days I’m a 3.”



Daniel Marchand  
Chemistry Department  
“I’m not the best and I’m not the worst. I think I am 4.”



Eileen Korenic  
Physics Department  
“4.7 -There is always room for improvement”



Rick Burgsteiner  
Communication and Media Studies  
“I’d never give myself more than a 4 - there’s always room for improvement.”



Abigail Jackson  
Psychology Department  
“I’d give myself a 5, but I’m at least a decent 4.”



# Women’s hockey advances to fifth O’Brien Cup final

Zach Dwyer

zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The Falcons advanced to their fifth straight O’Brien Cup final with wins over UW-Stevens Point 9-0 and 6-1 in the WIAC semifinals series this past weekend at Hunt Arena.

UW-River Falls has never lost a game in the WIAC tournament, also known as the O’Brien Cup. They sit at 11-0-1 overall, with four titles to their credit.

The no. 1 seeded Falcons left little doubt in their ranking against Point on Friday night, with seven different players scoring goals. Carly Moran and Sam Young each had two apiece, and Haley Nielsen added three assists in a dominating performance.

“We just rolled four lines and we had scoring out of all four lines,” head coach Joe Cranston said. “We set the pace early and we just wore them down with our speed.”

Point hung around in the first period of both games, but couldn’t keep up with the Falcons, Cranston said. He added that the Falcons try to outpace other teams in pretty much every game and use their depth to their own advantage. This could be seen by their 43-11 shot advantage in game one, while also doubling their opponent’s shots on Saturday.

Moran added that the team’s lifting program and work ethic in practice is designed to maximize their speed and that the team brings in players who fit this mold.

“The biggest thing for any team is having people fill different roles on the team,” Moran said. “Our fourth liners are important and the people that don’t always get the recognition. They block shots and win battles and we have all different

players fill those roles.”

This depth was also apparent on Saturday afternoon, where it was a tight 2-1 game after the first period. However, the Falcons controlled the puck in the Stevens Point zone for the majority of the game and rarely allowed the Pointers to push the tempo forward.

“We had a lot more activity and energy on the bench,” Young said. “We switched up the lines a little bit and it gave us more confidence doing that.”

Pointers goalie Sydney Conley made an incredible 55 save in an earlier regular season meeting that ended in a 0-0 tie but wasn’t able to find that same level of success against the Falcons this past weekend.

The win moved the Falcons into a rematch of last year’s O’Brien Cup final against UW-Eau Claire. The teams split meetings in the regular season and have gone down to the wire in almost every matchup in the past two years.

“They’ve always been one of our rivals ... they’re a tough team,” Moran said. “We always just have trouble with them, and they’ve improved and have a new coach. They’re playing with a lot of confidence and they’ve had some huge wins this season, but we will be confident too. It’s going to be a battle, and we’re up for the challenge.”

Cranston said that there are lessons to learn from the team’s tie and loss to Eau Claire in the last week of the regular season.

“The biggest thing is we need to keep the game simple and not having players trying to do too much – moving the puck quicker and putting a lot of pressure on the puck and keep our feet moving.”

Cranston said one of the other key factors is who scores first and who takes advantage of their scoring chances. The Blugolds scored first in their last meeting and seemed to control the momentum from there.

“More confidence is what we needed,” Young said. “They scored right off the bat and we needed more energy.”

Moran said that instilling confidence in the team and reminding them of what they’re capable has been a big aspect in the locker room. The team recently received confidence letters from each of their parents before the games against Point.

“This team is capable of a lot ... we’ve talked about playing to win and not playing to not lose,” Moran said. “That pressure is always there, and the target is on our back because we’ve always been at the top of the chain. But we have to relieve some of that pressure and play Falcon hockey.”

Cranston and his players agreed that winning a fifth-straight WIAC title is extremely important for their chances of making a NCAA tournament for their tenth consecutive season.

“It’s going to be out of our hands if we lose this game,” Cranston said. “We really want to take care of business on Saturday and put us in the best position for getting in.”

Moran added that this will definitely be their biggest game of the season. She said that having more fans at the past games and the excitement of postseason hockey also contributed to the team stepping up their game. They will look to give Hunt Arena something to cheer about when they host Eau Claire in the WIAC championship on Saturday. Puck drop is set for 2:05 p.m.



*Tori Schneider/ University Communications*  
**UWRF’s Carly Moran (8) sets up to put a shot past UW-Stevens Point goalie Sydney Conley on Friday night at Hunt Arena. The Falcons won 9-0.**

## Sports Recap

### Men’s basketball

The Falcons finished off their season with a 44-59 loss at UW-Stevens Point on Sunday. UWRF got off to a slow start, trailing the Pointers 7-0 only a few minutes into the game. However, they then went on an 11-0 run and held Point scoreless for over 11 straight minutes in the first half. The Falcons took a 23-21 lead into halftime but were outscored by 17 points in the second half. The Pointers shot 64 percent from beyond the three-point line in the second half and an incredible 93 percent on free throws overall. They also raised their first half shooting percentage from 29 percent to 48 percent, hitting big shots down the stretch when they needed them the most. UWRF struggled shooting for the majority of the game, finishing at only 33 percent from the field and 62 percent from the line. Senior Brennan Witt posted a double-double in his last game as a Falcon with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Julian Jackson added 10 points off the bench, but only five Falcons got in the scoring column on Sunday. The loss ends their season at 18-9 overall and 7-7 in the WIAC. Even with an upset win in the WIAC semifinals against no. 8 nationally-ranked UW-Platteville last Friday, the Falcons were one of the first teams to miss the cut in the NCAA tournament selection show on Monday. A number of UWRF’s seniors won awards this week, including Alex Herink earning first team All-WIAC honors, Witt receiving honorable mention for All-WIAC and Devin Buckley earning a spot on the All-Sportsmanship team. Isaac Castellano was also the co-winner of the conference's Max Sparger Scholar Athlete Award.

### Men’s hockey

UWRF ended their season with two losses to no. 1 seeded UW-Stevens Point on the road this past weekend. The Pointers got off to fast start on Friday, going up 4-0 in the second period before UWRF senior Terry Leabo scored his first goal of the season to make it 4-1. Stevens Point would end up winning the first meeting 5-1 before coming back the next night to win a much closer 3-2 game. Peter Karavos and Thomas Clayton scored third period goals to challenge the Pointers, but in the end, it wasn’t enough to get the necessary win. Eddie Matsushima also assisted on three goals on the weekend and ended as the team’s leading scorer this year with 14 goals and 14 assists. UWRF finished their season at 8-17-4 and 1-6-1 in the WIAC.

## Sports Schedule

March 3 softball vs Knox College at Rochester Dome, 10 a.m.

March 3 softball vs Ripon College at Rochester Dome, 12 p.m.

**March 3 women’s hockey vs UW-Eau Claire (WIAC finals), 2:05 p.m.**

March 3 men’s track and field at Last Chance Meet in Stevens Point, Wis.

March 3 women’s track and field at Last Chance Meet in Stevens Point, Wis.

March 4 softball vs Beloit College at Rochester Dome, 8 a.m.

March 4 softball vs Cornell College at Rochester Dome, 12 p.m.

Home games in **BOLD**



# Women’s hockey crushes UW-Stevens Point 9-0 and 6-1 in WIAC tournament to move into O’Brien Cup finals



*Tori Schneider/University Communications*  
**Carly Moran (8) and Callie Hoff (10) celebrate with the Falcons bench after one of the team’s nine goals last Friday night against UW-Stevens Point at Hunt Arena.**



*Tori Schneider/ University Communications*  
**Carly Moran celebrates after one of her two goals last Friday night against UW-Stevens Point at Hunt Arena. She now has 25 goals this season.**



*Tori Schneider/ University Communications*  
**Kathryn Larson (15) controls the puck against UW-Stevens Point last Friday night at Hunt Arena.**

# Falcons end season with loss in WIAC championship game



*Tori Schneider/ University Communications*  
**Alex Herink (5) jumps up for the tipoff against UW-Whitewater in the first round of the WIAC tournament on Jan. 21. The Falcons would beat the Warhawks and upset UW-Platteville before falling to UW-Stevens Point 44-59 on Sunday.**



*Tori Schneider/ University Communications*  
**Devin Buckley goes up for a layup against UW-Whitewater in the first round of the WIAC tournament on Jan. 21 at Page Arena. UWRF was 12-2 at home this season.**



# What’s your favorite breakfast? ‘One Small Hitch’ is a little bit weird but a little bit good

Bethany Lovejoy  
Reviewer

This week our movie caused me to reflect on many aspects of my life – namely my favorite breakfast and my hair color. “One Small Hitch” is a romantic comedy recommended to me by a very cool lady who works at the Involvement Center and may or may not be one of the best people I’ve met. Now, I’m not going to say it’s good. I accept the reality of life and therefore acknowledge that even though I love romantic comedies, they are seldom ever good. I personally don’t watch romantic comedies for unpredictability.

I watch them mainly for crying. Spoiler: this is week two of me crying.

Molly is a good Irish Catholic girl who is just trying to get some, if getting some means getting married and having a family. She looks like every single choir girl I’ve met, and she wears excessive headbands. If I had to guess what she smells like, it would probably be something quirky like pancakes or sunflower seeds.

Molly is dating this dude named Lance for, like, a hot second. He plays instruments and is a horrible person. He probably smells like adultery, because he is cheating on his wife and – whoops! – Molly his mistress. But not a knowing mistress – just a coincidental mistress. Accidental adulteress.

Molly was going to go to her mom’s wedding with Lance, but then his two married buds saw their fellow married man at the marriageport and were like, “Hey bro, where’s your wife and who is this random harlot?”

So Lance was #fakenews and, as this is 2018, #over. Meanwhile, over five miles away or something is Josh. Josh’s girlfriend wants to marry him, but Josh hates this. Josh breaks up with his girlfriend. Josh goes to the airport. Josh wants to get laid. Josh sees a hot chick. Josh tries to get laid.

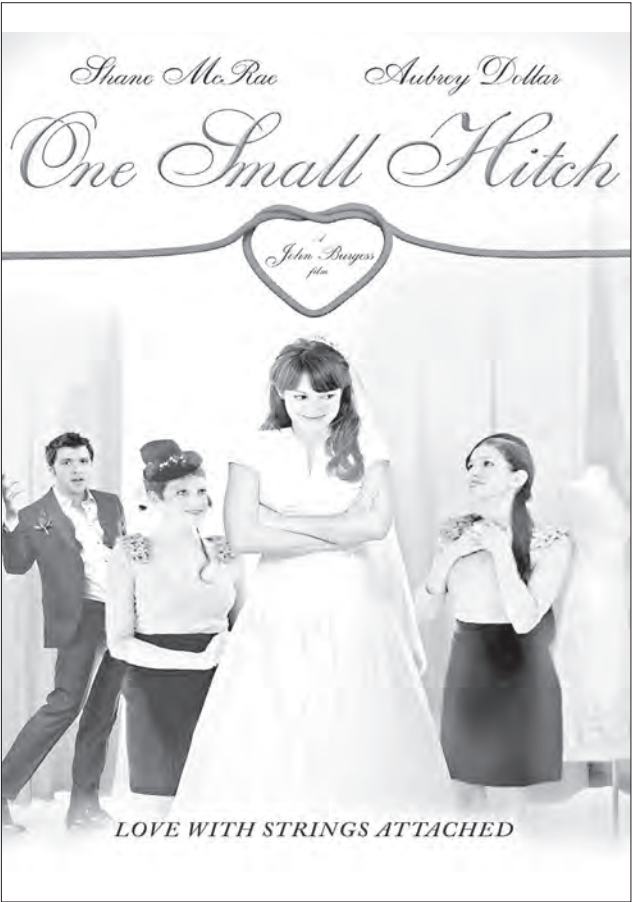
While Josh is in the middle of his primal man mating dance, Molly shows up and is all like, “life is meaningless, my life is sexless, no one loves me, and my mom is getting married for the second time—because we have family values!”

And Josh has to abandon his train for a more enticing location.

Josh and Molly get on a plane, and Molly is a mess. Josh’s parents casually call him and let him know that his father is casually dying of casual-ancer.

Not a specific cancer. Just the big “C” word. Also, he is not getting treatment at all and looks the same as always because this is late cancer.

Josh’s dad is like, “You know what the saddest part of this is? I’ll never get to see you married, which is my dying wish. It’s too bad you’re obsessed with slaying the pink dragon, because as your father it would have been really cool to just see you married or something. Not trying to be rude or anything,



Mr. Dreamruiner. Just would have been cool is all.”

And Josh says, “I’m engaged to Molly.” Also Josh and Molly’s families are BFFs and Josh is bro with Molly’s biological bro. Try to keep up, bro.

Molly wakes up and says, “I hope no one made any decisions that would possibly affect the lives of me and others. That would totally suck. Like lying to their parents or something about being engaged to my homely self – that would be absolutely horrible.”

“Bad news,” says Josh. So they go home and attend this wedding, some Jewish jokes are made (Josh is Jewish), Molly is given Josh’s grandma’s engagement ring (all the women around them immediately go delusional with joy) and Molly starts getting the hots for Josh.

While they’re up at Molly’s mom’s marriage ceremony, Josh sees a hot homewrecker hanging about. She is blonde, because in romance movies that is the requirement to be a homewrecker. I am also blonde and look forward to this theoretical career of wrecking homes.

At first, homewrecker Giselle is like, “You’re getting marriage?” She does some waggle brows and makes sure he knows that she still wants him. Josh is all about this, but then Molly comes up and is like, “let’s hang, my man.”

And so they hang. And get a little drunk and then almost kiss. But only almost, because Josh falls asleep.

The next day, Josh is awakened by his mother with Molly in her underwear up in his grill. Josh’s mom doesn’t care, since you see a lot of underwear in like 50 odd years. All Josh’s mother cares about is putting him to work (he does it), getting them to stay longer (they do) and what Molly’s favorite breakfast is.

Apparently, this is just a conversation you are destined to have in your life because his mother seems pretty weirded out that he doesn’t know. Then he decides that it is steak and eggs and Molly gets to have steak and eggs, which is apparently not her favorite breakfast because everyone raises eyebrows at this. Which means in these two families, breakfast is taken seriously.

Josh tells homewrecker that he is not engaged and homewrecker rejoices; she is a homewrecker no more. Instead of being a romantic comedy stereotype she evolves into “lady who wants casual sex but is otherwise not notable.”

Molly is not about this barely-there blonde, however, and starts dating other men. Josh’s mom is also not about barely-there blondes, because she sees him full on macking her face off near an elevator and is mad.

While Josh is having wild commitment-free intercourse, Molly shaves her lady gardens into the shape of a heart.

Josh has commitment-free intercourse, Molly goes shopping. Josh has commitment-free intercourse, Molly has her bachelorette party.

And then, bam. They have commitment-free intercourse together. This naturally throw Molly out of whack and she calls off the wedding. I start crying, as per usual.

Josh is like, “OMG no! My true commitment-free intercourse party!” And Josh’s dad is like, “I’m having a heart attack! Oh, just kidding it’s acid reflux.”

Same, Josh’s Dad, same. Everyone rushes to the hospital, including Molly. Because if he’s gonna die, she’s gonna be there.

Josh shows up with his barely-there blonde and his mom starts freaking out. He explains that Molly and him were never really engaged, but he sure would like to be.

Molly freaks out and decks him. Then they get engaged and everyone lives happily ever after. Except for the unnecessary after-credits scene where Molly gives birth to Josh’s spawn and they name it after his father.

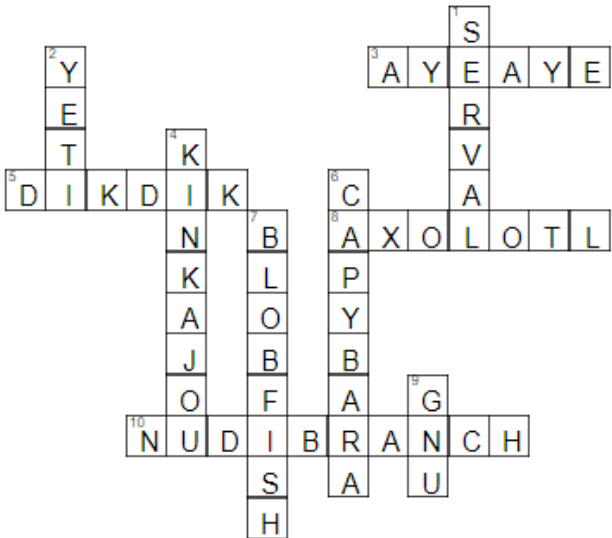
I’m going to be real though: it was a great movie. The guy looked okay, kinda like McDreamy, but if McDreamy didn’t look constantly punchable. The girl wasn’t that annoying and the blonde wasn’t as mean.

You know, it was actually just a good time. 3/5: predictably a good time.

Bethany Lovejoy is a junior at UWRF. She is a Creative Writing major, and all she does is sleep, watch Netflix and tell you to watch Netflix.

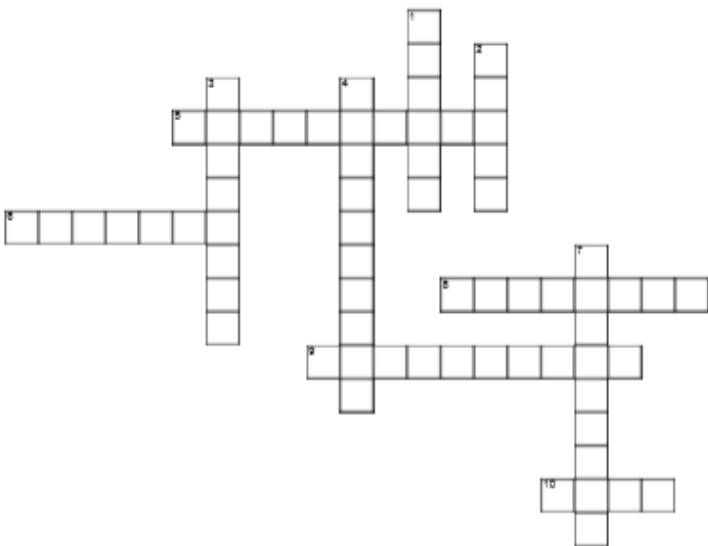
## Last Week’s Answers

Weird and obscure animals



## Puzzle of the Week

Games



- ACROSS
- One of the oldest known board games. Plays similar to checkers, except you want to get your own pieces off the board.
  - Party game where you place your hands and feet on the correct colors.
  - Renowned for ending friendships - involves buying property and collecting rent.
  - One person draws something while a teammate attempts to guess what it is.
  - One of the earliest arcade video games - modeled after table tennis.
- DOWN
- You try to eat dots and are pursued by Blinky, Pinky, Inky and Clyde.
  - If you remove the wrong block and everything falls over, you lose.
  - "World of \_\_\_\_\_" - well-known online roll-playing game set in a fantasy world.
  - Two players try to sink one another's boats.
  - You are warned that you've done something wrong when the board's nose lights up red.

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  
**zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu**. AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins!

Now Playing: “The Post” and “1517 to Paris”

The winner will be announced on the Voice’s Twitter and Facebook accounts:  
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Check out the Student Voice online at  
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