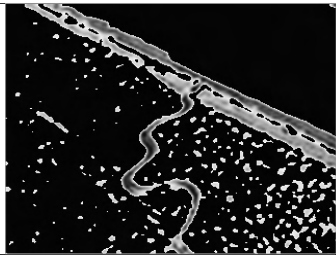




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STUDENT VOICE

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Eau Claire deaths spark safety talk

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Two UW-Eau Claire students have died as a result of an apartment fire on Monday morning. While the UWEC campus community mourns the loss of these young students, campuses all across Wisconsin and the nation are reminded on how to prevent such tragedies during fire prevention week.

Ross Livermore, a 21-year-old from Stillwater, Minn., was killed in the fire in his upstairs apartment. Jacob Clarkson, a 22-year-old, also from Stillwater, died at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis on Tuesday.

According to a statement released by the Eau Claire Police Department, a police detective, who was on his way to work, spotted smoke coming from the building on Water Street. He went into the building to help. Two people were able to get out safely. Livermore and Clarkson were found unconscious by rescue personnel inside.

“It’s a shock to the system whenever you have a sudden event like this. It sent a ripple effect to a really close-knit community here. Our students really have a lot of close relationships and so it’s the kind of thing that we, as a university, re-

See Talk page 3

Food Pantry struggles to feed community

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The River Falls Community Food Pantry struggles to raise enough donations to meet the rising need of area families.

Wisconsin Food Insecurity rates jumped from 9 percent to 11.8 percent in 2008. Pepin and St. Croix counties had 12.7 percent of the population report food-hardship in the 2009-2010 year according to records by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Food-hardship refers to a household not having the money to buy the food they need.

Area data supports national reports of American Food Insecurity.

According to the USDA, 14.9 percent of households (17.9 million households) were food insecure in 2011. Since 2006 74 percent of pantries, 65 percent of kitchens, and 54 percent of shelters reported that there had been an increase in clients.

River Falls Community Food Pantry (RFCFP) Board Member Terry Swinburne said, “In 2005, on a monthly basis, we would service about 150 visits. Now in 2012 we’re looking at nearing 450 visits per month.” This is a 300 percent increase in demand.

Swinburne said, “At this time donations have become somewhat flat

See Donations page 3

UWRF, UW-System notice enrollment decreases

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The entire University of Wisconsin System has experienced a decrease in enrollment for the 2012 fall semester.

The latest news according to the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents meeting on Oct. 5, shows that overall enrollment in the University of Wisconsin System seems to be down by about 0.6 percent.

To find out what the student body break down is here at UW-River

Falls, there are some experts who can provide insight. There is Director of Admissions Mark Meydam, Data Analyst Stacy Karl and Associate Policy and Planning Analyst Jen Pawelko. Transfer student, Dakotah Meyer, also shared her experience at UWRF.

Meyer is a transfer student from UW-Stevens Point but decided to join the UWRF family last year. When she was at UWSP, she was undecided about her major, but she

See Enrollment page 3



Photo by Kathy M. Helgeson

U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D), left, was on campus briefly talking to students and faculty after getting an overview of the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center (TCIC) and hearing success stories from McNair scholars and those doing undergraduate research. He has been a consistent supporter of funding for science and science education.

Ron Kind reconnects with campus community

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Representative Ron Kind paid UW-River Falls a visit on the morning of Oct. 9. He attended a presentation from various members of the science faculty, about the importance of programs like the McNair Scholars Program, the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center (TCIC) and other publicly funded ventures are to budding scientists.

Although his opponent in the upcoming election, Ray Boland, has said in a press release that Kind is “out of touch” with what voters in Wisconsin’s 3rd District wants, UWRF McNair Scholar, Grace Adofoli, who attended the presentation, said that she was “very impressed by [Representative Kind] and his team.”

As someone interested in pursuing a career in the applied sciences, Adofoli said, “I think it’s very important to have congressman and political people who are knowledgeable about what’s happening.”

She also said, “He seemed very genuine about our work and about what we want to do in the future.”

During the presentation, multiple professors, including Timothy Lyden of UWRF’s biology department, walked Kind through the different sorts of research that take place on UWRF’s campus and through its various programs.

When asked by Kind what the difference between publicly funded and privately funded research was, Lyden said that one of the biggest advantages to publicly funded research was transparency.

“University-based research through federal funding is open research. The IP generated from it, if not public property in many cases with federal funding projects, goes into the public sector. Privately funded research does not,” said Lyden. “It takes the research and the innovation out of the public eye.”

Lyden, who heads up

the TCIC which is currently conducting experiments on the development of artificial tissues, said that without having to focus on the bottom line, as many companies do, that undergraduate researchers and their advisors are able to take more time with their experiments.

“The real issue is keeping science, the results of science and the innovation of science accessible to people,” said Lyden. “Unfortunately because of the nature of business that’s not going to be the case with privately funded research.”

While those at the presentation argued the relative merits of intrinsic and extrinsic motivation when it comes to publicly vs. privately funded research, Lyden said that many forget that the research done by publicly funded undergraduate researchers often finds its way into the hands of privately funded institutions, where it can be used to generate money and support the economy.

Kind agreed with these statements. “The private sector can’t fill this void,” said Kind.

Near the end of the presentation, multiple McNair scholarship recipients gave short summaries of what their research projects pertained to and Kind requested they all write down their personal stories so that he would be able to show the personal side of those affected by publicly funded research when it comes time to debate the issue in Washington.

Kind said the he is a “Big believer that as a nation we need to be planting the seed corn and that’s the seed in order to reap a bountiful harvest.” He also said that he, “Got a taste of that with the undergraduate research program that’s happening right here at UWRF. You never know where that next breakthrough and new discovery is going to come from.”

Campus community mourns the death of another fellow student

Ryan John Mumm, 21, of Woodbury, Minn., died Oct. 9 in River Falls. He was a junior majoring in computer science at UW-River Falls.

Mumm enjoyed reptiles, and had some as pets. He also enjoyed spending time in the outdoors as well as attending the Renaissance Festival.

Mumm was also employed at Fosters Sporting Goods in downtown River Falls, according to Mumm’s obituary on the Bakken-Young Funeral Home website.

A celebration of Mumm’s life will be held from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13, with a memory sharing service at 1 p.m. at Bakken-Young Funeral Home, 805 East Division Street, River Falls.

With these recent tragedies, the campus community is urged to look into available resources.

Counseling services are available for members of the campus and community. Counselors are available for grief counsel-

ing by stopping at Counseling Services in 211 Hagestad Hall or by calling 3884.

Counseling Services offer free appointments for students. They are open from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Mumm is the third UWRF student to die since the semester began, and fourth since July.

Tiffany Langteau, also 21, was killed in an automobile accident south of Medford, Wis. in early September. Members of the UWRF Dairy Club held a candlelight vigil for her on campus.

Jordan Costello was found dead in her Hudson home after committing suicide in early September. She was 18.

Jonathan Timblin, a UWRF student, from Glenwood City and Rice Lake, familiar to some as an employee at Pheasant Hills Golf Course in Hammond, died Monday, July 23 as the result of injuries suffered in an auto accident near Hinkley, Minn.

Falcon Promise program continues to improve campus

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The Falcon Promise, approved by the UW-River Falls Student Senate in spring of 2011, is living up to its goals of increasing student retention and success and enhancing the learning environment at UWRF.

There are four main initiatives in which the funds from the Falcon Promise are being invested. They include: tutoring, undergraduate research opportunities, increased student scholarships and enhanced learning spaces.

The two initiatives that are already the most apparent are student scholarships and enhanced learning spaces.

“The impact of the Falcon Promise is already evident. Students have likely noticed

one or more of the 13 learning spaces that have been upgraded in Kleinpell Fine Arts, Centennial Science Hall or North Hall,” said Chancellor Dean Van Galen in an email.

New and better technology has been installed and upgrades have been made to desks and other furniture in the 13 different classrooms. The idea is that both students and professors will be able to benefit from all of the changes made, and the classrooms will be spaces that are conducive to 21st century teaching and learning.

Many of the professors who teach in the newly updated classrooms are very pleased with the upgrades. Matthew Meyer, adjunct professor of philosophy, really appreciates the technology available to him in room B107 in KFA.

“I really like the projector

system because it is so user friendly and the new desks that can easily be rolled around make group work a lot easier and less time consuming. It is simple to just turn around and get in groups and then put the room back together when you are done.”

All of the enhanced learning spaces have signs posted outside their doors with the Falcon Promise logo to show students exactly where their differential tuition money is going.

The increased student scholarship initiative of the Falcon Promise includes a program called Falcon Scholars Challenge. This semester is the first that the program has been implemented. Scholarships were given to 80 new freshmen, selected as the first

See Promise page 3

Civil War blog acts as educational resource

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The University Archives and Area Research Center has received a Reader Appreciation Award for their Civil War blog, which focuses on local soldiers who went to war.

Kathie Otto, head of University Archives and Area Research Center, who had the idea of starting this blog, has correlated it with the 150-year anniversary of the Civil War.

“I had read, a number of years ago, about someone who started a blog about the World War I diary of a soldier and thought it was a good idea,” said Otto.

Hand written letters from soldiers from River Falls and surrounding areas, such as Prescott, Wis., are typed up by students and staff in the Archives and Area Research Center and put in a blog entry on WordPress.com exactly 150 years after they were written. Newspapers from that time period are also typed up and published in an entry 150 years to the week of when it was originally published.

“It’s a very personal look at the Civil War through these letters,” said Otto.

The blog currently has 18 readers who are signed up to get email notices when a new blog entry is posted and 28 followers on Twitter. The UW-River Falls Archives and Area Research Center Facebook page also has 75 “likes” and frequent posts about the blog as well.

Due to the dedicated readers of the blog, the Reader Appreciation Award could be awarded.

“I got an email from a reader saying that we were nominated for the Reader Appreciation Award,” said Otto.

The woman who nominated the blog also has a blog on WordPress.com and nominated seven different types of blogs that she thought were deserving of recognition. From there, Otto said that she was able to post an icon on the Civil War blog page acknowledging that they had received this nomination by a reader.

“It’s good that people can read this blog and it makes me see that what I’m putting into the blog means something,” said broad-field social studies major and Archives student employee, Joe Harris.

There are a total of seven people working on the blog, including five student employees, Otto and one student volunteer. The students primarily type up the letters and newspapers and, although the newspapers are often easier to copy, the letters can be quite difficult.

“The handwriting is sloppy at times and the language they

use can be tricky to figure out,” said history major and Archives student employee, Michael Peterson.

The soldiers tend to write in cursive and some of the letters such as an “S” can often look like an “F” or a lowercase “p” looked like an “n” occasionally. Some of the lingo they used in that time period is not commonly used today, which brings a struggle as well. However, with the amount of students working on this blog and with the help of Otto, each entry is successfully typed up without errors.

Otto hopes that this blog will continue to grow in popularity and could potentially be used for history teachers both in secondary education and as well as college education.

“We want to get in touch with UWRF students so they can use it for research with history papers or projects they may have,” said Otto. “High school students could use this for History Day projects and research, too.”

For Harris, not only is this a great educational experience now, but he also plans to refer to the blog when he becomes a teacher.

“I plan on being a high school American history teacher,” Harris said. “Through the soldiers’ stories and letters you get to learn about what they went through personally and not just what a textbook tells you.”

Through the soldier’s letters, readers get to learn what they went through on a day-to-day basis while in the war.

“They’ll talk about the local people when they are in the boarder states such as Tennessee and Kentucky,” said Otto.

For some of the soldiers, it was the first time they had met slaves and they talked about not only fighting soldiers, but also dealing with local people who fought as well.

“Usually with history textbooks it’s kind of broad but with the letters you see what soldiers were thinking,” said Peterson.

Not only is the University Archives and Research Center continuing to acknowledge the 150-year anniversary of the Civil War, they are also celebrating an anniversary of their own.

“This year is the 50th anniversary of the Archives and Area Research Center,” said Otto.

From 3-5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18, there will be a reception in the Archives Center located in the basement of the Davee Library.

The link to the blog is: <http://thecivilwarandnorthwestwisconsin.wordpress.com/>

There is also a link to the blog on the Archives website.

River Falls Police/UWRF Police Department

- Sept. 12**
- Alex Paul Aspelin was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
- Sept. 21**
- Michael Christopher Williams Jr. was cited \$716 for possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.
 - Latrell Demon Snider was cited \$375.80 for failure to stop at a stop sign and operating a vehicle without a valid driver’s license.
- Sept. 22**
- Andrew Paul Dessellier was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at May Hall.
- Sept. 28**
- Derek Payne William was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
 - Rachel JoeAnn Gulich was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
 - Rebecca S. Hurtung was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
- Sept. 29**
- Casey Jo Maus was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at 815 E. Cascade Ave.
 - Emma Louise Waschbusch was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
 - Melissa Lynne Barnett was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at 815 E. Cascade Ave.
 - Luke R. Edlund was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
 - Tyler James Ihli was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
 - David Tim Schroeder was cited \$200.50 for unauthorized property removal at Cascade Avenue & 6th Street.
- Sept. 30**
- Shaine Rochelle Ahlstrom was cited \$263.50 for underage consumption at Crabtree Hall.
 - Carlye R. Morris was cited \$979.50 for underage consumption, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia at Crabtree Hall.
- Oct. 4**
- An accident was reported in G-Lot in which a truck collided with an overhang at Hathorn Hall.

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

News briefs

Prepare for the Career Fair through prep session and help tables

The 21st annual Career Fair takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 17, in the Riverview Ballroom at the University Center.

The Career Fair gives students the opportunity to meet and network with potential employers and graduate school recruiters. These organizations might have a future job or internship for students.

UW-River Falls Career Services increased their efforts in order to have students be more prepared for the Career Fair. There will be a prep session on from 2-4 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 15, in the Falcon’s Nest at the UC. This session will have hands-on stations for students to learn about networking, practice conversing with recruiters, create appropriate application materials such as resumes and cover letters and how to dress for success.

Students will also have the opportunity to visit one of the help tables that will be available from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 15, and Tuesday, Oct. 16, in the UC entryway for resume critiques and Career Fair information.

More information on the Career Fair, attending organizations, preparation materials and possible volunteer opportunities can be found at www.uwrf.edu/careerfair or by contacting career services at 425-3572, 211 Hagestad Hall.

UW-River Falls biology professor selected as a Vision and Change Leadership Fellow

Karen Klyczek, professor of biology, has been selected to serve as a Vision and Change Leadership Fellow with the Partnership for Undergraduate Life Sciences Education (PULSE) program.

The PULSE program is a joint initiative of the National Science Foundation (NSF), Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The effort is supporting a yearlong program in which Vision and Change Leadership Fellows consider and then recommend models for improving undergraduate life sciences education.

“The Fellows represent a diverse group of extremely capable faculty,” said Judith Verbeke of the NSF. “They bring a variety of experiences that will inform the development of an implementation framework that will trans-

form undergraduate education in the life sciences.”

To learn more about PULSE, including a complete listing of the Vision and Change Leadership Fellows, visit www.pulsecommunity.org.

For more information, contact Blake Fry, UWRF special assistant to the chancellor, at 715-425-3711 or blake.fry@uwrf.edu.

Students announce second annual Ducks Unlimited banquet

Oct. 18 will mark the date for the second annual UW-River Falls Ducks Unlimited banquet, a student and community supported event in celebration of wetlands conservation. The festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will take place at the American Legion located at 701 North Main Street.

“We are a college student organization that is full of members who care about wildlife conservation and the outdoors,” said chairman and founder of the UWRF Ducks Unlimited Chapter, Justin Morrissey.

Since the banquet last year, student and community support contributed more than \$3,000 to project funding for wetlands habitat and wildlife conservation. Morrissey intends to increase that goal and aims to raise \$6,500 at this year’s event.

Banquet event tickets are \$15 for students and \$25 for adults. Fees include dinner, event festivities, and a 1-year membership to Ducks Unlimited. More information can be found and tickets can be purchased at ducks.org.

Koshar is Peterson Lecture Series speaker at UW-River Falls

Rudy Koshar, the George L. Mosse Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation professor of history, German & religious studies at the UW-Madison, will speak at UW-River Falls on Friday, Oct. 26, as part of the annual Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series. The lecture will begin at 4 p.m. in the Kinnickinnic River Theater at the University Center and will be preceded by a reception at 3 p.m.

Koshar’s lecture, “On Stillness: European Political Fiction in the Age of Extremes,” will address 20th century European history from the angle of political fiction. The lecture will draw upon Koshar’s scholarship and publications covering German history, the 20th century European cultural history, modern German travel cultures and historical memory.

Edward N. Peterson taught history

at UWRF from 1954 until his death in 2005. Peterson wrote 10 books on Germany in the 20th century, and devoted his scholarly life to issues surrounding war, peace and power.

To honor the memory of Peterson and to address the vital issues of our time, the history and philosophy department established the series to emphasize the issues that were the focus of his academic life: war and peace, abuses and limits of power and the struggle for democracy in the 20th century.

Additional information on the Edward N. Peterson Lecture Series and this year’s event is available at <http://www.uwrf.edu/HIST/Events/Peterson-LectureSeries/Index.cfm>.

For more information, contact Blake Fry, UWRF special assistant to the chancellor, at 715-425-3711 or blake.fry@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls signs partnership with China Agricultural University

UW-River Falls, home to one of the largest undergraduate dairy science programs in the United States, signed a collaboration agreement with China Agricultural University (CAU), located in Beijing, during an event at the state capitol on Friday afternoon in the Governor’s Conference Room. Representatives from UWRF and CAU were joined by Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Deputy Secretary Jeff Lyon, who is an alumnus of UWRF and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Director for Wisconsin Stan Gruszynski.

The new partnership is an outgrowth of meetings held in China in June as part of a DATCP visit to promote Wisconsin’s rich dairy industry and related resources. Business and industry leaders from last summer’s visit were also on hand to welcome the more than 40 delegates from China that traveled with CAU to Madison for the signing and the World Dairy Expo.

“Because of the high quality of both of our universities, and the strength we both have in agriculture programs, including dairy science, this agreement holds great promise for our students and faculty, the state of Wisconsin, China and the global agriculture industry,” said UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen. “I wish to communicate our excitement for the opportunities for intellectual exchanges, for opportunities to enroll students between our two institutions, and to exchange faculty.”

Results from Student Senate elections

At-Large Senator

- Brent Bundgaard 116 votes*
- Joshua Fick 112
- Joseph Norby-White 54

*Bundgaard chose to resign from his at-large position to take the first-year representative position

College of Business and Economics Rep

- Jeremy Schottroff 42

First-Year Rep

- Mariah Cooper 234
- Tanner Johnson 193
- Brent Bundgaard 147
- Joseph Norby-White 142
- Jeremy Schottroff 140

(Four spots were awarded for first-year reps)

You are cordially invited to George and Martha's for an evening of fun and games.

UWRF UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN **River Falls**

Dining Services cuts transfer portions, altered selections

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UW-River Falls Dining Services has responded to a number of new challenges this year by getting creative with some of their food options.

One of these challenges is the number of students on meal plans. According to Sodexo General Manager Sheryl Harrison, there are 150 fewer students on meal plans this year as to last year. There are currently close to 2,800 students on meal plans. Gregg Heinselman, associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs, said that enrollment at UWRF has decreased by approximately 6 percent from last fall “so the meal plan numbers look good considering the enrollment adjustment.”

Dining Services has used some different tactics in trying to attract more students to purchase meal plans. One of these methods is to offer complimentary meals to

students who are on official admissions tours. Another method that Harrison mentioned involved sending postcards to students who live off campus.

Sodexo Marketing Specialist Amy Aschenbrener said that even though the overall number of meal plans is down, there has been an increase meal plans purchased by certain types of students. “We have seen an increase in voluntary meal plans purchased by off-campus (students) and upperclassmen,” Aschenbrener said.

Another emphasis for Dining Services has been an effort to offer more low-cost options for students’ tight budgets. The St. Croix Grill, located next to Riverside Commons in the University Center, is now offering a value menu with nine choices priced at \$0.99 each. These inexpensive options include hot dogs, chicken nuggets, and beef sliders. Another retail location in the University Center, Sub Connection, will

soon have a daily sub sandwich available for \$5.

Even though Dining Services has increased their number of inexpensive food choices, there are some students who do not take advantage of these new options. UWRF senior Seamus Connaughton said that “living off-campus, it’s cheaper to buy my own food.”

UWRF senior Gregg Roemhildt, another off-campus student, said that he has a 60-block meal which allows him to eat 60 meals throughout the semester. Roemhildt said that while he thinks the food has been a little better, he hasn’t liked all of the changes. “I was pretty impressed last year when there were three sides and a pop,” Roemhildt said referring to the Pete’s Creek retail location in the UC. “It feels like they have more conservative portions for sides this year.” Pete’s Creek still offers two sides, but soda counts as a side this year. Students can still get water and two sides.

Promise: Program funds scholarships

From page 1

Falcon Scholars this year, at the amount of \$1,000 each. The scholars will receive \$1,000 in their sophomore, junior and senior year as well, provided that they maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA.

As financial need is one of the criteria for selecting Falcon Scholars, many of the scholars are very grateful to be receiving some help in paying for their education.

“Being a Falcon Scholar means a lot to me. I am the first generation to go to college, and to be financially supported by anyone is truly a blessing,” Falcon Scholar, Matthew Pechacek said.

One aspect of the program is that the scholars may receive \$2,000 in their junior or senior year to study abroad or to participate in undergraduate research. This opens up opportunities for these students to have experiences that they may not have otherwise had due to financial restrictions.

Falcon Scholars Karley Schad and Sara Sanderson both would like to study abroad in their junior or senior year, and they explained that they can actually think about and plan for an experience abroad now that they will receive \$2,000 to go.

Van Galen explained that

the Falcon Scholars program depends on the UWRF Foundation’s ability to raise \$800,000 in scholarship support over the next four years. After a year, over \$625,000 has been gifted, including the \$400,000 Albrecht’s challenge grant, and the success enabled UWRF to select this year’s 80 Falcon Scholars.

As the Falcon Promise is a differential tuition initiative, it means that it is largely funded directly through student dollars. The program requires an increase of \$88 per student, per year, in differential tuition. After the four year plan, approximately \$554,440 will be generated depending on future student enrollment.

As the University will match the student commitment dollar for dollar in the enhanced learning spaces initiative, it really is a partnership between the University and its students.

“I believe that the Falcon Promise is off to a great start. The program demonstrates the commitment that our students have to the University and the value they place on experiences that enhance the success of our student body,” said Van Galen.

“It is another reminder that UW-River Falls is a great place to study, learn, work, and succeed.”

Talk: Fire safety constantly necessary

From page 1

ally need to come together to support each other. We’re here to help our students and their families make it through this tragedy and to provide as much support as we can,” said UWEC Assistant Chancellor for Facilities and University Relations Mike Rindo in a released statement.

The investigation into what caused the fire is underway.

According to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA), from 2000 to the present, 146 students have died in a combination of off-campus, residence hall and fraternity/sorority fires with the majority of campus-related fatal fires occurring in off-campus housing. According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), of those campus-related fire fatalities, 85 percent happened off campus.

Today, it is estimated that more than two-thirds of the U.S. student population lives in off-campus housing.

In an effort to reduce the incidence of on and off-campus fires, the American Society of Safety Engineers’ (ASSE) Fire Protection Practice Specialty, based out of Illinois, reminded several college stu-

dents recently that fires are not like the ones shown in the movies.

For the Oct. 7-13 fire prevention week, ASSE is urging students, parents, landlords and school administrators to be aware of the fire risks and take precautions now to prevent injuries and death from fires on and off campus.

ASSE’s Fire Protection Practice Specialty (PS) group believes students must take steps now to plan and avoid these types of tragedies, such as the one in Eau Claire. The group notes that students who live on campus should always check with the residence life department for policies related to fire prevention.

Emily Metzler is a residence assistant in Crabtree Hall. She says that the biggest thing UWRF students can do to prevent fires is to observe the safety rules, such as no candles, and to be diligent when cooking or heating things in the microwave. She added that a fire in the South Forks Suites a few years ago was caused by negligence to a pizza in the oven.

She also added that every resident who lives on campus is made aware of the fire escape routes, and should always obey them. “Listen to every fire alarm,” Metzler

said. “You never know if the alarm was simply set off by a burning bag of popcorn or a bigger threat that will be harder to put out.”

The ASSE adds that in addition to listening to the alarms that everyone should know and practice their fire escape route.

“Unless you have planned a fire escape route out of your dorm, apartment, home or workplace, it will be extremely difficult to see through the darkness, the dense smoke and the flames to escape,” ASSE Fire Protection Practice Specialty Group member Frank Baker said. “Plan and practice an escape route now. Also, make sure that plan includes communicating with your family, friends and co-workers where to meet following a fire to assure that everyone made it to safety.”

UWRF freshman Abby Veloske said that a fire was something she never really thought about happening on campus. However, she added that if there was a fire, she would feel that she would know how to escape and would not take anything lightly.

According to the NFPA, from 2005-2009, U.S. fire departments responded to an annual average of 3,840

Donations: River Falls Pantry in need of food

From page 1

due to the economy. The demand has grown much more than donations have grown.”

The RFCFP gathers approximately half of its inventory through donations and half from purchases made with donated money.

According to RFCFP records, 309,257 pounds of food was donated in 2011.

More food donations are needed. Pantry Coordinator Rick Pechacek said that the community does not realize how the pantry functions and fears this prevents people from donating.

Pechacek said two misconceptions he encounters is that volunteers are paid and donors fear that families “rip off” the system. In truth, the 60 volunteers do not receive stipend, and drivers, who pick up and deliver food, do

not receive gas mileage.

Only families within the River Falls School District can receive emergency food assistance at the RFCFP.

The RFCFP is presently in need of vegetables, fresh and canned and breakfast cereal. Money donations are the greatest asset to the RFCFP as \$1 donated equates to nearly \$4 or \$5 worth of food from 2nd Harvest Heartland, a place the pantry can purchase food at a reduced cost.

Eligible families are allowed one or two visits per month, dependent on need. A one visit family can receive up to four bags of groceries or home goods and four meat options. A family receiving two visits receives up to two bags and two meats per visit.

Families seeking information on how to gain assistance can visit the RFCFP website at rfcfp.com or call the office at 715-425-6880.

Enrollment: Admissions cracks down lowers number of freshmen

From page 1

heard about the agricultural science program and decided to make the switch. Between that and testimonials from friends, she is very happy with the spur of the moment decision and she has loved it here ever since.

However, that’s just one student. According to Pawelko and Karl, as of Sept. 19, there are a total of 6,383 students on campus this fall, which includes both undergraduate and graduate students. Approximately 449 students of that total are transfers. There are also 100 international students on campus. Pawelko and Karl say that the number of international students has increased in previous years.

Approximately 50.3 percent of students come from Wisconsin, 47.4 percent come from Minnesota and

and times are still tough financially. He also says that he expects the freshman of 2015 to have to smallest class size, but it should go up afterwards.

UWRF has also become tighter on requirements, which means admissions didn’t admit as many students this year. On the other hand, the number of transfer students is up, which Meydam said reflects the cost environment.

Because a two-year college or a community college is typically less expensive than a four-year school, students may be starting off at a less expensive school and then transferring.

Overall, admissions at UWRF should see an increase in enrollment over the next few years. As for now, it’s a wait and see game.

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EDITORIALS

Help offered for stress overload

Let’s face it, college can be a stressful time for everyone. Whether recognized or not, almost every student is probably getting stressed out more than is necessary. It could be anything from homework overload to having to pay off the bills to pressure at work. As a college student there is stress coming from every angle.

The effects of stress on the human body are definitely something to take note of. In fact, in America about 43 percent of adults suffer from stress related symptoms and about 80 percent of all doctor’s visits are stress related.

It’s understandable. In our society, especially that of a college atmosphere, we are constantly held to deadlines and expectations that we feel we have to meet. There isn’t much of a question that the life-long stress gets its start in college. However, there are ways to prevent it.

Counseling Services offers all sorts of counseling sessions for students ranging from stress and anxiety to depression and relationships. It should also be noted that this is a free service. If you are feeling even a little bit stressed out, or are having some problems in life then a visit to Counseling Services would be well worth the trip to Hagestad Hall.

A great deal of life’s problems can be solved by talking about them. If you even think you are getting overstressed or worked up about something, it is important to be proactive. Go and have a chat with Counseling Services, it could be well worth the time.

A common perception in our society is also that asking for help in an instance like this is considered ‘weak.’ Getting help for something potentially serious to your health and well being should never, under any circumstances, be considered ‘weak.’ Asking for help is definitely a stronger thing to do than trying to conquer something all by yourself.

However, not all issues are on an individual level. Group problems can arise just as easily as individual problems. In this instance, Counseling Services also offers group counseling, also free.

We at the Student Voice definitely urge you to be proactive if stress and other life issues are infringing on your ability to function or think correctly. What could just be a quick visit to Counseling Services could change and help you in ways that you simply haven’t imaged. Don’t leave everything bottled up, that can lead to an unhealthy lifestyle.

Campus resources are available. If you use them is entirely your choice, but it might just change your life if you take the time to use those resources.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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

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

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

The *Student Voice* reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or space. It also reserves the right to withhold letters. All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must also be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon.

Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the *Student Voice* per issue. A single copy of the *Student Voice* is valued at \$1, and additional copies may be requested from the editorial staff by e-mail through editor@uwrfvoice.com. Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

Letters to the editor

Romney wrongly portrayed

I am writing this letter in response to an opinion piece titled “Mitt Romney Unappealing to Voters” by Morgan Stippel, that was published in the Oct. 5 issue of the Student Voice. As I read through the article, several things stood out to me. First, the author claims that Romney is out of touch with the American people. This is a common fallacy amongst many Democrats and many Independents, but it is factually incorrect to say that Romney is “out of touch.” We are always told that Romney was “born with a silver spoon in his mouth” because he was born into a wealthy family. The fact is that every penny that Romney has right now was earned through his own hard work. We as Americans should look to Romney as a source of inspiration, a model of what the American Dream is really all about.

Secondly, Stippel’s examples of how Romney is inconsistent in his platform are, well, stretches to say the least. Regarding Obamacare, the difference between what Romney did in Massachusetts and what Obama did at the national

Vote “No” on marriage amendment in Minnesota

I came to UW-River Falls as a transfer student in 2007. Leaving a big university and coming to rural Wisconsin was an adjustment for me. However, it didn’t take long for me to call this place my temporary home. The sense of community in River Falls and on campus is strong; I know any newcomer is made to feel welcome, even if that individual has differing moral, religious and political views.

Election season is upon us and I know that I’m voting “no” on the proposed marriage amendment, which will appear in Minnesota on the ballot in November. I’ll be voting “no” because of the values I learned in this community and for the people in my life that this amendment would hurt. This community and University taught me values of care, connection and kindness to all of my neighbors, colleagues and professors. For me, this respect extends to all people, no matter who that person loves.

At first I debated whether or not I should write this letter. I know that on the maps, this is a “red” district. I know how this area typically votes and where they usually stand on fiscal and social issues. But I also know the people, the students and staff; this area was my home for two years. Additionally, several students are from Minnesota. And so I decided to write to the editor and share why I am voting no in November.

I met my friend, Sarah, whose name has been changed

Stigmas, stereotypes and suicide

First, I must say that I am very disappointed in last week’s issue of the Student Voice. When we have something tragic, such as deaths, wouldn’t it make sense to draw more attention to the deeper issues that come out of it rather than have a whole page dedicated to nail painting?

When I see half of a page covered by a picture of painted nails, I get pissed off. Couldn’t you use that space to inform people of the mental illnesses that affect teenagers and young adults or to give suggestions of what people dealing with the aftermath of the deaths, especially a suicide, can do?

As someone who has depression, social anxiety, bipolar and has attempted suicide a number of times, I must say that I am appalled. Depression affects about 18.8 million American adults, and everyone will, at some point in their life, be affected by depression.

Why don’t we talk about this more? Why don’t we address

Smith columns not appropriate for Student Voice

In reading the several issues of the Student Voice which have been released so far during the 2012-13 academic year, I have been surprised by the writing that has been exhibited by columnist Tyler Smith. He refers to himself in his first piece, “First-year experience, moments in elevator spark life long lesson,” as “...a perspective which is equal parts demented and equal parts unapologetically brash. You will learn, in time, to love it.”

Unfortunately, I have not learned to love his writing style. His columns read largely like non sequitur thoughts used to fill the 500-700 word requirement, and when I have finally reached the core of his writing, it often does not get any better. His writing style contains both stories and opinions which would be more suited in a casual forum such as a Facebook status or blog post.

I was appalled upon reading of the punishment for his dog in his second column, “Thieves invade campus,” and

level is that Romney worked with both Democrats and Republicans to pass a comprehensive health care bill that worked for the state of Massachusetts. Obama, on the other hand, ignored Republicans (and the American people) and pushed Obamacare through without bipartisanship. As far as Romney “flip-flopping” on abortion, he made a change. I believe that when Obama changed his views on certain issues, he called it an “evolution.” So Romney “evolved” his stance on abortion from a complete ban to allowing abortions only in the case of incest or rape.

I disagree with the assessment of the 2012 Presidential Race. I believe that Romney will start to pull away from Obama in both the major battleground states and in nationwide polls as well. I have a feeling that in 2012, people won’t give Obama the benefit of the doubt like they did in 2008.

Luke Affolter
Spring Valley, Wis.

for privacy reasons, at UWRF. She is a devout Catholic, a person who aspires to marry the person who she loves. Sarah had thought she’d found that person with Jenna, someone who shared her faith, her values, someone with whom she wanted to share a life. Due to efforts like the marriage amendment and the lack of acceptance for their relationship, Jenna left their relationship.

Sarah didn’t choose to be attracted to women any more than I chose to be attracted to men. I want to stand up for her at her wedding when she marries the person she loves, in a community that accepts her. I admire Sarah’s faith, humanity and conviction, and I know that she wants to get married for all of those reasons. If Sarah was your sister, cousin, friend, classmate or roommate, would you want her to be able to marry the person she loves?

On November 6, Minnesotans have a decision to make. A decision that would affect the lives of millions, like Sarah. We don’t choose where we are born, just like we don’t choose who we love. Community matters, and we should all be able to call where we are born home. I hope that more people will follow me and millions of others in opposing this amendment that’s wrong for Sarah and wrong for Minnesota.

Gina Kunesh
Minneapolis, Minn.

the issue? It’s because people don’t understand or don’t want to understand. They have their pre-conceived notions of what a person dealing with depression is like and they don’t care to change it. Well, I for one am going to do something about this.

The new campus organization, Active Minds, is a student led group aimed at erasing the stigma surrounding mental health on our campus. If everyone would just listen to what they have to say, they would know that everyone needs to know how to deal with depression. So yes, when I opened the recent issue of the Student Voice, I yelled and I cursed because mental health does not get the awareness that it deserves.

Becca Payne
Fridley, Minn.

the fact that he regarded it as “wicked fun times,” was quite disturbing.

I chose to send a letter due to his most recent column, “Teletubbies, creepers in van, create interesting blind date night,” which follows in the same vein as the previous two. He began by making fun of another student’s appearance and concluded with a story of insulting his date and referring to her as “bipolar.” I, for one, have not been remotely amused by his stories of awkward interactions with girls, severe punishments to his pets and harsh judgements on others’ choice of dress. However, as Tyler Smith always ends his columns with some sort of “lesson,” perhaps the lesson he should take from this is that tactless and unprofessional writing such as this is not appropriate or desired in a university newspaper.

Leo Alberti
Minneapolis, Minn.

Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor:
editor@uwrfvoice.com

Religion: manipulative political weapon

Morgan Stippel
Columnist

This past Sunday I was at my grandma and grandpa’s house in northern Minnesota enjoying the beautiful fall weather. I decided to attend the Saturday evening service with them at the local Catholic church. I was raised in a Methodist family and confirmed in a Methodist church, but when I go up to the lake, I usually attend the Catholic service with my grandparents.

When I walked into the church lobby, it was impossible not to notice the obnoxiously large pile of “Vote Yes to the Marriage Amendment” signs that were sitting in the middle of the open space. Although the sight seemed both odd and inappropriate to me, I didn’t question it as I followed my grandparents into the pew.

The service seemed to be going normally until the sermon began. Conveniently, the message of the sermon was about how marriage was designed by God to be between one man and one woman. It was also men-

tioned that homosexual marriage is a sin and goes against the Catholic religion.

As if this message wasn’t enough, the priest went on to say that women were created solely to be “companions” to men and that it is a sin for a woman to get an abortion under any circumstance. As a woman who is pro-choice and supports gay marriage, I was both appalled and offended by the priest’s message.

After the sermon, the deacon led the congregation in prayer and spoke directly about the marriage amendment that will be voted on in Minnesota this November. He prayed that Minnesotans would make the right decision to “preserve the tradition of marriage.” When the rest of the congregation replied to this statement with the traditional response, “Lord, hear our prayer,” I found myself standing in silence.

After the service, I thought about what religion and faith mean to me. I believe that both religion and faith are designed to enrich

peoples’ souls and give them the strength to overcome whatever obstacles life throws at them. Faith is meant to keep peoples’ hope alive and is what allows people to push forward, even in the face of impossible feats.

After I had defined these terms, I became even more frustrated with the experience I had just had. Instead of using the service to feed the human spirit and instill a sense of hope in the congregation, both the priest and the deacon used religion as a manipulative political weapon.

Although there is supposed to be a separation between church and state, in today’s society these two institutions are merging together. The deacon explicitly referenced the marriage amendment in his prayer and there were strong connections to this same amendment in the sermon.

Essentially, the congregation was told that voting “no” to the marriage amendment or making the decision to get an abortion are violations of the Catholic religion and that in

order to be a “true Catholic,” one must vote “yes” to the amendment and be pro-life. This example demonstrates how religion can be used against people in order to manipulate them into holding specific views on a political issues.

This problem is not limited to just the Catholic religion, but rather, spans across all religions. It is now easier than ever for religious leaders to use religion as a tool to mold peoples’ views and opinions. By guilt-ing congregations into believing that they are not true members of a certain religion unless they hold specific views, it causes religion to harm people instead of make them stronger, thus defeating the purpose of being religious.

While religion is thought to feed the human spirit, we now live in a different time. It is terrible to think that something as powerful as faith is being used as a manipulative political weapon that knows no boundaries. As the line between Church and State disappears, religion will continue to be used as a tool to manipulate unsuspecting people for political purposes.

It is now easier than ever for religious leaders to use religion as a tool to mold peoples’ views and opinions.

STUDENT VOICES

Who is the Student Senate President?

Compiled by Sarah Plank



Teresa Furst, senior

“Bobbi O’Brien.”



Luke Varien, senior

“I met her once...I can’t remember.”



Danielle Pribyl, junior

“Politics are politics. They don’t care about me.”



Lauren Evans, senior

“Bobbi O’Brien. I voted for her because I was told that she was a trusting, hardworking and fair student who could represent.”



David Recine/Student Voice

Find Freddy's Feather!

Be the first person to find the lost Freddy the Falcon 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 editor@uwrvoice.com AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins.

Congratulations to last week's winner

Billie Jo Nelson

Vote in our online poll: Who will win the upcoming presidential election?

Visit uwrvoice.com to cast your vote!

Falcon volleyball digging for the cure

Ashley Goettl
ashley.goettl@my.uwrf.edu

For the last five years, the UW-River Falls and the WIAC volleyball teams have participated in a breast cancer awareness match called “Dig for the Cure.”

While “Dig for the Cure” hopes to raise money for breast cancer research, for one volleyball player, the event means celebrating her hero, her mother.

Mackenzie Suda, a senior from Ham Lake, Minn. has been through tough volleyball matches throughout her career, but that pales in comparison to the tough time her mother and family went through when Debi Suda was diagnosed with stage two breast cancer in November of 2009.

Debi found out about her cancer when she went in for a physical and mammogram and they found a mass, which was cancer. She was diagnosed, had surgery, went through chemotherapy, radiation therapy and is currently doing biological therapy and treating lymphedema.

Although Mackenzie said it was the hardest thing her family had to go through, she said that the closeness of her family helped them get through it, together.

“It was my freshman year of college, so it was tough being away from my mom,” said Mackenzie. “But me and my sister, Alexandra, who goes to UWRF as well, made as many appointments as we possibly could. My mother is my hero. She went through hell and back.”

Debi is now a little over two years cancer free, and will be recognized at UWRF’s upcoming “Dig for the Cure” volleyball match against UW-Eau Claire. The match will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 17 at the

Karges Center.

According to the WIAC website, each of the nine WIAC teams will be involved in at least one promotional event throughout the month of October.

Over the past four seasons, conference teams have raised \$88,142 in support of breast cancer awareness.

Last year, UWRF raised \$4,000. Spectators are encouraged to wear pink clothing in support of all those affected by breast cancer.

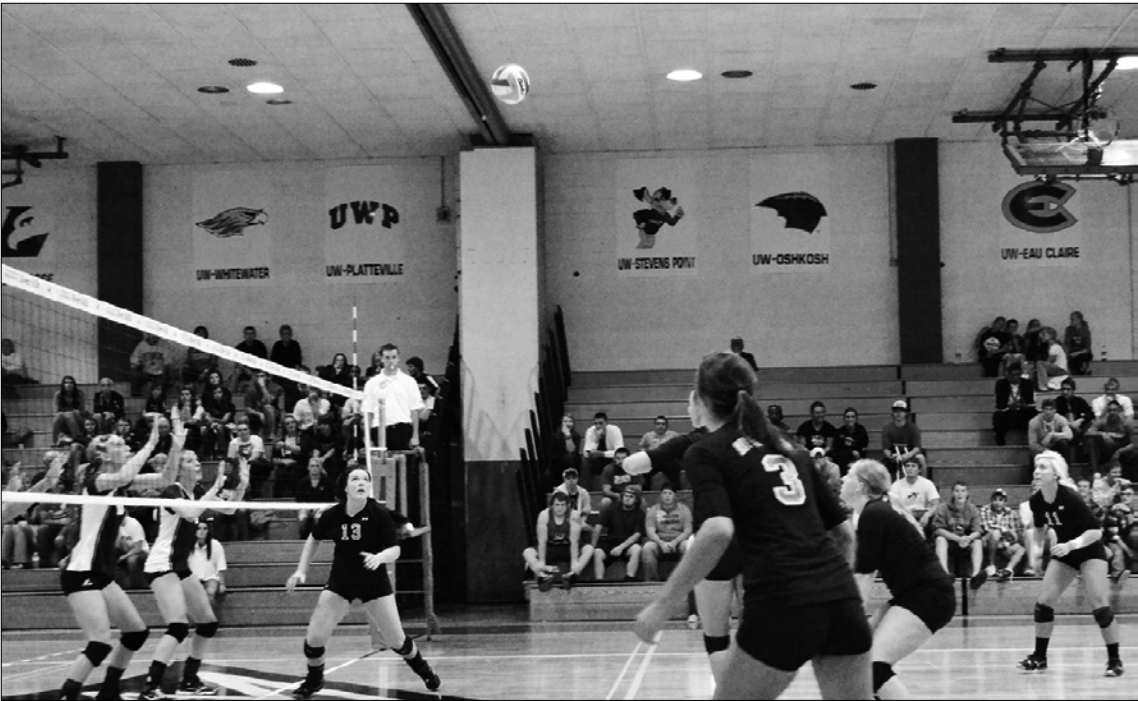
Falcon Head Coach Patti Ford said this an opportunity for the volleyball community to rally around a great cause.

“Breast cancer affects women of all ages, and sometimes we forget about the affect it has on the people in our lives,” said Ford. “Personally, I love this because I know several women (survivors) who are family members, close friends and volleyball coaches. Their fight and their journeys have all made an impact on my life in some way or another.”

Mackenzie said that she has learned a lot in the last couple of years and is proud to support breast cancer awareness.

“Because of events like this,” she said, “It is an easier road for those that have gone through it, are going through it, or will go through it. I have learned that even the slightest act of kindness can change and save a life. This is a game I look forward to every year and am proud of the fact that my whole team is on board,” said Mackenzie.

Coach Ford is proud of her team’s efforts



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice
Senior setter for the Falcons, Mackenzie Suda (No. 13) gets ready to set ball for a teammate.

throughout the last five years in raising awareness, which is the ultimate goal of “Dig for the Cure.” She credited them with planning the event, and said it was the players’ idea to share a survivor story like Debi’s.

Mackenzie said that while sharing her message with the campus community, she hopes that others will be able to find strength and comfort in knowing others are there for you.

“If someone you love is diagnosed with breast cancer, or any kind of cancer for that matter, it doesn’t mean it is a death sentence,” said Mackenzie. “It’s all about positive attitude, finding your inner strengths and surrounding yourself with the ones you love. Know how to be grateful and know how

blessed you are. Prayers can get you through anything.”

She also stressed the importance of educating yourself on the disease so you can make good decisions on your plan of treatment and that if anyone takes anything out of the “Dig for the Cure” event, it is that education and early screening are key.

“Even though we had lots of tears, we had plenty of laughs along the way, which I know my mom appreciated. Along with my dad and sister, I helped nurse my mom. I am so glad I could be a part of getting her healthy because those are personal times that won’t be forgotten. We pray for the newly diagnosed women and hope they will be as lucky as we are.”

Rugby teams facing challenging obstacles

Rebecca Rudolph
rebecca.rudolph@my.uwrf.edu

Club sports, which include men’s and women’s rugby, lack the financial support provided to varsity sports, along with the other types of support that allow UW-River Falls varsity sports to prosper.

The structure of the rugby club team does not include coaches or trainers like the varsity teams have. The men’s club leader, instead of a coach with a whistle and a wealth of trained knowledge, is UWRF senior Casey Doten.

Doten serves as the club’s captain, a position found in many sports, and as the president, which means that he “handles all the administrative stuff, both with the school, the USA Rugby and Minnesota Rugby Union as well. It’s a lot of paper work and filling out forms.”

Even with this added responsibility, he does not consider this the most difficult aspect of being a club sport versus a varsity sport.

“I’d say one of the hardest things is that we don’t have the same access to facilities that the varsity sports do. We don’t have our own trainers at games, when people get hurt they have to go to the doctor. We don’t have the strength and conditioning coaches like the other sports would for the weight room,” said Doten.

Another stark contrast between a

club sport and varsity sport is how they are funded. Rugby, and other club sports, receive money from Student Senate every year after applying for a specific amount. However, just like any other student organization on campus, that funding can be cut at any time.

“Every year we have to reevaluate what we can do and from one year to the next. We don’t know what kind of money we can have,” said Doten.

As a result of not having a consistently high budget, all of the rugby team’s materials are provided by the team members. The only exception are the jerseys, which were newly provided by the University to the team through a bonus of Senate funding, after the University told the team to change their name from ‘Fighting Cocks,’ the original name of the club, to something more appropriate.

Doten considered this change understandable because they were representing the University and said that the jerseys were in need of replacement soon anyway.

These differences are only a few between the 16 varsity sports and the 18 club sports on campus. One of the biggest differences was highlighted by Crystal Lanning, UWRF assistant athletic director.

“I guess to be a varsity sport it means that you’re recognized by us as a varsity sport through your

affiliation through conference and you’re recognized by the NCAA as a varsity sport,” said Lanning.

The NCAA is a group of 1,066 schools that are separated into different divisions, Divisions I, II, and III. The NCAA has rules for the members, which include rules on financial aid, eligibility, recruiting, and other aspects.

Not only do varsity athletes have to follow these requirements while they are training, they have to follow University regulations as well, which include things like codes of conduct to individual team rules on studying to maintain a 2.0 grade point average.

The process to change standings from a club sport to a varsity sport in order to have the same benefits is a long process. UWRF women’s hockey was the last team to make the change, and the decision by the UWRF Athletic Department was made after considering various issues.

“It’s a process of different things to make sure that they have a place to play, were going to have enough numbers, were going to stay in line, we also need to consider Title IX gender equity,” said Lanning.

If the rugby team were to make the same transition as women’s hockey, they would first need to be established at the national level and then UWRF could make the decision to accept it as a varsity sport.



Megan Rodriguez/Student Voice
In a team scrimmage Chris Konieczka carries the ball into a crowd.

Preiner breaks dig record

Courtney Preiner- Volleyball

The Falcons senior libero helped the Falcons to a 2-1 record last week as she set the UWRF career digs record. Preiner now holds the Falcon career digs record with over 2,000. She broke the record in the third set in the team’s 3-0 win over Augsburg at the Karges Center. She finished the match with 16 digs. In the three Falcon matches last week she had 46 digs. Information from UWRF Sports Information office.



Courtney Preiner

Cancer awareness support

UW -River Falls Athletics are supporting cancer awareness.

1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13 Falcon Football hosts UW-Stevens Point for a Breast Cancer Awareness game.

1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20 Falcon Soccer hosts UW-La Crosse for an Endometrial Cancer Awareness game.

Team Records

Golf- Placed fifth at the WIAC Championships

Football- 0-5 overall record

Volleyball- 17-6 overall record

Soccer-6-6-1 overall record

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Autumn styles hit UWRF campus



Amanda White
Columnist

The weather has officially changed. Goodbye, warm breeze and short sleeves.

Autumn is my favorite season, for sure, but I don’t know if I’m ready for the cold yet.

However, there is one good thing about the colder weather: scarves. I stowed a bin full of scarves and other cold weather accessories under my bed a month ago, and I’ve been patiently waiting to break into it.

I am slightly particular about my scarf choices. I prefer them in a neutral color, with a geometric pattern and sewn into an infinity loop.

An infinity loop scarf has its ends sewn together and can be looped around the neck a couple of times to ensure maximum warmth. And neutral colors allow me to cycle through a few favorites every week.

While I have a specific vision of the perfect scarf, scarves are perfect winter accessories because of their variety.

There are thick and thin scarves, woolly and silky scarves and square and looped scarves. And the color and pattern options are endless.

Scarf prices can be reasonable too. While I have had my eye on a skull-patterned scarf from Alexander McQueen (retail price \$445), I always find reasonably priced scarves at Target and American Eagle Outfitters. Small-town boutiques also offer unique and affordable options!

I spotted lots of scarves of campus this week, and I surprised myself by being drawn to especially colorful scarves.

Whitney Welker, Maryn Feyereisen and Karyn Wells all wore scarves in shades I wouldn’t normally choose, but after seeing them, I may have to expand my collection.

Amanda is a junior majoring in journalism. She appreciates good books, good style and good conversation.

Maryn Feyereisen
Year in School: junior
Style inspiration: “What I’m feeling that day. Dressing to be confident. Knowing what looks good on you and what you like.”



Karyn Wells
Student Life events coordinator
Style inspiration: Clothing must be “comfortable, practical, easy to maintain and a reflection of me, which can change from day to day.”



Whitney Welker
Year in School: senior
Style inspiration: Boho-chic, something that gives the message: “I’m not trying but I’m kind of trying.”



Rachel Responds: Squirrel law on campus decoded



Rachel Woodman
Columnist

A reoccurring topic of conversation among students is about there being a “Squirrel Law” on campus. A ban on chas-

ing squirrels. Many of you have likely been warned sternly by your friends not to chase squirrels or else be fined.

Ladies, have you ever looked at your hair straightener and saw the warning, “For external use only?” Some of us would quickly respond, “duh,” but the rest of us would question, “What moron used this internally so this label had to be created?!”

So what pioneer squirrel head hunter or mercenary made this law necessary?

Typically laws begin with a precedent. So what squirrel-chaser kept the rest of us from squirrel-chasing ourselves? Not that we’d squirrel-chase, but what if one stole my art project comprised entirely of nuts? I might trot over to one at that point, politely ask for it back and offer to buy it lunch. So where did this all begin?

A few students told me their theories. Casey Doten said, “I heard people used to catch them for homecoming and paint them red.” Ashley Sheedy said, “I heard that people killed them, dressed them up and put them all over campus.”

Samantha Fictum said, “I heard that, once, someone would walk their dog on campus and let their dog chase squirrels and, like, kill them and such. Now, no dogs or people are allowed to harm the squirrels.”

Out of everyone questioned in person or on the Rachel Responds Facebook page, Tyler John was the only one to think that the law is a myth.

If the law is a myth then my potential artsy nut project problem is solved. To get to the bottom of this law, I spoke with University Police Officer David Kuether.

When asked about the law, he said there is not a specific law about “chasing squirrels.” But you still can’t.

The actual act of terrorizing squirrels would fall under State Law 18.06. Section 2 of this law says, “Prohibited Acts; Wildlife. No person may remove, destroy or molest any bird, animal or fish life within the boundaries of University lands except as authorized by the Chief Administrative Officer or except when this provision conflicts with a special order of the Department of Natural Resources.”

The fine for violating the law is \$200.50. Kuether, who has served as a University police officer since 1983, said this law has existed and been upheld as long as he has been on

campus.

To his recollection there is no incident that called this law into creation. Kuether thinks the law is a good one as it protects the wildlife from outrageous acts – an important cause. He said, “Why would anyone get it in their head that it is good to do [violent acts to animals]?”

So what caused this law to begin? Kuether isn’t sure, however, he says that rumors about how it began aren’t too farfetched.

Some outrageous things have happened on campus. In the 1908, an unknown, and never discovered, person killed many small animals and hung their carcasses from the trees on campus.

In the 80s a football team was cited and fined under the 18.06 statute when they made a game out of hitting squirrels with their footballs.

If you’re worried that yelling ‘boo’ to a squirrel is punishable, don’t be. Kuether recognizes the difference between intending to harm an animal or not.

However, actual torture won’t be overlooked, such as catching and harming an animal or, I’d argue, forcing it to watch “16 & Pregnant” on MTV.

Send your questions, concerns, or quandaries to Rachel on her Facebook page “Rachel Responds” and follow her on Twitter.

Columbus Day celebration lacks enthusiasm in United States

Cristin Dempsey
Columnist

To many of us Monday, Oct. 8, was just a typical October day. The sky was gloomy, the wind was howling and the ground was littered with fallen leaves from the trees.

But what many people have forgotten to recognize is that Monday was a federal holiday. Columbus Day is not a huge holiday, so it is frequently overlooked each October. This holiday, however, is actually a very important day in our nation’s history.

One fact that many people in the “New World” should already know is that Columbus Day is a day to commemorate Christopher Columbus’s arrival in the Americas on Oct. 12, 1492.

The holiday is set every year for the second Monday in the month of October in the United States in order to coincide with the discovery date. It is mostly the Americas which celebrate this day, although Spain also observes Columbus Day as a national holiday.

Spain is important in Columbus’s discoveries, for it initiated the forming of Spanish colonies in the Americas. There are many different names for this federal holiday, including “Día de la Raza” in many Latin American countries and “Discovery Day” in the Bahamas.

Columbus Day had been unofficially celebrated since the late 18th century, but it finally became an official observed

national holiday in various areas at the start of the 20th century. This included parts of the United States.

Colorado began to observe Columbus Day as a state holiday in 1906. The entirety of the United States followed in 1937, making it a federal holiday. Despite this, many people throughout the Americas had been observing Columbus’s discoveries since the colonial times.

An example of this was in 1792 when New York City, and various other cities in the United States, celebrated the 300th anniversary of Columbus’s discovery.

One hundred years later, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison wanted to follow this example and celebrate the 400th anniversary.

Teachers, preachers, poets and politicians used the rituals of this holiday to teach others the ideals of patriotism and loving one’s country. It taught such values as support for war, citizenship boundaries, staying loyal to the country and accepting social progress.

An issue with the growing number of immigrants into the “New World” was the number of Catholics gaining citizenship, because they became a target for anti-immigration activists.

Catholics worked towards fighting discrimination by creating organizations and providing insurance for struggling immigrants. Many looked to Columbus as a hero since he was a fellow Catholic and served as a symbol to this nation of people.

Many also look to Columbus as a hero, because he was Italian. They recognize the holiday as a celebration of their heritage.

Many people in the United States attend school and work on this holiday and do not celebrate Columbus Day at all. Alaska, Hawaii and South Dakota do not even observe Columbus Day as a national holiday.

On the other hand, several other places hold large-scale parades and events in their community. San Francisco has the oldest existing celebration, known as the “Columbus Day Parade,” the second largest celebration after New York City.

Latin American countries recognize the day as a rallying day for the Hispanic people, rallying for their rights since Columbus Day March on Washington in 1996.

Many other holidays also fall on this day, including Thanksgiving, in Canada, Day of the Armed Forces, in Spain, and Yorktown Victory Day, in Virginia.

For the Day of the Armed Forces in Spain, a military parade is held in Madrid, causing them to overlook Columbus Day.

Yorktown Victory Day honors the final victory at the Siege of Yorktown during the Revolutionary War. Virginia observes both this and Columbus Day every year, but holds no known upscale celebrations.

While Columbus Day is not a holiday that many people normally celebrate from year to year, it is good to keep it in mind. None of us would even live here if it were not for Christopher Columbus’s discovery.

So while one may not celebrate the holiday with a big party or an upscale parade, they should at least honor it and allow themselves to be grateful that they live in the free world.

Snakes invade UW-River Falls campus



In my four years at UW-River Falls I have never seen a snake on campus grounds. Until now. And it wasn’t just a tiny snake that you could expect to find at a pet store. These were long, thick creatures with a black foundation and gold stripes down the side.

Over the last week or so, I have seen two of these slithering creatures cross my path by the South Forks Suites. I heard a rustling in the leaves as I was walking to class, and then only a step away, the snake comes darting out about a step away from me. Another was reported being spotted on the trail behind Hathorn.

My original thought was that this campus is being invaded (but this was probably due to my unfounded fear of snakes). However these snakes are not anything out of the ordinary. They were garter snakes, which, according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), is the most common snake in the state. However, as it turns out, this

resurgence of snakes being spotted is a natural occurrence associated with the drought.

UWRF Biology Professor John Wheeler said that because of the recent weather patterns, the sightings of snakes is not surprising to him. “Because of the drought, snakes might need to travel farther just to find liquid water and food and, if so, they are more likely to encounter people,” said Wheeler, who specializes in ecology. Ecology is the study of how living organisms interact with each other their natural habitats.

These garter snakes are found in every county of the state and in nearly every habitat type, although they have a preference for forest and woodlot edges and rely heavily on open canopy wetlands for overwintering, according to the DNR. They range in length from 17-26 inches long.

Wheeler added that at this time of year the younger snakes are preparing for the winter months.

“During the warm summer months, many kinds of snakes prefer the cover of darkness and are more active at night. But this time of year, snakes (especially “young of the year” snakes) are trying to accumulate body fat for hibernation; they are forced to forage during the day when it is warmer,” said Wheeler.

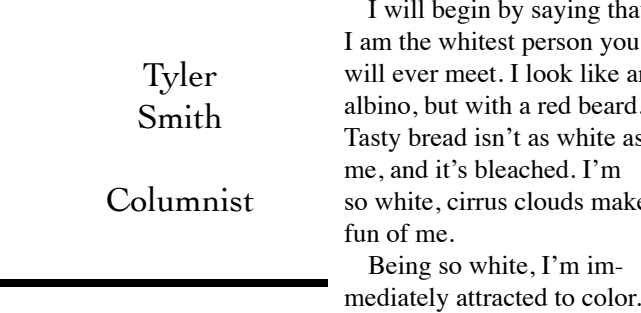
Nevertheless, seeing a snake on campus is still a rare occurrence. Joe McIntosh has been employed on campus for 13 years. He is currently in charge of ground maintenance and has yet to see a snake on campus.

So while venturing out around campus, beware of these slithering creatures, and don’t be afraid, for soon these creatures will be hibernating and will no longer cross our path.



Photo submitted by Lily Buckley
This garter snake was spotted on the trail behind Hathorn Hall.

Sicilians, tanning beds; crazy expectations affect students



I will begin by saying that I am the whitest person you will ever meet. I look like an albino, but with a red beard. Tasty bread isn’t as white as me, and it’s bleached. I’m so white, cirrus clouds make fun of me.

Being so white, I’m immediately attracted to color.

I wheeled past a girl last evening and from a distance she looked like a Sicilian. I was immediately attracted by the color of her skin. I was captivated.

Whenever I pass a sicilian on the street, I get all tingly, they might be distant relatives of the Sopranos.

I love sicilians. They’re sexy, sophisticated and really, really good cooks. Sicilian pizza is a work of art! Like a Picasso, or my favorite, Van Gogh.

As I wheeled past this girl, I noticed that she was not sicilian at all. She had managed to bake herself inside of a industrial sized Easy-Bake oven, also known as a tanning bed. She resembled a burnt pancake that a fry-cook had ne-

glected to flip. The pancake that everyone avoids.

As I wheeled past her, I couldn’t help but think, “Hmm, didn’t know human-sized glow-sticks even existed.”

Yes, I know, I’m a horrible person, I’ve come to accept it. You should too.

Why do girls even get into tanning beds anymore? Haven’t they seen “Final Destination 3?” They could die, miserably. Natural selection I suppose.

As a side note, those movies are horrible! It’s the same story, told five times.

I would never attempt to get into a tanning bed - again. I once fell asleep in one. That story did not end well. Lotion was required. I smelled like a pile of potpourri for weeks, but on the upside, my skin was silky smooth.

Tanning beds are disgusting too. I’ve often been told syphilis can be contracted by just laying on a tanning bed. I’m not sure how true that is, but I will err on the side of caution.

Seriously, why do girls tan so much?

I honestly think it’s because they’re insecure about how men and others see them. “Oh, am I attractive enough? Am I pretty enough? Will he like me?”

It’s a self-esteem issue.

Many females feel that they need to live up to the absurd expectations of what a woman is supposed to look like. Expectations are ludicrous.

These types of women feel that they need to change and starve their body, just to get some guy to notice them. Why date a person who is purely concerned with the outside beauty and nothing with the inside?

Let me just remind these ladies that I am always available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Who’s the loser now? I think we both know-me! It’s funny, because you were thinking the same thing.

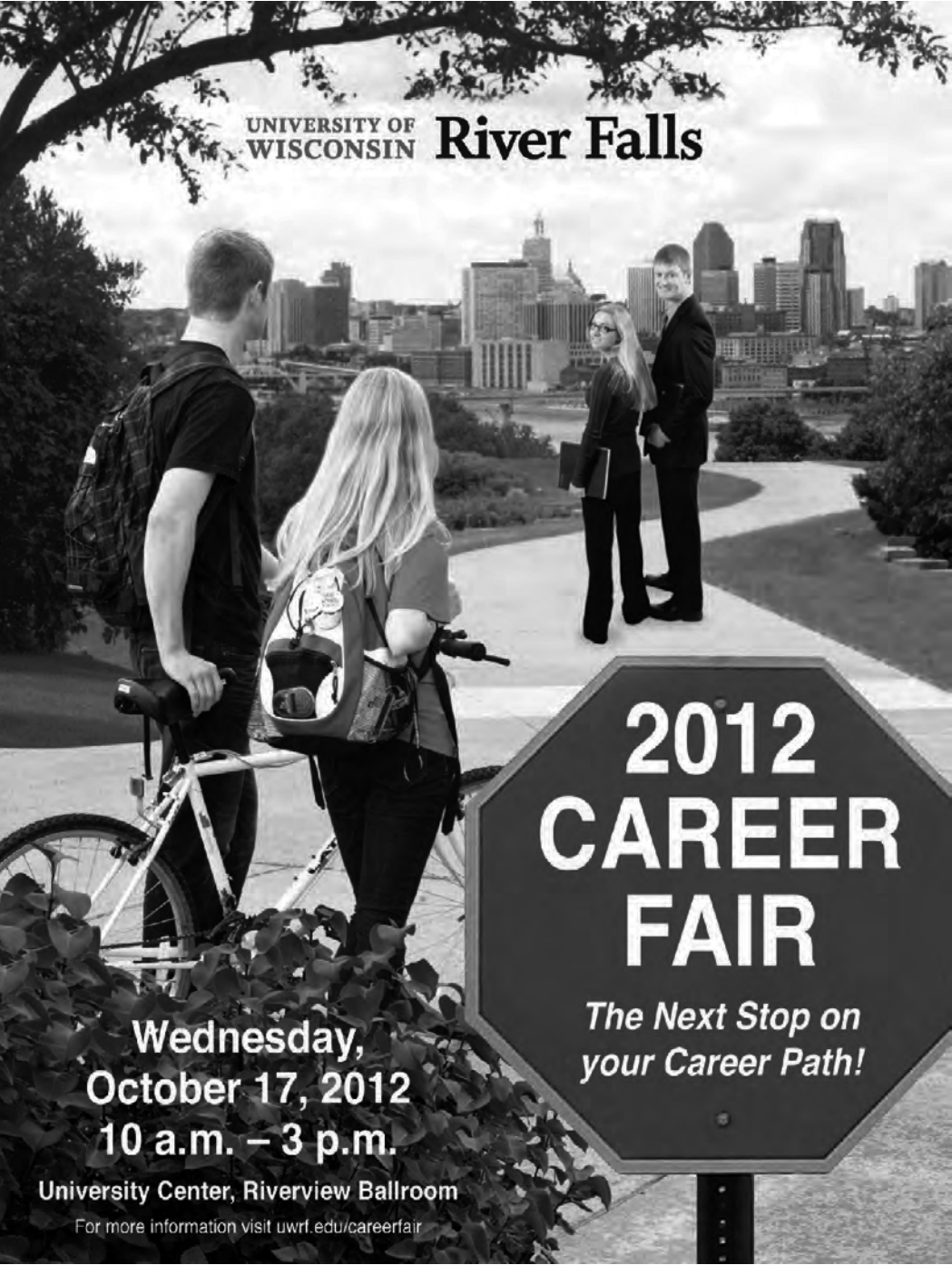
Sometimes the most attractive trait in a woman is when she knows exactly who she is. Her confidence will be at a peak. She’s the girl who will be dancing without the help of alcohol.

For me, I can’t dance without a shot of “courage,” but I can drink shots of “courage” without dancing. Weird.

If I could say one thing to any woman across the entire flippin’ globe that one thing would be: ignore expectations and live ‘la vida loca.’

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

River Falls



2012 CAREER FAIR

The Next Stop on your Career Path!

Wednesday, October 17, 2012

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

University Center, Riverview Ballroom

For more information visit uwrf.edu/careerfair



Visit www.uwrf.edu/CareerFair for more information.

Career Fair Prep Session:

Monday, October 15

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Falcon’s Nest

Interactive help stations will be available for resume critiques, preparing and practicing 30-second commercials, learning how to dress for success and researching attending employers.

Career Fair Help Tables:

Monday, October 15

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

UC Heritage Hall (entryway)

Tuesday, October 16

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

UC Heritage Hall (entryway)

Career Services’ staff will be available to provide information about the Career Fair and for resume critiques.

