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STUDENT VOICE

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University's budget falls

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UW-River Falls is facing an estimated base reduction of about \$1.7 million dollars for Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15). FY15 begins on July 1, 2014 and ends on June 30, 2015, meaning it encompasses the 2014-15 academic year.

"By July 1, 2015, we need to have reduced our budget by \$1.7 million, and over the next several months we must develop a thoughtful plan of how we will accomplish this," said UWRF Chancellor Dean Van Galen. "We are going through a process to identify options and will strive to make the best decisions possible for the University."

Van Galen hosted a town hall meeting on both Tuesday, Oct. 29, and Wednesday, Oct. 30, along with Assistant Chancellor for Business and Finance Elizabeth Frueh.

In her presentation, Frueh said that one of the challenges for the University's budget is the falling enrollment. According to Frueh, there are 6,109 students enrolled at UWRF this year, down from 6,455 a year ago, a drop of 5.4 percent.

"We are projecting that we will make our tuition target for Fiscal Year 14 (FY14). If there is another significant drop in enrollment then it would be hard to meet our tuition target. If we do not meet our tuition target, then we would have to return funds to the system," Frueh said.

The tuition target for FY14 is a little more than \$34.4 million. The projected tuition for FY14 is \$34.5 million. Additionally, because of the tuition freeze implemented by the UW System last year,

raising tuition will not be an option for the University to help off-set the estimated \$1.7 million cut. Frueh mentioned that there is a possibility for another tuition freeze after the current freeze ends after next year.

Despite not having to pay more in tuition to help off-set the cut, students will still be affected by the budget cut.

"It has to affect students because the mission of the University is about the students. So any time there is a base reduction it will affect students. It may not affect students directly, but it will affect them indirectly," Frueh said. "Whether that means the class size increases or whether that means there will be less staff to provide a service, it will affect students."

Van Galen agreed that students will be affected, but said it is difficult to tell how much.

"It is difficult to predict the impact on students. However, we do know that the Falcon Promise differential tuition cannot be increased from \$130 to \$160 per student as was agreed to several years ago," Van Galen said. "The Falcon Promise supports initiative such as enhancement of learning spaces, undergraduate research and tutoring."

The various divisions at UWRF, which includes the four colleges, the chancellor, provost, business and finance division, information technology (IT), administrative services, and enrollment and student success, have until Dec. 6, to submit their proposals. The proposed reductions will be submitted to Van Galen on Jan. 3, and he will finalize the reductions on Jan. 17.

Campus safety remains issue

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University Police (UP) Chief Richard Trende has looked at the removal of the emergency phones on campus, both for reasons of them not working, and not being placed strategically around campus.

"We've removed a couple lights that don't work, and especially if there's that redundancy of them being too close. What's really happened on campus is that there are so many people that have cell phones and when these lights first started to be installed that wasn't the case," Trende said. "That's why we've been looking at what areas really need to have them available."

Students walk past these emergency phones every day on campus.

According to the UP page on the UW-River Falls website, there are 20 emergency phones on campus.

However, according to the most recent campus directory and map of UWRF, there are only nine emergency phones on campus.

The emergency phones should be utilized whenever students need help in an emergency situation, if they are in fear or needing assistance, according to the UWRF website. Officers are alerted, and the time that it takes them to report to the scene varies.

"When people use the phone, it goes directly to our emergency communication center which is the Pierce County Sheriff's Department, so it's the time between them getting the call and them notifying our officer," Trende said.

There has been talk throughout the years about

the phones around campus being out of order. Alyson Heroff is a sophomore at UWRF and has noticed certain emergency phones being inoperative.

"One phone that I noticed a while ago that was broken was in the N lot parking lot, the wires were everywhere," Heroff said. "The emergency lights at UWRF should be working all the time. There isn't an excuse to why they sometimes don't work. It makes me feel unsafe."

The emergency phones are not the only safety concern on campus. The trail behind Hathorn Hall that goes by the Amphitheatre is also a worry for students.

"Most of the time I feel very unsafe walking on the trail that goes over the bridge behind campus. I live in the apartments that are by that trail and most of the time I will not walk anywhere at night or walk back alone because someone could follow me or assault me in the dark at any time on that path," Heroff said. "Most nights they leave the amphitheater light on and that is better than nothing."

UP's goal is to put lights on that trail and in other areas that are lacking them. Until then, Trende encourages people to find alternative routes.

"The main trail that goes to Hunt and Knowles does have lights, but the back path beyond that does not," Trende said. "Typically, people are not encouraged to use that as a primary route and to take a path through campus that has lighted areas. We still encourage that until we have lights on that path."

Cameras in all parking lots, as well as trails, are also a priority once UP gets the funds to do so.



Alex Gajdosik/Student Voice

The disputed number of working emergency lights on campus raises concerns about the safety on campus. The unlit trail behind Hathorn Hall also continues to be an issue students are worried about.

"We would like more cameras as of yesterday, but we need to do them within budget," Trende said.

Until lights, cameras and emergency phones have been put on dark trails around campus, UP is encouraging people to stay safe and be alert.

"We have a campus safety walk, where we walk around campus at night identifying

where lights are not working. Officers also routinely walk patrol these routes and look for other problems," Trende said. "We eliminate the opportunity as much as possible for something bad to happen, and we're just trying to teach people to look at their surroundings and be cautious."

Student Senate, City Council working together



Desi Danforth/Student Voice

Matthew Shutey, above, is one of the key figures working to create a "town and gown association" and increase cooperation between the UW-River Falls Student Senate and the River Falls City Council.

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The UW-River Falls Student Senate and the River Falls City Council are working on creating a formal relationship for better communication and collaboration between the city and the University.

Legislative Affairs Director Matthew Shutey is the main senator working with Director of Student Life Paul Shepherd and newly elected Councilman Dan Gulick. Gulick approached Shepherd during the summer looking to start a "town and gown association," which would be a representation of a formal relationship.

"Cooperation between the city and University is essential as we are equal partners in building a better community for both residents and students," Gulick said. "Communication is one of the most powerful tools, one that we can better utilize."

Shutey said cooperation between the city and the University is important because there are issues that both entities should work on together.

"You see a few issues between the school and the city," Shutey said. "Some

of the stuff comes from kids being too loud and whatnot, to the city doing something that the school doesn't like so much."

Shepherd did not know of any incidents that would impact the relationship between the city and the University negatively, but he said that the Cascade Avenue project completed last year is a good example of a good working relationship, which Shutey agreed with.

"I realize the chancellor does a lot of the communication with the city, like the Cascade project," Shutey said. "It was a huge cooperation between the University and the city, which was great, but you didn't get to see much student input on that project."

Shutey said that a lot of the communication in the past has been through the chancellor or the mayor, and it hasn't reached the level of student involvement.

"I would love to see something where student government and the city could work closer together to accomplish whatever is needed to benefit both the school and the city on different things," Shutey said.

Both Shutey and Shepherd

mentioned increased volunteer opportunities as a potential outcome of a town and gown association.

"Part of what Dan and I were talking about as well was inspiring community service and civic engagement among college students," Shepherd said.

Shutey said that Gulick has done a lot of research on other town and gown associations, specifically associations in Michigan. One successful program coming out of a Michigan town and gown association is "Greeks clean the streets," where students in sororities and fraternities clean up the streets of their college town. This program is mutually beneficial for both the University, whose students need volunteer hours, and the city, whose streets needed cleaning.

Currently, volunteer positions can be found on Student Life's website, but Shutey said he would like to see a better system created.

"A lot of volunteering work is done through the campus for different things around town, and we talked about expanding OrgSync," Shutey said. "They have a thing called OrgServices on

there, and it's like an expansion to OrgSync that allows us to basically put any sort of volunteering that needs to be done, or is able to be done, by students, or by anybody up on OrgSync where we can access it, update it a lot easier than can be done now."

OrgServices may not come into play for a while, but Legislative Affairs is working on an event that will help band the community of River Falls and UWRF together. Shutey said that he, along with his committee, are planning a community social event to be held at UWRF so students and River Falls residents alike can mingle and connect.

Shepherd said that it makes sense to have a closer relationship because River Falls is a smaller city so the two should look at their common goals and work together to accomplish them.

"It's two major entities within the same community. I think that sometimes the University can be viewed as a city within a city, and really we're all a part of the same community," Shepherd said. "The University has certainly benefited by being in the city of River Falls, and vice versa."

Horticulture professor serves as international judge at Proflora event

Terry Ferriss, a horticulture professor at UW-River Falls, served as one of three invited international judges on Oct. 2-4, at Proflora, in Bogota, Colombia.

Ascolflores, the Association of Colombian Flower Exporters, hosts this event every other year. More than 1,000 floriculture industry representatives from more than 40 countries participated in this exhibition to evaluate and compare products, learn about new products and arrange sales agreements.

An Outstanding Varieties Competition was held during Proflora where growers and breeders enter cut flowers to be evaluated for quality.

A six-member panel of cut flower experts served as judges. Ferriss was one of three international judges. The other three judges were from Colombia.

There were nearly 500 entries across 50 different species in the competition.

Prior to the opening of the exhibition, Ferriss and a colleague from North Carolina State University, conducted an afternoon educational session for growers and their staff. Their presentation covered the basic principles of and advances in the post-harvest physiology of cut flowers, information critical to the Colombian floriculture industry that exports the majority of their flowers.

The cut flower industry in Colombia supports approximately 140,000 jobs. The industry is so important to their economy that the President of Colombia Juan Manuel Santos addressed the attendees at the opening session. Approximately 70 percent of the flower growers in Colombia are certified under the Florverde Sustainable Flowers designation, which sets standards to protect workers and the environment. That not only ensures that the flowers are of high quality, but that they have been responsibly produced.

For more information, email terry.l.ferriss or call 715-425-3852.



Photo by University Communications
Entries at the floral judging competition at Proflora in Bogota, Colombia. UW-River Falls Professor of Horticulture Terry Ferriss was one of three international judges at this event.

Lydecker Lecture Series presents speaker on diversity

Karen Dace, Ph.D., vice chancellor for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, will speak at UW-River Falls on Nov. 12 and 13, as part of the Ann Lydecker Lecture Series. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Dace will speak from 10:30-11:45 a.m., on Nov. 12, in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the University Center (UC), about “Inclusive Excellence - Beyond Food, Festival & Fun.” She will speak from 1-2:15 p.m., on Nov. 13, in the Kinnickinnic Theater in the UC, about “If Wishing Made it So: Advancing Women in the Academy.”

With a background in inclusive excel-

lence and associated work on diversity, equity and social justice, Dace will be making formal remarks on Nov. 12, about how universities can be intentional, focused and connected to communities, agencies or entities that can help with funding or expertise.

On Nov. 13, she will share her perspective on how universities might reinforce intentional steps to prevent a glass ceiling and the productive ways in which female faculty and staff would envision a positive trajectory to their careers and career development.

The lecture series was created in the memory of the late UWRF Chancellor Ann Lydecker, and features a speaker on the is-

sues facing women leaders in many contexts, both in academia and beyond.

The series is made possible by Bill Lydecker, Ann’s husband, through the Ann Lydecker Lecture Series Fund of the UWRF Foundation.

For more information, contact the UWRF Provost’s Office at 715-425-3700.



Photo by University Communications
Dace will be speaking about “Inclusive Excellence - Beyond Food, Festival and Fun” on Nov. 12. Dace has an extensive background on the topic of inclusive excellence.

News briefs

Wyman Series presents Zagreb Saxophone Quartet

The Croatian Chamber Ensemble: Zagreb Saxophone Quartet will be performing at 7:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Nov. 5, in the Abbott Concert Hall of the Kleinpell Fine Arts (KFA) building as part of the Wyman Series at UW-River Falls. The event is free and open to the public.

Graduates of the Zagreb Academy of Music under the tutelage of Josip Nochtka, the Zagreb Saxophone Quartet has been performing with its current members since 1989. The quartet’s performances are a blend of classic saxophone literature and new compositions.

For more about the Zagreb Saxophone Quartet, visit <http://www.zagrebsax4.net/>

Upcoming Wyman Series events include:

An event at 7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014, in the Falcon’s Nest, in University Center (UC), “Dr. King’s Dream” (Presented by Mixed Blood Theatre).

An event at 7:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 29, 2014, in the Abbott Concert Hall in KFA, “One Voice Mixed Chorus” (Featuring Avenues for Homeless Youth).

An event at 7:30 p.m., on Wednesday, April 16, 2014, in the Riverview Ballroom, in UC, An Evening with Featured Speaker Tom Rath, discussing his latest book, “Eat Move Sleep.”

For more information about these events or accommodations, call 715-425-4444 or visit

American Idol Winner Phillip Phillips to perform at UWRF

After recovering from health issues in May, Phillip Phillips has rescheduled his previously canceled performance at UW-River Falls for Friday, Nov. 15. The concert will begin with an opening act at 8 p.m., followed by Phillips at 9 p.m., in the Knowles Center. The event is free and open to the public.

The same day that Phillips claimed his victory in American Idol’s season 11 finale, the 21-year-old singer/guitarist released “Home,” and marked the highest debut on the Billboard Digital songs chart with 278,000 downloads sold.

Then, during the final week of 2012, Phillips saw his debut album, “The World From the Side of the Moon,” cross the half-million sold mark, making it the fastest-selling ever debut from an Idol winner.

According to Phillips, “making music that comes from my heart and really connects with people on a gut level” is most important.

For questions or accommodation requests, call Karyn Wells in the Office of Student Life at UW-River Falls at 715-425-4444.

BFA Exhibit presented in Mobile Art Gallery

UW-River Falls senior David Wyrick will present his Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Degree exhibition Nov. 10-17, inside a mobile

art gallery located behind the Kleinpell Fine Arts (KFA) building on campus. He will be displaying sculptures, paintings and prints.

Wyrick will present the inaugural viewing of MoGal, a renovated pull-behind camper, which he has transformed into a self-contained mobile gallery. Access to MoGal will be available through the Art Department office in 172 KFA.

Wyrick returned to UWRF to finish his degree after having been absent for 20 years. He has been working as a sculptor’s assistant and fabricator during the hiatus and has been collaborating with the M12 Collective based in Byers, Colo., which has created art works internationally.

An artist reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14, behind KFA. The exhibition and reception are free and open to the public from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, contact the Art Department at 715-425-3266.

Students present BFA Degree Exhibition at UW-River Falls

Em Moelter, Sean Sauter and Kelsey Wall will present their BFA Degree Exhibition in Gallery 101 at UW-River Falls from Nov. 10-17.

Moelter will display her series of paper works exploring her illness and the feeling of abandonment with relationships. Sauter will display his portrait paintings rendered in different media such as watercolor, multi-layered stencils and freehand spray paint. Wall will display a collection of paintings on saw

blades that express the disasters and pleasures that impact the environment and in return affect us.

Moelter, of Taylors Falls, Minn., majors in painting and minors in ceramics. Her work embodies her struggles dealing with Chronic Lymes Disease and the relationships with those close to her. The body of work represents how easily someone can feel abandoned and discarded like paper products.

Sauter, from Roseville, Minn., majors in painting and minors in ceramics. His paintings show his process of working in different styles and mediums to achieve a variety of emotions. He wants each portrait to be powerful enough to have an impact on the viewer whether it be positive or negative.

Wall, from Eastman, Wis., majors in painting and minors in glass. She paints with acrylic and acid on the saw blades and incorporates actual branches, vines and weathered wood into her artwork. One of her main focuses is the importance of honeybees and she wants to convey the connections she sees between the cyclical nature of life and her experiences growing up on a farm.

An exhibition reception will be held from 6-9 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 15, in Gallery 101. The exhibit and event are free and open to the public. The art can be viewed during regular gallery hours from 10 a.m. - 8p.m. Monday-Friday and from 2 - 4 p.m. Sunday.

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

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Applications are now available outside 304 North Hall.

Applications for editor and assistant editor are due on Nov. 19.

All other applications are due on Nov. 26.

Chief Photographer

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New GeoDome brings space to earth

Emily Van Ort
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The UW-River Falls Plan- etarium’s dome was remodel- ed, and is now referred to as the GeoDome Evolver, including 30270 Projection system and Uniview.

“We sometimes refer to it as the Digital Dome,” said Physics Professor Eileen Ko- renic.

In 1969, the UWRF Plan- etarium was built, which was the same year Neil Armstrong stepped foot onto the moon. Armstrong was the first man to the moon, thus completing the Space Race era.

The Planetarium was housed, and still is housed, in the Ag Science building on campus. It was built to proj- ect the night sky onto a 20- foot diameter dome.

The Planetarium is primari- ly used for teaching selected portions of the Physics Intro- ductory Astronomy course.

“Some images are artisti- cally conceived, some im- ages are real,” Korenic said.

The Uniview software, de- veloped by SCISS, is one of the most widely used systems for visualization in dome theaters. SCISS is made up of a group of engineers as- sembled from the visualiza- tion and gaming world. With an integrated video player and rapid production tools, the Uniview software deliv- ers a complete set of tools for dome theaters, according to the SCISS website.

The goal of the GeoDome is to develop new content to show the incredible advanc- es that have fundamentally changed the understanding of the Universe, according to the GeoDome’s website, ge- odome.info.

“You can look up close at planets and cosmic rays,” said Korenic with excite- ment.

“As an educator I am partial to the GeoDome’s truncated design,” said Min- nesota Planetarium Society founder Joel Halvorson in a statement made on the Ge- oDome’s capabilities. “Plac- ing the audience closer to the spring line and filling their field of view with imagery creates an increased sense of immersion, and students re- act to it every time.”

The GeoDome Evolver is found at several other schools in the Midwest.

Some schools with the GeoDome Evolver include Mayo High School, Mankato East High School, Como El- ementary School, Southwest Minnesota State University and the University of North Dakota

Korenic hopes other class- es and departments on cam- pus will take advantage of the GeoDome. “It gives 360 degree views of anything we zero in on,” she said. “It is still a work in progress, but we are going to be able to see the Sistine Chapel without even leaving the Planetari-



Desi Danforth/Student Voice

The UW-River Falls Planetarium, located in the Ag Science building, recently had its dome renovated. The dome is now called the GeoDome Evolver and allows close-ups of planets and cosmic rays. The GeoDome Evolver could also be used for other subjects, including art.

um.”

UWRF Physics students are not the only ones who get to experience the space phe- nomenon found in the UWRF Planetarium. It is now avail- able for group shows to out- siders, under the GeoDome. The Planetarium has a seat-

ing capacity of 40 people, so groups can be larger.

Presentations are custom created to fit each group’s preferences. Groups are able to choose from a wide variety of astronomical subjects.

Currently, the UWRF Plan- etarium is presenting The

General Sky Survey. The pre- sentation includes a general overview of earth’s motions, pointing out major constella- tions, and a tour of the solar system that allows viewers to fly out to the edge of the Universe.

Groups affiliated on cam-

pus can reserve the Planetar- ium for no charge. Outside groups are charged a small fee.

Several more shows are being planned and will be added to this list, on the Plan- etarium’s website, as they be- come available.

Pet therapy, other programs relieve student stress

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Student Health and Coun- seling Services provide events and activities that manage the stress of college life.

These events and programs include Pet Therapy, Well- check, Wellness Challenge, the Health Fair and the De- stress Fest held the week be- fore spring finals.

Pet therapy helps relieve stress with therapy certified dogs on the first Friday of every month in the Career Resource Room in Hagestad Hall. The dogs are all certi- fied in pet therapy as well as their trainers, who can be community members or even faculty and staff, who volun- teer to come to campus with

their dogs for about an hour.

This is the second year the University has had the pet therapy program, which started out with one dog, but has grown to usually having four dogs.

Jennifer Elsesser, intake counselor for student health and counseling services, said that the dogs help the stu- dents cope with missing fam- ily and pets, or if students are struggling with loneliness or homesickness.

“Pets are easier to connect with, people feel more ac- cepted around a dog whereas with people it is a little harder to read. Dogs are very simple, dogs give you that uncon- ditional positive regard that sometimes people don’t al- ways give. So when students

interact with a dog it creates a connection that makes you feel loved and appreciated,” Elsesser said.

Director of Student Health and Counseling Services Alice Reilly-Myklebust, said that with the semester no longer new and exciting, it is important to maintain get- ting a good night’s sleep, eating regular healthy meals, and managing physical activ- ity to stay balanced and feel energized to perform well academically and not be as stressed in your daily life.

Aside from the weekly events and programs offered, as well as regular counsel- ing, there are also counseling groups such as College Read- iness and Life Skills Group, Interpersonal Process Group,

Healing from Loss, “Empow- ered by my disability” (start- ed by a student last year), and Art Therapy Group.

All of these groups meet once a week and all help in different ways, but the differ- ence is being part of a group and being around people who may be struggling with simi- lar issues.

With on-campus students having the luxury of hav- ing these options close by, off-campus students have to schedule time into their day to eat, taking time out of their day to exercise, read a book, write in a journal, draw, or whatever helps to unwind and take a step back from those stressful factors that are affecting their lives.

“The goal is for students to


find that thing or things that work for them to pull them out of their ‘dark days,’” El- sesser said. “Our goal is to offer as many things as we can that are really beneficial for students and the campus community.”

All of these programs are free to students, as well as faculty and staff. It is highly encouraged by the Student Health and Counseling Ser- vices to attend a counseling session or to go to a weekly event even for an hour. Both Elsesser and Reilly-Mykle- bust encourage students to go with friends and to not be scared to try new things or talk to someone about prob- lems balancing college life.

“We want students to be physically and mentally

healthy, so that they can be successful academically, but also in their personal and pro- fessional life. We want stu- dents to get through, graduate and find a job they want and have healthy relationships, that is really our overall goal,” Reilly-Myklebust said.

For more information about events and programs hosted by Student Health and Counseling Services, or to schedule an appointment with a counselor, visit them from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., on Monday through Friday, in room 211 in Hagestad Hall, or contact them at 715-425- 3293 or student.heath.servic- es@uwrf.edu.



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‘Brazilian Fridays’ teaches Brazilian culture, Portuguese language to UWRF

Meghann Witthoft
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The UW-River Falls campus has recently enrolled a record-high 150 international students this fall, creating opportunities for students on campus to interact with elements of different cultures, such as the recently developed “Brazilian Fridays” program.

“Brazilian Fridays” is a pilot program that launched on Friday, Oct. 25, which focuses upon Brazilian students teaching elements of the Portuguese language, as well as the culture of Brazil to students interested in learning. The program is also aimed at allowing the Brazilian students to gain a better understand- ing of the English language through teaching.

“Brazilian Fridays” is composed of a group of Brazilian students who serve as instructors during the pro- gram. These students are attending UWRF as part of the Brazilian Sci- entific Mobility program.

The Brazilian Scientific Mobility program is funded by the Brazilian government and allows students to pursue undergraduate studies over- seas, fundamentally in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Students who apply to the program are accepted based upon the score achieved on a test taken after the

completion of high school. Accord- ing to one student who is involved in the program, 30 percent of students who take this test have the goal of entering the Brazilian Scientific Mo- bility program.

The program originally intended for students to carry out their educa- tion in Portugal. However, with limi- tations on total student enrollment in Portugal, the program then searched for other places to send the students. This led these Brazilian students to be sent to the United States, and ultimately UWRF. With the unexpected obstacle of learning the English lan- guage, the students now must take English classes and are also expected to attend UWRF for three semesters in order to gain a better understand- ing of English.

There are different levels of Eng- lish classes that the Brazilian stu- dents must take while attending UWRF ranging from beginning to transitional. According to full-time CVTC English Language Learner (ELL) instructor and instructional lead for this collaboration Lynette Neibauer, there are 20 students in the Beginning English course as well as 18 students in intermediate classes with the remaining of the 50 students at the transitional level in their Eng- lish education.

The beginning level students at- tend English classes all day while at-

tending field trips every Wednesday to businesses. These field trips fulfill an industrial safety requirement for their program as well as promote the development of contacts for an ad- ditional internship requirement. Stu- dents at the transitional level attend other University courses throughout their time at UWRF.

Many of the Brazilian students in- volved with “Brazilian Fridays,” as well those individuals who were in attendance on Oct. 25, saw the pro- gram as a positive experience.

“Students study German or Span- ish, but it is interesting that people want to learn Portuguese [as well],” said Grazielle Souza, a junior in- volved in the Brazilian Scientific Mobility program.

“It was a wonderful experience to learn a little about the Portuguese language and Brazilian culture,” said English Language Transition (ELT) Instructor Charlie Lavin, with regard to his involvement as a ‘student’ at “Brazilian Fridays” program.

The group of Brazilian students plan to continue with the weekly “Brazilian Fridays” program which will be continuing for the remainder of this semester, ending on Dec. 13. The group will not meet on Nov. 29, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

For more information contact Carolyn Brady at [carolyn.j.brady@ uwrf.edu](mailto:carolyn.j.brady@uwrf.edu).

EDITORIAL

Senate keeps single event fund as is, orgs should find viable alternatives

Student Senate recently voted down their motion of putting \$4,000 into single event funding for student organizations.

This is money that is budgeted every semester and goes toward organizations that want to put on an event not planned out in their budget, or did not receive a budget.

First year organizations do not receive a budget at the beginning of the year, in order to make sure that the organization does not receive money and then fail after just one year.

One other important area of single events being important is because all students can go to these events put on by the organization. We always talk about and hear about how important it is for students to get involved.

Often times a student may be too timid to jump in and get involved in an organization until they go to a big event where they can bring friends and have less pressure put on them to join.

The original money set aside for single event funding has been depleted quickly. While there is still some money left in the account, it is only about a quarter of the original amount.

The money in the single event fund is allocated for the entire year. There are still more organizations applying for single event funding, naturally, but time is running out.

To add more money to the single event fund, Senate would have to introduce a motion at one of its meetings, and vote on the motion at the following meeting.

Would it have nice for Senate to pass the motion adding more money to the single event fund now? Of course. Was it entirely necessary? Not necessarily.

Every organization should have been aware of how much money was in the single event fund for this academic year, as every organization had to attend the mandatory OrgSync meeting at the beginning of the semester. The total amount in the single event fund was brought up at this meeting.

Simply put, organizations both should have and still need to plan ahead better. Instead of waiting until the last minute, organizations could apply for single event funding ahead of time, not hope Senate will add money to the account halfway through the year, which may still happen this year.

Keep in mind, there are other ways organizations can raise money other than leaning on the single event fund. Bake sales are a popular option among some organizations as a way to raise funds.

Again, it would have been good for some of the organizations applying for money now to have had the motion passed. However, organizations can still raise funds on their own for an event, or request single event funding earlier in the year.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Assault victim deserves respect and kindness

Two weeks ago, there was an article written about a woman who was sexually assaulted while walking home. It is incredibly important that we discuss and acknowledge these events because people need to understand that they happen everywhere.

But there was an aspect to the article that I felt was missing. The article gives helpful advice about avoiding these situations, looking for friends and lighted paths, then it seems to fall into the trap of blaming the victim. She should not have been walking out that late, by herself, after drinking, the whole line of thinking that goes with “she was asking for it.” I realize that this is something not everyone is aware of, but it is an incredibly prevalent problem when dealing with sexual assault cases.

The problem here is not the woman. She can walk home at 11:30 p.m., down Cascade Avenue if she wants to. It was those men that took action. They would have done it given that opportunity, and it was their choice to do so. The fact that there were many of them there and they all decided to assault her is unusual. Nothing she did brought that on to her. It was the men’s choice.

It hurts me to read articles that say you should use “a variety of prevention efforts” to escape sexual assault. Most of the time, there is nothing you can do. Those people decided to assault her, regardless of where she was.

I appreciate that the article brings this case forward. It should be talked about and discussed, but we need to be careful not to fall into the pattern of victim blaming, and I’m not saying that is what this is, but it is dangerously close, and this woman deserves our respect and kindness, without people second-guessing her behavior. She is not to blame.

Kathryn Van Putten
Student

UW-River Falls offers involvement opportunities

I would like to thank the Student Voice for the editorial published last week encouraging students to attend guest speakers on campus.

As the editorial suggests, these events are designed to provide opportunities to learn about different ideas and perspectives concerning issues that may not often be discussed in the course of everyday life on campus.

The speakers brought to campus through the Wyman Series are selected because we believe their stories will inspire critical thought, and an opportunity for students to define their own ideas about what they think and believe about a variety of subjects.

Getting the word out about these events is always a challenge, and no matter what is done, we invariably miss someone. There are a variety of marketing tools used by many across campus. Posters, screens in the University Center, table tents in Riverside Commons, social media, the UW-River Falls events calendar on our website and OrgSync are designed to catch students’ attention.

If there are better tools we could use to reach you, please let us know and we will use them. We will also continue to provide this information far in advance so that you can schedule time to get involved into your busy lives. There is much we would like to do to encourage more involvement on campus, but we also need you to make a commitment to taking advantage of the involvement opportunities available.

Getting involved by attending events, joining student organizations and participating in other activities outside of class with some educational value has shown positive effects on student success in college. It’s a great way to meet people, get to know faculty and staff outside of class, and develop important skills that will help you succeed both during college and after graduation.

In addition to all of that, fees all students pay cover the cost of many of these events. Many other campuses charge students additional money to attend these types of events, but we have made the commitment to offer them for free.

Why not make the most out of your investment in higher education by experiencing all that UWRF has to offer? Once you graduate, I think you will find that opportunities like these are more difficult to participate in and are not as accessible as they are on campus.

If you are having trouble finding out about what is happening on campus or getting involved, never hesitate to contact us at studentlife@uwrf.edu

Paul Shepherd
Director of Student Life

Residence Life provides support

A column was written in the Oct. 25, issue of Student Voice that expressed some of the frustrations with campus residency.

People have the right to be upset with the areas of concern brought up, such as micro-fridge problems and the resident requirement. Some of those same frustrations I have had in the past and occasionally run into still today. Though I will not address every one of the individual frustrations, I will say this: we (Residence Life) are here to help.

It is amazing what resources are available in and through Residence Life. Just last week, I had some of my residents tell me about problems with a beeping fire alarm. We brought it up to our janitors and facilities management and they fixed the problem promptly. I have faith that they would address any other facility problem as well, such as mini-fridges.

As for the residency requirement, our hands are tied with the UW System Board of Regents, as are 10 other Wisconsin campuses. Though this requirement may seem limiting, it can instead be beneficial.

Every day, students are within immediate reach of fellow students, professors and faculty. The beginning of an inclusive and close community is already established just by being together in a hall or complex.

I speak on my part as well as on behalf of everyone in Residence Life when I say this once more: we are here to help. Let us be a resource, a mentor and a friend for you. We provide a care and service you would be hard pressed to find anywhere else but in Residence Life.

Zach Markhardt
Student

Residence halls provide quality living amenities

I am writing this letter concerning the Oct. 25, issue of the Student Voice in regards to the article, “Campus residency requirement confines students.” The points are as followed:

First, if a complaint is made about room temperature to a staff member of Residence Life, a call is made to campus Facilities to address the heating problem. For safety reasons, space heaters are not allowed in rooms. This information can be found on the Residence Life website.

Secondly, mini-refrigerators are not supposed to act as a full kitchen refrigerator. Any alleged food poisoning coming from food stored in the mini-refrigerators was due to poor use, such as storing meat. If larger products want to be stored, each residence hall is equipped with a full refrigerator.

Thirdly, usually kitchens are empty, only being used by a limited amount of people. There is no “high demand” for them. Going off of the baking issue, planning ahead of time can solve it. Keeping desks open longer is unnecessary.

The article also addressed that the kitchens should be remodeled. Residence Life has already remodeled Johnson Hall and is currently working on the other halls.

Finally, there is a wide variety of places on campus to study. The library, the University Center, every study lounge on campus and basements are a few examples. Courtesy hours within a hall are between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., on weekdays and 8 a.m. and 1 a.m., on weekends. If a noise complaint is made, the RA will address the situation. Writing that the halls are full of screaming and yelling makes it sound like RA’s aren’t doing their jobs, which they are.

My final thought is, the hard working people of Residence Life have provided a fair amount of amenities for students including Wi-Fi, water, shelter, access to events, safety, beds, recreational equipment, collaboration stations and so much more. I ask that before another article is published slandering the name of a campus department, that information is correct and arguments are logical.

Mariah Ross
Student

Residency requirement benefits student life

The article “Campus Residency requirement confines students” is an incredibly poor assessment of the Residence Halls. As an employee of the Department of Residence Life I find this article to be not only inaccurate, but also incredibly ignorant to the luxury of living on campus. Let’s address the grievances one by one.

With regards to the temperature of the rooms, the average temperature of four of my residents rooms was a comfortable 67 degrees (also space heaters are not allowed in the rooms). The refrigerators in the halls work fine. Upon an informal survey of some residents, I received no complaints about the refrigerators. If a fridge seems to be ineffectively working, report it to the facilities staff, and it will be taken care of. The freezers also work beautifully.

The fact that UW-River Falls provides fridges for residents is a huge privilege. This alleviates the stress and cost of buying a fridge. Also, if someone got food poisoning it is more than likely due to their inability to prepare food.

The fact that there is a kitchen in the basement for students to use is also a privilege. It would be nice if people would be thankful for the amenities provided. Students are not required to cook in the residence halls, and therefore do not need cooking utensils. On top of that, anyone with a social-fee card is allowed to rent anything out from the desk for five days. Therefore, if someone has any foresight or chooses to cook before midnight, the utensil issue ceases to exist.

The most inconsiderate and inconsistent complaint in the whole article is her opinion about silence. It does not make any sense to complain about things being too loud, and then criticize the implementation of quiet hours. No matter where you are, noise will infiltrate one’s room. That is what happens when you live around other humans. If it is really as bothersome as is suggested it can be resolved by closing the window, studying in one of the study lounges or studying in the library. If none of these places are suitable, there are a plethora of other places where one can feel comfortable studying.

Students are required to live on campus for two years because it allows them to establish a good base at River Falls. Inside the residence hall, the real college experience comes to life. Life skills are cultivated, and community is built. This is where people grow. Living in a residence hall removes many of the stressors that are associated with going to college like being near your classes, having a place to call home and being near a cafeteria that feeds you.

Much of what was said is just a series of petty complaints that take the whole institution of a residence hall for granted. Residence halls are a necessary and high-functioning institution on campus, and for all those who disagree I would encourage them to find somewhere else that provides as much for you as residence halls do.

Thomas Crawford
Student

Do you have something to say? Write a letter to the editor: editor@uwrfvoice.com

Eco-Reps overhauling program

Molly Breitm n
Columnist

Students, looking slightly lost, asked the group sitting in a circle at the University Center fireplace, “Is this the Eco-Reps meeting?”

Coordinator for the Office of Sustainability, Bethany Gapinski, greeted the residence hall Eco-Reps warmly and assured them they were indeed in the right place.

Created out of the best intentions, the Eco-Reps program aims to “offer peer-to-peer sustainability outreach and education to residence hall students,” according to the UW-River Falls Sustainable Campus Community Plan. The Eco-Reps are a position within each residence hall’s Hall Council and are elected by their fellow hall community members.

Informal feedback I collected from students as well as former and current Eco-Reps suggests that, although the program is considered a worthwhile endeavor, the Reps could benefit from regular, formalized collaboration and support to create a bigger and more visible impact on campus.

This semester, the new Office of Sustainability responded to this gap. Aaron Turek, a UWRF junior majoring in conservation and an Office of Sustainability intern, will work alongside Gapinski to routinely meet with the Eco-Reps as a group. Their goal is to help them come up with ideas, inform them about sustainability events on campus, and especially be a resource for them during their term.

Chad Adams, a biomedical biology major from Luck, Wis., is the Ames Eco-Rep. He said he ran for the position because, “I wanted to make a difference and I care about the environment.” The

first item for the next Eco-Rep meeting agenda quickly emerged as a tour of his residence hall, the new Jesse H. Ames Suites. Ames has an impressive LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. It was apparent at the meeting that although people knew that Ames was ‘Green,’ the extent of knowledge of its sustainability, beyond obvious features such as the rooftop solar hot water panels, was hazy.

The Crabtree Hall Eco-Rep, wanted to get involved because she has “a concern for animal safety” which includes protecting the food sources and habitat of animals. Mikayla Hanrahan is a pre-vet biology major. She sees room for improvement for the Eco-Reps position through developing more structure. She pointed out the success of her hall council’s president helping to organize the Crabtree Thanksgiving canned food drive and spaghetti dinner. Without a legacy of past successes to build off of, the current Eco-Reps who attended the meeting seemed to be relieved to have a forum to meet and collaborate to make their ideas realized on campus.

Hanna Theuson, a sophomore from Bayport, Minn., credited her family’s background of strongly valuing organics as a reason for running for the McMillan Hall Eco-Rep position. She also wanted it to be a personal inspiration for her to reach out and be more social in her second year at UWRF. Thueson came to the meeting with the idea of starting a garden for her hall, possibly locating it on the second floor terrace. She envisioned using Falcon Foods products and the produce from this garden in a harvest meal shared with McMillan residents.

While simply a hope for now, her idea gave the meeting participants motivation to share other ideas. One was

to hold a competition amongst the halls at the two ends of campus, to see who can collect the most recyclable cans in a certain amount of time.

Winners could get a movie night with pizza and ice cream. Another was to create bathroom flyers that educate residents on ways they can change their behaviors to live more sustainably. There was agreement that creating an Eco-Rep label on the doors of representatives, to better advertise to students where they can get support for their ideas and concerns, would be beneficial. Talk will continue into the next meeting on organizing a campus-wide scavenger hunt with prizes that highlight the sustainable, yet little-known facets of our campus.

The group consensus was that Eco-Reps need a more clear position description with a formal Eco-Reps handbook that would document the past successes of former Reps for new ones to build off of. With more fleshed-out programming ideas, the Eco-Reps wouldn’t have to reinvent the wheel in their yearlong term.

The Office of Sustainability will be hosting monthly Eco-Rep meetings open to the campus community in support of revitalizing and improving the program. Anyone with constructive feedback, ideas, questions, or the hope to learn more about campus sustainability is invited to attend the meetings.

The next Eco-Rep meeting will be at 5 p.m., on Tuesday, Nov. 5 in front of the UC fireplace. After a discussion, the group will walk to Ames and take a sustainability themed tour of the residence hall.

Molly is a non-traditional student majoring in conservation with a minor in GIS. Her interest in campus sustainability was fostered by becoming an undergraduate fellow for the St. Croix Institute for Sustainability Community Development as well as by her peers in the Student Alliance for Local and Sustainable Agriculture.

Senate Corner: Senate encourages student involvement

Brooke Frelich
Facilities & Fees Chair

Student Senate continues to be actively filling open student positions available on committees. There are still around 100 student positions available on a variety of committees.

Some of the many student positions available are: Textbook Services Advisory committee, Student Health Advisory Committee, Student Life Advisory Committee, Differential Tuition Advisory Committee, and Inclusivity and Diversity Issues Committee. There are applications available on Senate’s OrgSync page under the forms tab labeled as student involvement application. Also, if any are interested, and have some questions regarding committees feel free to stop by the Senate office in the Involvement Center and any one of the senators would be happy to answer any questions.

During the Senate meeting a motion was discussed regarding the AFAB budget and reallocating funds for single event funding to last the rest of the semester. The amount requested was calculated by using the average of requests and the amounts requested to ensure there would be enough for the semester. An amount of \$4,000 was requested to come from the University Reserve Account to be added to the Single Event Funds. The University Reserve Account contains funds which have been collected from past years of the Shared Governance Fee. The motion was sent back to the Allocable Fee Appropriations Board committee to be further reviewed.

Last Tuesday, Blake Herbison was approved by the Senate Executive board as the Public Relations Administrator. He was approved by the Senate and soon will begin working with Shared Governance and the Student Affairs and Academic Services committee on the Meet the Senate event.

The Meet the Senate event will be held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 15. Join the senators for food, drink and a variety of other activities.

Students who attend the meet the Senate event will receive a VIP entrance option for attending the Phillip Phillips concert. The VIP entrance entitles the students to have first choice of seating before the general public enters.

For more information on how to get involved with committee’s on campus visit the Senate Orgsync page or the Senate office in the Involvement Center.

STUDENT voices

What annoys you the most about the opposite sex?

Compiled by Alex Gajdosik



Erik Muhlenbruck
“They are no longer lady-like.”



Christina Swanby
“There is nothing wrong with guys. They are way cooler than girls.”



Briana Wenell
“Guys fart too much.”



Evan Caye
“Women blow things out of proportion.”

Proposed unisex caps feminize Marines

Hannah Timm
Columnist

The Marine Corps has recently abandoned the idea of creating a unisex uniform cap.

The Marine Corps has considered redesigning the female cover since 2002, according to The Wall Street Journal. In 2012, the Commandant of the Marine Corps explored creating a unisex cap.

The Marine Corps Times explains that Marines were given a survey with two options: “Option 1: Adopt the Dan Daly cap [an adjusted version of the female cap] as the universal cap or Option 2: Adopt the current male frame cap as the universal cap.”

Immediately, hundreds of readers and media sources exploded with criticisms of adopting an adjusted version of the female hat. Some simply called the hat “girly.” Others accused the hat of feminizing, and therefore weakening, marines.

After several sources blamed President Barack Obama for the “girly” hats, the survey was dropped. The Marine Corps simply ignored the gendered comments and published a statement explaining that the previous manufacturers of the female hats went out of business and they were looking to create a new model.

Criticizing media sources and readers did not address the idea that the Marine Corps was exploring new uniform options. Instead, many expressed insulting opinions that feminized hats disagree with the traditional image of the Marines.

Traditionally, women were prohibited from fighting, and were the powerful members of society. Is this the image we want to uphold in our “gender-equal” society today?

Currently, women are allowed to join military forces and can attain meaningful positions in society. After all, the United States a country that supposedly supports race and gender equality. However, as exhibited by the reactions to new Marine Corps hats, females still appear to represent an image of weakness.

Although the typical women may not be as physically strong as the typical man, she is not weak. Both males and females have capabilities of achieving intellectual power, which, in many instances, is more crucial in negotiating with other countries than pure physical strength is.

In the instance of Marine covers, men would hardly be subject to feminization. The two different hat options display differences in design, not functionality.

According to The Wall Street Journal, the “feminized” design closely resembles the covers that male Marines wore in the early 1900s. The only reason people view the hat as feminized now is because currently female Marines wear a version of it.

Why are Americans so hesitant to carry the image of gender-equality to the Marines? It seems as if people want to convey an image of muscle instead of brains when outfitting the military. However, advocating for male superiority does not align with our country’s beliefs. If the United States adopts a feminized image and is still powerful, wouldn’t that promote the concept of gender-equality?

Find Freddy Falcon’s Feather!

Be the first person to find the lost falcon feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes to the Falls Theater! (105 S. Main St.)

The first person to report the find to editor@uwrvoice.com AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins! The winner will be announced on the Voice’s account of Twitter @uwrvoice

Playing Nov. 1- Nov. 7
“Free Birds”
7 p.m. & 9 p.m. daily
(Sat. & Sun. 2 p.m.)

Last week’s winner:
Bailey Colbert

Hannah is a sophomore majoring in English: Professional Writing and minoring in Creative Writing. When she graduates from UWRF, she intends to work as an editor.

Women’s hockey enters season nationally ranked

Ben Lamers

benjamin.lamers@my.uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls women’s hockey team, which enters the season ranked No. 6 nationally, is gearing up for another run at the national tournament.

The team finished with a 21-7-2 record last season, which was good enough to claim the Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (NCHA) regular season title. However, the Falcons lost in the NCHA conference tournament championship game, costing them an automatic berth in the national tournament. The team did, however, receive an at-large bid, something it will have to secure again this season.

“We’re going to have to win probably 22 games to get to the NCAA tournament. That’s a challenge, but we’ve done it the last few years so we just have to do it again.” said Head Coach Joe Cranston, who is in his 15th season as the Falcons’ coach. Cranston also has the most victories of any women’s hockey coach in the WIAC with 238.

UWRF hockey will now play in the WIAC after the WIAC schools split from the NCHA. The WIAC only has four women’s hockey teams, which means each school will have to face each other four times during the season. The Falcons will also face more teams from the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) this season as well.

“We are in a new conference and our schedule is a lot tougher. I’m excited to see how we match up against some

of the better MIAC teams,” said senior forward Brook Story.

The winner of the four team WIAC does not receive an automatic bid into the national tournament. A conference needs to have at least seven teams to receive an automatic bid.

“Our strength of schedule will be better, and that makes us a better team in the end,” Cranston said. “We don’t play weak teams anymore. Every game we play, we could lose.”

The Falcons will be aiming higher than simply qualifying for the national tournament, though.

“I think last year was as good of a team as I’ve ever had here, and I really think this team will be a step above that one,” Cranston said. “We went and watched the Frozen Four last year in Superior, and we could have beaten any team up there. That’s our goal is to ultimately to get to the Frozen Four and have a chance to win a national championship.”

The Falcons will face two teams this season which are currently ranked by the NCAA: UW-Superior, No. 10, and Gustavus Adolphus College, No. 4.

The Falcons have played Gustavus Adolphus five times in a row in the national tournament. They have lost the last four times.

“That’s our biggest rivalry. That’s always the most talked about, and we just have to get ready for that,” Cranston said. “They were undefeated last year and we lost three games to them by one goal and played right with them.”

This year’s squad will be led by seniors Ashley Kuechle, Katie Batters, Kait Mason and Story. Both Batters and Mason

were named American Collegiate Hockey Association All-Americans after last year. Mason was a first team All-American, while Batters was second team.

Last season Mason became the program’s all-time leading scorer, while Batters set the school record for goals in a single season with 21.

“I think those three (Mason, Batters and Story) are as good of senior forwards playing anywhere in the country,” Cranston said.

Additionally, the Falcons will have eight new faces on the ice this season, according to the UWRF athletic website. The team only graduated four seniors from last year’s team, one of which was first team All-American Amanda Ryder.

“Amanda Ryder was a big loss because she was an All-American. We have a couple defensemen to take her place,” Cranston said. “It will give us some more depth.”

Story agreed that filling the holes left by the four seniors who graduated will be difficult, but the team is prepared to step up in their place.

“We lost a talented group of seniors that brought a lot to the squad,” Story said. “We just have to all be on our best game this year, and if we do that we will be successful.”

The Falcons open their season at 7 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 1, at Bethel University. UWRF will play its first home game the next day, also against Bethel, at 2:05 p.m., at Hunt Arena. The Falcons have a 13-0-2 all-time record against Bethel.



Photo by the Student Voice

Brook Story advances the puck up the ice for UWRF. Story will be a key senior leader on the team this season.

Falcon Spotlight:
Kait Mason

Morgan Stippel

morgan.stippel@my.uwrf.edu

Kait Mason is a senior forward on the UW-River Falls women’s hockey team. She is from Eagan, Minn.

Mason was encouraged by her uncle to get involved in hockey. “My uncle played in high school and college, and he got my brother and I into the sport when we were really little. I first started skating in second grade on my grandma and grandpa’s pond in the winter,” Mason said.

Her favorite part of being on the UWRF hockey team is being a member of a team that has a strong bond with one another. “All of the girls are my family. It’s nice to be part of such a close team,” Mason said.

This strong bond is undoubtedly what allows the team to be so successful on the ice. During Mason’s freshman year, the team went undefeated in the regular season, won the NCHA title and competed in the national tournament.

“My freshman year has been one of my favorite seasons here,” Mason said.

The hockey team hopes to have similar successes this season. “Our team goal is to make it to the Frozen Four and beat Gustavus. As a team, we want to always give 100 percent on the ice, work together and have fun,” Mason said.

Since this is Mason’s senior season, she wants to focus on making the most of the time she has left. “I want to make the best of these last games I have because I know it is the last season I will be playing competitive hockey,” Mason said. “Ending my last hockey season with these girls will be really special.”

Although Mason wants to make the most of her final hockey season, she has already had a successful career at UWRF. Mason is entering her senior season as the all-time leading scorer for the Falcons. She was also an AHCA All-American in 2011 and 2013.

Mason is majoring in marketing communications, and minoring in business. Outside of hockey, she enjoys spending time and socializing with her friends and family.

“I go home every Sunday to see my family and have family dinners and parties,” Mason said. “Family and friends are very important to me.”

Two UW-River Falls Falcon athletes named to All-WIAC teams

Gillian McDonald, a member of the UW-River Falls women’s golf team, has been named to the 2013 second All-WIAC golf team, according to the UWRF athletic website.

McDonald was the team’s top golfer this season and fin-

ished the year with a scoring average of 83.6.

Kayla Rosenow, a member of the UWRF women’s tennis team, was named to the WIAC All-Sportsmanship team.

The individuals who are selected to be on the All-Sports-

manship team displayed exemplary sportsmanship throughout the season, according to the UWRF athletics website.

Congratulations to both of these athletes.

UWRF winter athletic seasons begin as fall seasons begin to wrap up

Brandon Jones

Columnist

It is a question not often thought of in college. What season of sports do you look forward to more? Fall, winter or spring?

Let us ponder that a moment, and think about which questions you should ask yourself. Which sports do you enjoy more, and which sports does your school typically excel in?

Fall sports are typically thought to be football, soccer and volleyball.

The money-maker of the fall sports season is, without a doubt, football. Unfortunately for Falcons’ fans, their beloved football team plays in arguably the toughest Div. III football conference in America.

They get to play Div. I players who transferred to schools such as UW-Whitewater, whose former quarterback, Matt Blanchard, had a cup of coffee with the Chicago Bears. It’s a conference where as many as five teams can be ranked in

the national top 25 at one point.

The results of these games can be viewed as uphill battles, as has been the case for the Falcons the last few years. They boast a roster full of talent and potential, and will surprise some teams within the next few years, but for now, while the games are highly attended, they have yet to win enough to push fall sports to the forefront of the “excitement list.”

Spring sports offer us a bit of a change from physicality to finesse. We are introduced to sports such as golf, track and field, and softball.

Some of the spring sports have been among the more dominant Falcon teams on campus the last few years. However, when spring comes around, students are more worried about summer vacation and getting through the last months of college than about going to watch the track and field meet or trying and figure out if the weather will allow the softball team to play at home.

Spring sports simply just do not have the pizzazz to draw students in, although they are extremely competitive.

Now for the winner: winter sports. Basketball and hockey

are the clear victors. The Falcons have some of the most dedicated hockey fans in the Midwest. The games are always packed and full of energy and excitement. For the most part they are always competitive in their games, and hold their own against better opponents.

As for basketball, the women’s team played with a center who was a hair under 5-10 and who was the best rebounder in conference. They provided serious entertainment every time they play, and are quite often among the cream of the crop in conference play.

The men’s basketball team made back-to-back national tournaments, even hosting the latter. They boast one of the better coaches in conference and a flurry of devoted fans.

When you think about your favorite sports season you have a lot to consider, but not necessarily a lot of time to do so. So sit back and leave these things to people who have nothing better to do.

Brandon is a senior journalism major minoring in political science. Sports means the world to him. The sound of a ball cracking against a bat or a ref blowing his whistle. It all means the same thing for him: happiness. We all have our thing, his is sports.

Falcon athletic teams are nearing end of regular season games, conference tournaments

Football

The Falcons fell to UW-Eau Claire 13-9 on Oct. 26. The team will play its next game at UW-La Crosse at 1 p.m., on Saturday, Nov. 2.

Volleyball

The Falcons fell to UW-Platteville 3-1 on Oct. 25, UW-La Crosse 3-0 on Oct. 26 and Carleton College 3-0 on Oct. 30. The team plays at Augsburg College on Nov. 2.

Women’s Cross Country

The Falcons ran at the Lake Wissota Invitational on Oct. 25. The meet was not scored. The team will compete at the WIAC championship at home on Nov. 2, at noon.

Men’s Cross Country

The Falcons ran at the Lake Wissota Invitational on Oct. 25. The meet was not scored. The team will compete at the WIAC championship at home on Nov. 2, at 1 p.m.

Men’s Rugby

The Falcons finished third overall with a record of 1-1 in the National Small College Rugby Organization (NSCRO) playoff last weekend.

Soccer

The Falcons fell 2-0 to the College of St. Scholastica on Oct. 30. The team will play UW-La Crosse at 5 p.m., on Saturday Nov. 2. The winner advances to the WIAC tournament.

UWRF cross country hosts WIAC championship

Ben Lamers

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The UW-River Falls men’s cross country team will not have to travel far for the WIAC championship meet.

UWRF will host the WIAC meet this year. The men’s race will begin at 1 p.m., on Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Kilkarney Hills Golf Course in River Falls.

“This is the first time we’ve hosted this meet in nine years, and the first time we have hosted it at Kilkarney Hills,” said Co-Head Coach Matthew Cole, who is in his first year coaching the team.

The meet gives the men’s team a second chance to run in front of its home crowd this season. UWRF hosted the Falcon Invitational, also at Kilkarney, on Sept. 14, and placed fifth.

“At our home meet we had a bunch of guys come out to cheer us on, and that was a big help,” said sophomore runner Jackson Shaw. “To hear ‘Go RF’ every step you take is a huge boost.”

This year’s team looks a lot different than last year’s squad,

which finished seventh at the WIAC meet. Four of the top seven runners from last year’s team did not return, which has resulted in the core of this year’s Falcons being led by underclassmen.

“We have a pretty talented young group. It’s a lot of freshman and sophomores in the top five and seven range, with a couple of seniors sprinkled in there,” said Co-Head Coach Scott Sekelsky, who is in his seventh season as a head coach for cross country at UWRF, but in his first season coaching the men’s team.

With such a young group of runners, five of the top seven are underclassmen, Cole said that running at home provides the team with an advantage.

“I believe anytime you can compete at home in front of your home fans, friends and family it does give you a competitive edge, especially with the youth guys,” Cole said. “It always seems that the upperclassmen are the guys who can perform well on the road, but your freshman and sophomores will perform better at home.”

A big difference on this year’s team is the closeness with

which the top seven runners finish the races. At the Jim Drews Invitational, the top group all finished only a little more than a minute apart from one another.

“Coach Sekelsky always tells us to run together because it’s much more efficient,” Shaw said. “They (teammates) have your back all the time.”

While running as a pack is good for team scores, Sekelsky is still waiting for one or two runners to emerge ahead of the pack.

“In our conference you need a front runner. It’s great to have that pack, but what you would like is someone, or two, out front and the rest packed in behind that,” Sekelsky said.

However, after a poor finish last year at the WIAC meet, Cole said there is no reason why the Falcons cannot surprise some teams at this year’s meet.

“I’m not sure where we’re going to place. Heck, as good as this conference is we could finish anywhere from eighth to fifth, or third,” Cole said. “It comes down to one day and one race.”

Falcon Spotlight: Jackson Shaw

Ben Lamers

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Jackson Shaw is a sophomore runner on the UW-River Falls cross country team.

Shaw is originally from La Crosse, Wis., and is a Health and Human Performance major on campus.

Despite running since his freshman year of high school, cross country was not always what Shaw originally wanted to do.

“I did football in seventh and eighth grade. I made a deal with my mom that if I was over 100 pounds my freshman year that I could do football,” Shaw said. “But I was about 99 or 98, so I switched to cross country.”

Shaw has been running cross country ever since he made that deal, and it is a decision he said he both probably would not have done on his own, but also is glad that he made.

“I had no idea what cross country was. I mean it sounded pretty bad to me, running all the time,” Shaw said. “I’ve fallen in love with it, so I’m glad I did it.”

In nearly six years of running, Shaw said his favorite memory was his team placing third at the state meet his senior year of high school.

Shaw is a part of a talented group of sophomores currently leading the team at the meets. Both Co-Head Coaches Matthew Cole and Scott Sekelsky have talked about the potential of what this group could accomplish in the coming years. Shaw sees that potential as well.

“We’re the future of the team and we work really hard. It’s nice to know that we might not be at the top of the WIAC right now,” Shaw said. “In the future we should be near the top because our talent is young and we will continue to improve a lot.”



Alex Gajdosik/Student Voice

A.J. Hansen (right) and Zach Good (left) lead a pack of runners at the Falcon Invitational on Sept. 14. The Falcons will be running on Saturday at the Kilkarney Hills Golf Course in River Falls.

See where your UWRF Falcons teams rank in WIAC standings

Football

School	WIAC	Overall
UW- Platteville	4-0	7-0
UW- Whitewater	4-0	7-0
UW- Oshkosh	3-1	6-1
UW- Stevens Point	2-2	4-3
UW- La Crosse	2-2	2-5
UW- Eau Claire	1-3	1-6
UW- Stout	0-4	2-5
UW- River Falls	0-4	0-7

Current WIAC standings as of Thursday, Oct. 31

Volleyball

School	WIAC	Overall
UW- Stevens Point	7-1	27-4
UW- Eau Claire	6-2	16-14
UW- Whitewater	5-3	23-10
UW- La Crosse	5-3	13-12
UW- Oshkosh	4-4	19-10
UW- River Falls	3-5	16-14
UW- Platteville	3-5	15-16
UW- Stout	2-6	15-15
UW- Superior	1-7	17-11

Women’s Soccer

School	WIAC	Overall
UW- Whitewater	7-0	13-0-3
UW- Oshkosh	6-2	11-7-1
UW- Stout	5-2	7-8-1
UW- Eau Claire	4-3-1	7-8-3
UW- Platteville	3-3-1	8-8-1
UW- River Falls	2-4-1	6-10-1
UW- La Crosse	2-4-1	5-10-1
UW- Stevens Point	2-5	4-11-2
UW- Superior	0-8	4-15-1



LIVE

FALCON BROADCASTS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

WOMEN’S HOCKEY

AWAY VS BETHEL

7:00 PM DROP OF THE PUCK

6:35 PM PREGAME

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

FALCON FOOTBALL

AWAY VS UW-LA CROSSE

1:00 PM KICKOFF

12:35 PM PREGAME

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Arcade Fire’s new album is diverse, brave

Jack Tuthill

Columnist

Canadian Grammy award-winning indie rock band Arcade Fire released its highly anticipated fourth studio album, “Reflektor,” on Tuesday. It is beyond belief how different it is to the first three albums and takes some getting used to.

“The Suburbs,” the group’s third album, won best album at the 2011 Grammys, so expectations heading into this record have never been higher. Arcade Fire’s sound has gradually transformed from uncomplicated indie rock to experimental dream pop, seemingly in the blink of an eye. Critics have been raving about the band’s new sound for months and Rolling Stone went as far as labeling Arcade Fire “the most important band of the last decade.” Lead singer Win Butler and his wife, backup vocalist Regine Chassagne, have aged 10 plus years since the birth of Arcade Fire, and “Reflektor” exhibits the band’s alteration as musicians and individuals. This album is unlike anything they have released before, which is bound to elate some and alienate others. “The Suburbs” was delectably captivating and thematic, while “Reflektor” is an investigation into another musical dimension. Undoubtedly, this is a record that will be a topic of discussion for years to come. “Reflektor” opens with two of the better tracks on the

album: title track “Reflektor” and “We Exist.” “We Exist” is gorgeously futuristic and catchy. Obscure instruments lay the groundwork for the track, which is the case for much of the record. Heavy use of violins, piano, drums and synthesizers lead into the breathtaking breakdown guided by Butler’s arresting vocals, “You’re down on your knees, begging us please, praying that we don’t exist. But we exist.” “Reflektor” is divided into two discs and dramatically spans over 75 minutes. The first disc does include “Reflektor” and “We Exist,” but struggles to find a cohesive rhythm and is unreasonably experimental. This hurts to admit, but “Flashbulb Eyes” and “You Already Know” are the two weakest tracks they have ever created. However, the second disc picks up some serious slack as it helps to redeem the album. There is absolutely nothing awful about “Awful Sound (Oh Eurydice),” as this track should regain the attention that may have been lost with the first disc. Beautifully simple guitars, bass and drums will put a smile on the faces of Arcade Fire fans of old. Synthesizers and violins intensely lead into the song’s mesmeric chorus, “I know, there’s a way, we can leave today. Think it over.” The oddest track title on the record is “Porno.” Interestingly enough, this song happens to be one of the best tracks on the album. LCD Soundsystem mastermind James Murphy, who produced the album, obviously had a heavy hand in the track’s creation. Butler’s high vocals and excellent lyrics build throughout, “You can cry I won’t go. You can scream I

won’t go. Every man that know you, would’ve run with the word go.” The album exquisitely concludes with “Supersymmetry,” the simplest, prettiest track on “Reflektor.” Butler and Chassagne’s duet is splendid. Light piano, drums, violins and guitars complement the married couple’s outstanding vocal abilities. The spellbinding breakdown features a multitude of violins, light drumbeats and an electronic keyboard. “Reflektor” was heavily influenced by other musicians; that much is for certain. Elements of David Bowie, The Cure, LCD Soundsystem, Talking Heads, Radiohead, Vampire Weekend, MGMT and New Order are stamped all over the record. This may explain the band’s new sound. “Reflektor” leaves me aching for songs of the past, but the days of “Ready to Start,” “No Cars Go” and “Wake Up” are long gone. This is a concept that Arcade Fire fans are going to have to accept. Nonetheless, this is an album that will eventually grow on listeners, I promise. Take solace in the fact that “Reflektor” is ambitious, gorgeous, diverse, memorable and brave.



Jack Tuthill is from Thief River Falls, Minn. He is a journalism major, with a Professional Writing minor. He is happily engaged to an Emotional and Behavioral Educational Assistant. He loves music, film, books, sports, travel, food and cat Charlie.

Students should ‘embrace the awkward’ when embarrassed

Natalie Howell

Columnist

You are in class and realize that you have been zoning out for the last couple of minutes. Even worse, you realize that you have been staring at a random guy across the room for several minutes and he noticed. You quickly look away, embarrassed. You then look over again to see if he is still looking at you and he was not, but he just caught you looking at him again. This happens a few more times before you decide that it would be best for both of you if you transferred out of that class. As you are walking back to your dorm after class, you let out a sigh, drained from the day’s event. You contemplate taking a nap and are already thinking about how good it will feel, when you walk into your room and see a stranger sitting at your desk. The stranger looks back at you with a surprised expression. That is when you realize that this is not your

room. You stare at the person for a second, trying to process the fact that you had just walked into a stranger’s room. You mumble “Sorry, Wrong room,” before you race out of there, totally embarrassed. Maybe you have not experienced a situation like one of these, or maybe you have been on the receiving end and have been totally creeped out a couple times. Either way, we have all been in one of those awkward situations where you just want to disappear. I, for one, am an extremely awkward person and am sorry to say that these kinds of occurrences happen to me daily. I think the world would stop turning if I went a day without doing something awkward. So what do we do? How do we avoid or cope with situations that make you and others feel awkward? If we had a clear answer to this question, we would not find ourselves in

allow yourself to be that awkward person because some people actually find it charming.

awkward dilemmas. All we can do is embrace the awkward. My mom, knowing me better than anyone and, therefore, knowing that I am horribly awkward, gave me this advice before going off to college. Embrace the awkward. What does this even mean? It means to roll with it, laugh it off and know that you can redeem yourself later. You could also just ask yourself “Chances are that I will never see these people again, so who cares?” Allow yourself to be that awkward person because some people actually find it charming. So whether it is an awkward staring situation in class, farting in front of your crush or falling flat on your face in the middle of the University Center in front of all of your peers, we are all awkward from time to time. Why not embrace it?


Natalie is from Rochester, Minn., and is planning on minoring in Journalism.



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GLOBAL. INNOVATIVE. EXCELLENT.

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Cristin Dempsey

Columnist

The UW-River Falls Music Department is yet again looking forward to an exciting few weeks, with performances by Zagreb Saxophone Quartet and Irish Tenor Anthony Kearns. Both concerts exemplify the importance of music in our lives and the beauty it holds. Music from different corners of the world gives each listener their own unique story and reason to listen. The performances are not to be missed because the experiences are likely to be remembered for years to come. Kearns joined the world-renowned singing group, The Irish Tenors, in 1999. He gained fast fame, since he was the youngest member to join at the age of 28. He also quickly became known as “Ireland’s Finest Tenor,” a prediction long made by various critics. Kearns performs music from all around the world, including Ireland, Italy and France. His “rich, lyrical” tenor voice is able to interpret any style, from a light comedy to a dark, heavy drama. These factors, plus his interpretation and technique have kept the critics wanting more after each of his performances. Kearns’s first claim to fame was in 1998, a year before his debut with the Irish Tenors. He co-starred in a PBS broadcast entitled “The Irish Tenors in Dublin.” It was because of this program that he was able to make his debut with the Irish Tenors and perform on some of the world’s most prestigious stages, including Carnegie Hall, Sydney Opera House and Radio City Music Hall. Since then, he has helped the Irish Tenors become recognized as one of Ireland’s most famous touring musicians, just second behind the rock band U2. The group now has 11 CDs and Kearns continues to have an increasing demand as a guest soloist. The Zagreb Saxophone Quartet features Dragan Sremec on soprano saxophone, Goran Mercep on alto saxophone, Sasa

Nestorovic on tenor saxophone, and Matjaz Drevensek on baritone saxophone. They are a European-based group who give concerts and master classes all around the world. The group formed in 1989, upon graduation from Josip Nochta’s Zagreb Academy of Music in Croatia. The band continues to make waves around the world. The group has presented premiere performances of saxophone works in Montreal’s World Saxophone Congress, Minneapolis and Ljubljana. In addition, they often perform as guests with numerous orchestras and bands. The group has performed thousands of pieces, new and old. Their works range from pieces specifically for saxophone quartet to arrangements and transcriptions from composers, such as Bach and Gershwin. The group also stays true to their homeland by performing works by Slovenian and Croatian composers. The Zagreb Saxophone Quartet has been described as “virtuous and reflexive,” having “outstanding musicality” and “sensation.” Their large variety of music, plus amazing transcriptions performed, impresses critics and audience members alike. Their rich sound and perfect pitch are what draw in audiences from Europe and the United States. Both performances are sure to offer something different and give a glimpse into another culture. They help us appreciate the beauty of music and the potential it has for everyone. They become an inspiration to musicians to be the best musician that they thought possible and intrigue audiences of their own. Kearns will be performing in the St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra’s concert, “Fall Colors,” at 3 p.m., on Sunday, Nov. 3, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater. The Zagreb Saxophone Quartet is part of the Wyman Series on the UWRF campus and will offer master class at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, Nov. 5., and a concert at 7:30 p.m., in Abbott Concert Hall. You won’t want to miss these events.

Cristin is an English major and music minor from Eagan, Minn. She enjoys writing, playing the flute and swimming. After college, she would like to pursue a career as an editor.

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