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International Bazaar showcases cultures from around the world

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The International Bazaar hosted by UW-River Falls’ Global Programming Society (GPS) saw over 600 students in attendance.

The International Bazaar is an event that has been on campus for over 10 years. The event is one where students are encouraged to learn about various cultures around the world. The event saw nine different countries presented. These countries included: China, Italy, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, South Korea, Japan, France and Spain.

The event was divided into two different areas, a dinner and a talent show. At the dinner students could enjoy different foods from these countries. Some of these foods were Kimchi from South Korea, dumplings from China, and mini quiches from France.

“I thought the experience was very nice,” said senior psychology student Dan Nelson. “I like the fact that they have a bunch of different ethnic foods that you can try, I didn’t stay for the shows, but I have heard very good things about them.”

There were also tables set up with games, giveaways and information about the various cultures. There was also more information on the Global Living Community.

The Global Living Community was created to allow domestic and international students more of an opportunity to live together and learn about each other cultures. The current dorm where this takes place is Crabtree Hall, however it will move to Grimm Hall next year.



Dancers perform an authentic international dance at the International Bazaar on March 31.

Carmella Everhart/Student Voice

The second portion of the International Bazaar was a talent show. It was here where students could showcase a different culture through song and dance. These ranged from swing dances to vocal and piano duets.

The GPS (formally known as the International Student Association) is a student organization designed to help promote an inclusive community, by encouraging domestic students to interact and learn from

international students and vice versa. It changed its name to GPS in an effort to be more inclusive to domestic students.

Aside from the International Bazaar, GPS also organizes trips to the Twin Cities, lectures and cultural showcases.

In planning the International Bazaar, there were many committees set up in GPS to help set up this event.

Vice president, marketing coor-

dinator, programming coordinator and treasurer were just a few of the lead positions that GPS President Shensi Wang described.

“We planned this Bazaar from the very beginning of the semester, and this has been over two months, but this has always been the process,” Wang said.

Wang said that each of these positions was in charge of a committee that helped in some aspect of the event. These committees included

marketing, food, promotion and money-handling.

Wang went on to say that GPS needed to plan everything from public affairs and promotion to finding recipes and organizing the menu.

The event saw a full house at both the dinner and the show, being one the biggest events on campus. For the rest of the semester, however, GPS only has small potlucks and smaller events planned, as the International Bazaar is its biggest event.

Chartwells to replace Sodexo as dining provider

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Chartwells, if approved at the April Board of Regents meeting, will take over the dining services at UW-River Falls starting June 1, and new renovations to the University Center would be on the horizon.

Sodexo, the current company, which supplies the students of UWRF with their meal plans, as well as Freddy’s C-Store, has lost the bid to keep its contract with

the university. According to Gregg Heinselman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, each company is under a yearly contract for seven years.

“Our dining services is on a seven-year contract,” Heinselman said. “So that calls for management of our university dining services which includes concessions, retail, catering and residential dining.”

This year there were six companies competing for the contract with UWRF. Each company pro-

vides the university with a detailed plan for the food that is provided along with a budget sheet showing the prices for students. Along with UWRF, Chartwells will be providing services to UW-Lacrosse and UW-Superior.

“This company was the most affordable for the students, and was with UWRF seven years ago before Sodexo took over the contract,” Heinselman said.

The campus starts looking for new bidders one year before the

contract is up, and each proposed company is examined by two teams. The UW System looks at the financial side of it, and the campus looks at the delivery of the program.

The campus looks for the best option for students’ needs and wants, and includes students in on what they want to see in the dining services.

“Campus surveys help the dining services committees on what students want,” Heinselman said. “Ebert and Gerbert’s is an example of

the feedback from students.”

As of right now, the residential rates for the dining services will remain the same with the Chartwells Company, and that was the goal to provide the best program at the most affordable cost possible.

Current Sodexo workers have been notified that the company will be leaving the campus, and most of the workers will remain in the same positions that they are currently in. Only managers in the dining hall and Freddy’s C-Store have to look elsewhere within the company to transfer.

“Managers have been notified as well and have the option to transfer to different institutions where Sodexo has a contract,” Heinselman said. “Chartwells will need to hire trained food service workers, and a majority of the hourly employees will come to work June 1, and wear a different uniform and be in a similar job as they were before, but their paycheck will be coming from a different source.”

With Chartwells coming in there may be some renovations to the dining hall to accommodate for the new proposed plan that they are offering. The changes may start as soon as summer courses start, but if not they will start during J-term course in 2016.

The plan for the renovations could be finished as early as next summer, but Chartwells will still be providing dining services.

The Board of Regents will look at the contract at its April 9-10 meeting at UW-Waukesha.



Two dining services employees greet students at the entrance to Riverside Commons, currently being managed by Sodexo.

Carmella Everhart/Student Voice

News briefs:

UWRF provost named finalist for presidency

UW-River Falls Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Fernando Delgado has been named one of four finalists in the running to assume the Western Oregon University (WOU) presidency after the retirement of current President Mark Weiss. Weiss will retire on June 30.

After months of application review and deliberation, the WOU Presidential Search Committee forwarded the four candidates to the Oregon University System chancellor, Oregon State Board of Higher Education (OSBHE), and the incoming WOU Board of Trustees for consideration.

The four candidates will visit WOU for a series of interviews, including meetings with both the WOU Board of Trustees and OSBHE, over the course of the near future. Information about the search, including schedules and the application materials and resumes from the candidates may be viewed at: www.wou.edu/president/presidentialsearch/.

“The WOU search committee, comprised of stakeholders across the campus, including several members of the incoming WOU Board of Trustees, provided such a service to WOU by forwarding these four finalists,” said Jim Francesconi, OSBHE member and chair of the WOU Presidential Search Committee. “Any of these candidates would bring a sincere commitment and demonstrated experience to increasing success for all students. Any of these candidates would elevate Western’s profile in Oregon and beyond as a public university that offers higher education that is as good as any private university but at an affordable cost.”

Delgado has served as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at UWRF since 2009. Prior to his current post, Delgado served as a dean at Minnesota State University-Mankato and then Hamline University.

Tickets still available for Scholarship Dinner

Daymond John, founder and CEO of the global lifestyle brand FUBU and star of ABC’s “Shark Tank,” will speak at UW-River Falls as part of the fourth annual Scholarship Benefit Dinner on Friday, April 24. Tickets for the event are now available.

John is an award-winning entrepreneur. He founded his business, FUBU, in the basement of his mother’s house, which grew into a celebrated brand with more than \$6 billion in product sales. John has been part of ABC’s entrepreneurial business show “Shark Tank,” seen weekly by millions of viewers since 2009.

His marketing firm, Shark Branding, offers advice on communicating effectively through innovative means and connects brands with the world’s top celebrities from endorsements to product extensions. He is the author of two best-selling books, “Display of Power” and “The Brand Within.”

Tickets for the event are \$60 and include a buffet dinner and a reserved seat at John’s presentation on personal branding.

For ticket or sponsorship information, call the UWRF Foundation office at 715-425-3505, or for more information and to purchase your ticket online, visit www.uwrf.edu/rising-todistinction.

UW Extension to host ‘Big Idea Tournament’

The UW Extension and partners invite the business community and general public to support Wisconsin’s young entrepreneurs at the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament contest, in person or via live online streaming, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on April 11 at the Pyle Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

“We especially encourage UW students, staff and faculty to watch the finals this year and see the Lean Startup commercialization

process in action,” said Mark Lange, executive director of UW Extension’s Division for Business and Entrepreneurship. “We’re excited to see the growth in the number of campuses participating and the quality of teams from year one to year two of this tournament.”

Teams from UW-River Falls, UW-Eau Claire, UW-La Crosse, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Platteville and UW-Whitewater will have 15 minutes each to present their validated business idea, such as a web-based cultural fit analysis tool, rapid prototyping technology for metalwork and portable power bank with inductive charging for mobile devices.

In addition to moving on to the international level of the competition, the top finishers also will be eligible for up to \$25,000 through the Ideavance Seed Fund, a UW Extension program created by the UW System and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

Also, 10 teams of UW System student entrepreneurs will compete to represent the state on May 1-2 in Provo, Utah, at the International Business Model Competition, where \$100,000 in awards will be distributed.

‘Kids from Wisconsin’ to perform at UWRF

The “Kids from Wisconsin,” the state’s Musical Ambassadors of Goodwill, are ready for its 47th show season, and this brings a little “hometown flavor” as 33 talented “kids” represent 31 different hometowns across the state of Wisconsin.

The Kids from Wisconsin will perform at UW-River Falls on Tuesday, June 30, and River Falls native William Woodward, a sophomore at UW-Eau Claire, is a cast member. Woodward studies music education, and is an active member in Jazz Ensemble II and Wind Symphony.

This year’s tour theme exemplifies a Wisconsin hometown sentiment of “No Place We’d Rather Be.”

“Having a ‘hometown kid’ in the Kids from Wisconsin is a great privilege to these communities,” said Executive Director Tina Weiss. “Our show program and performance introduces each kid from their specific hometown. Having a ‘hometown kid’ is something to be proud of. Enjoying and participating in the ‘kid’ experience has had a positive impact on the lives of our 900 alumni and the nearly five million audience members inspired by our performances for nearly 50 years.”

Thirty-three of Wisconsin’s most talented youth, along with nine camp alternates were chosen during statewide auditions in February. The troupe consists of 20 singer and dancers and a 13-piece show band.

The Kids from Wisconsin is part of an entertainment tradition created for Wisconsin’s talented youth back in 1969. Its formal introduction to performance was at the Wisconsin State Fair and opened for many high profile acts. Today, the pride and passion that enlightened that early music, lives on through a Kids from Wisconsin Revue.

Performing live annually for more than 120,000 across Wisconsin and the Midwest, the Kids from Wisconsin presents great entertainment with some of Wisconsin’s most talented performers aged 15 to 20. The revue is produced in collaboration with some of the countries best writers, arrangers and choreographers.

The “kids” maintain a broad repertoire of music that includes the American favorites, big band, 50’s through 80’s classics, Motown, country, Broadway and current top hits, filling a two-hour fully-staged performance.

The Kids from Wisconsin tour begins on June 24 with its premier performance held at West Allis Central High School. This performance will benefit “Realize Your Dream,” a Kids from Wisconsin outreach experience. Tickets for the premier performance are available online.

The preliminary tour schedule is posted on the website: www.kidsfromwisconsin.org.

Interstate Park hosts live raptors on April 28

The “Friends of Interstate Park” invites all to its annual “Spring Gathering of Friends” on Tuesday, April 28, at the Ice Age Center at Interstate Park, located in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin.

Featured this year are live raptors from the Raptor Center of the University of Minnesota. Learn from a raptor education specialist all about raptors of Western Wisconsin, their role in the environment and success stories, such as the bald eagle.

Featured again this year is the addition of a children’s program from 6-6:30 p.m., “Especially For Kids: Our Feathered Friends,” an interactive experience for the children to learn what makes a raptor unique. After the children’s program there will be free refreshments followed by an hour-long program for all ages, “Raptors of Minnesota,” beginning at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

Don’t miss this opportunity to learn about and view live raptors, and learn more about the Friends of Interstate Park.

The Friends of Interstate Park is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting a greater appreciation of the human and natural history of Interstate Park by enhancing the park’s interpretive program.

For more information call 715-483-3747 or become a friend on Facebook.

Pork Association seeks volunteers for fair

The Wisconsin Pork Association (WPA) is seeking volunteers to help with the Pork Schoppe food stand at the Wisconsin State Fair on August 6-16.

The Pork Schoppe serves pork chop sandwiches, pork burgers and a pork chop on a stick. Volunteers are responsible for taking orders at the cash registers and helping make sandwiches in the kitchen area.

To cover a full shift, WPA prefers a group of approximately 12 volunteers. However, if you don’t have a full group, there is an option to share the shift with another smaller volunteer group. A full shift will be from 3:30-10 p.m.

As compensation for your time, each volunteer will receive free admission to the Wisconsin State Fair the day of your shift and a Pork Schoppe hat and t-shirt. Volunteer groups are also given monetary compensation, last year each group covering a full shift received \$300.

Editor’s Clarification: General education requirements change

A March 13 Student Voice story, titled “UWRF general education requirements change” and written by Christine Marriott, had some errors due to the fact that Marriott interviewed her sources prior to the March 4 Faculty Senate meeting where the general education changes were discussed.

Shortly after the March 4 meeting, Chancellor Dean Van Galen signed the motions that were passed by Faculty Senate and here are the official changes:

- 1) Beginning in the fall 2015 catalog year, courses will now be allowed to count wherever they meet a requirement. Thus, a course can count in general education, university requirements, liberal arts, majors, minors and certificates if it meets that outcome.
- 2) Beginning in the fall 2015 catalog year, in “Goal One” there is a test-out/placement score mechanism for incoming students that will allow students to obtain three to six credits for reading and writing (CW) and advanced communication (CA).
- 3) Beginning in the fall 2015 catalog year, “Goal Three” scientific investigation (SL) and sciences (S) categories will be replaced by a single scientific inquiry (SI) category. All past S and SL courses are being put into the SI category until their next review by the General Education Committee. Students will still need

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact WPA at 608-723-7551 or email mmasters@wppa.org.

The FalconSync event portal can be accessed online.

Conservation Congress bolsters youth program

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) announced it is partnering with the Department of Natural Resource (DNR) to expand the Youth Conservation Congress (YCC) program and provide a more robust experience for interested participants.

The YCC is an initiative to engage, educate and involve youth in the management and protection of natural resources and foster in them a conservation ethic.

YCC delegates will now have the preferential opportunity to work with DNR staff on a wide variety of service-learning opportunities such as fish-netting or wildlife surveys, tagging or marking fish at a hatchery facility, assisting with habitat assessments, air monitoring, ride-alongs, or water-quality sampling.

In addition, DNR staff will host an annual all-day “field day” in each DNR region to expose youth delegates to the many facets and factors involved in natural resource management, show them various career options available in natural resource fields, give them the opportunity to interact with professionals in those fields, and give them a chance to participate in typical work done by natural resource professionals.

YCC delegates will also be given Natural Resource Foundation (NRF) memberships and will be able to attend NRF educational field trips at a reduced rate. At some schools, participation in the YCC may be used for independent study, school credit or volunteer hours.

YCC delegates will continue to represent the young people within each WCC district on issues relating to natural resource management. The delegates currently attend and participate in the annual spring hearings and WCC county meetings, the statewide convention, and WCC advisory committee meetings.

The WCC is officially recognized as the only advisory body in the state where citizens elect delegates to represent their interests on natural resources issues on a local and statewide level to the Natural Resources Board and the DNR.

For more information on the YCC go to dnr.wi.gov and search “youth congress.”

to take two science courses, but one does not necessarily have to be a laboratory course.

- 4) Retroactive to the fall 2014 catalog year, “Goal Four” multidisciplinary inquiry (MD) has been completely eliminated.
- 5) Retroactive to the fall 2014 catalog year, “Goal Five” personal health and wellness courses (HW) have been completely eliminated. The health class (PE 108) and ethical citizenship still remain.

The following motion was passed at the March 25 Faculty Senate meeting, but the motion hasn’t been signed yet:

- 6) Retroactive to the fall 2014 catalog year, the requirement for students to complete a minor is removed, with the provision that the provost will be authorized to exempt those programs that must have a minor.

All changes to the fall 2014 catalog have been made by the Registrar’s office.

College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean Tricia Davis said that the changes give students great flexibility of choosing courses, according to her March 26 email. Davis also said that the changes will help promote Study Abroad opportunities. As a reminder, students still need to meet the 120 credits requirement to graduate.

River Falls Police/UWRF Police Department

Friday, March 27

- A bicycle was reported stolen from the Crabtree Hall bicycle racks.

Saturday, March 28

- At about 1 a.m., there was an attempt to steal a bicycle from N Lot.

Sunday, March 29

- Another bicycle was stolen on campus, reported to have occurred at the Ames East bicycle racks.

Monday, March 30

- A damaged property report was filed due to an individual tampering with a parking meter sign in B Lot at 7:30 p.m.

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

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RT02015

UWRF professor turns hobby into music career

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Faculty members at UW-River Falls have very little free time outside the university because the strenuous workload that comes with a full-time teaching occupation, but animal and food science Professor Dennis Cooper found a gratifying hobby that has slowly evolved since high school: music.

Cooper, a member of the UWRF graduate faculty who graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Ph.D. in animal science in 1981, is also known by some as the “Doq of Roq” in his musical circles. Doq of Roq is Cooper’s synony-mous stage and band name.

The Doq of Roq, a four-piece eclectic cover band which includes David Markson on bass, Greg Wells on keyboard, Mike Cooper on gui-tar, and Cooper on guitar and lead-vocals, mostly plays music from the 50s, 60s and 70s.

“What I like are all the styles that were popular in the 50s, 60s and 70s and beyond,” Cooper said. “I do a lot of 60s stuff, I do a lot of soul, a lot of blues, a lot of R&B, some country, some rock, folk, folk rock, stuff like that.”

The Doq of Roq can be seen and heard at Junior’s Bar & Restaurant on occasion. Cooper last played at Junior’s on March 6, where he and his band played an array of songs which included Van Morrison’s 1967 classic “Brown Eyed Girl;” Harry Belafonte’s 1957 “Jamaica Farewell,” also made famous by Jimmy Buffett; and the 1967 hit “To Love Somebody” by the Bee Gees.

Despite the fact that Cooper has over 160 songs in his inventory that he can play at any time, his musical beginnings can partially be rooted back to a place one might not ex-pect: a karaoke party.

“I went to karaoke party with friends, a private party, and I sang something by The Drifters and I saw the recording, and I thought ‘that’s pretty good, you know, I guess I can sing.’”

Cooper comes from a musical family that “would sing around the piano,” and he eventually took up guitar lessons in high school when he was interested in folk music. Cooper slowly crafted his guitar

skills while at the University of Minnesota where he earned three degrees before starting at UWRF in 1985.

“I played in college for friends at campfires and parties and stuff like that. I sort of limped along with that for a long time, well into my adult-hood,” Cooper said. “I always had this sort of peripheral interest but really didn’t have much confidence, I didn’t think I was any good.”

Cooper began to gain more con-fidence in his musical abilities after singing the blues with his brother Mike, who belongs to an adult ga-rage band called the George Hot-tinger Blues Band based in St. Paul, Minnesota. Cooper joined the band and evolved into the lead singer over a five-year span.

“It was a great learning experi-ence,” Cooper said. “I found out I could do it. I lost my fear of getting up in front of people and singing.”

The Doq of Roq has also played shows in nearby Spring Valley, Wis-consin; Hudson, Wisconsin; and Lakeland, Minnesota, as of late.

Cooper’s band plays approxi-mately six to eight times a year, de-pending on availability and popular demand.

“I’ve been doing paid gigs here in the last 10 years or so but they’re fairly modest,” Cooper said.

Cooper has begun writing lyrics, thus creating original songs. He has been playing three original songs at recent shows. He also has experi-ence on the bass and keyboards.

“Bass I play, I’m rusty at it now because I haven’t played it for a while,” Cooper said. “I can play some things on the keyboards; there’s a couple things I’m really good at and that’s it.”

Cooper also writes lyrics and sings a song for the graduating se-niors of the UWRF Dairy Club, but only select UWRF faculty members and a very small number of students know about Cooper’s musical abili-ties.

“I try to keep [my music] separate from the university,” Cooper said. “With faculty, I don’t want to pres-sure people or to bully any expecta-tions on them. [Music] is just some-thing I do outside the university, but if they want to come and they enjoy it, that’s fine, I’m glad to have them there.”



Jack Tuthill/Student Voice
Dennis Cooper playing with his band, the Doq of Roq, at Junior’s Bar & Restaurant on March 6.

Cooper hasn’t tried to encourage his students to attend his shows, because he wants to keep his pro-fession separate from his musical hobby.

He acknowledged, though, that posters can be found around town and that students can easily find in-formation about the Doq of Roq.

“I think it would probably be kind of a freaky experience for some of the students I have in class, them

seeing me in this other light, in this other role, and I think that might be hard to compute,” Cooper said. “My primary relationship is with them in class and I just don’t know that I’m ready to consider the ramifica-tions of a lot of students [attending shows].”

Speaking in front of a large num-ber of students has helped Cooper defeat stage-fright, and performing on stage has helped Cooper relax

and be more spontaneous in the classroom. Cooper said that friends and colleagues have expressed envy of his musical hobby.

“I think it could be a good hobby for someone throughout their life,” Cooper said. “Advice I would give to students is, if they have an in-terest in music, start earlier than I did—don’t wait until you’re basi-cally middle-aged.”

Criminal justice professor escapes via book collection

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When Assistant Professor Desiree Wiesen-Martin isn’t teaching students criminol-ogy, grading papers or con-ducting research in her field of expertise, she can be found with a book in her hand, ex-ploring different places and meeting interesting charac-ters.

Wiesen-Martin said one of her main hobbies is reading books.

“I love to pick up a book that’s not related to sociol-ogy, criminology or statistics but something that I can just read that is fun,” Wiesen-Martin said.

Wiesen-Martin said when she was younger her parents were strict on what she could watch. So, she made a deal with them that if she read the book she could watch the movie, but she had to watch the movie with her parents. She said she became interest-ed in books at a very young age and has always had a pas-sion for reading.

Wiesen-Martin said she is also part of a three-person book club with a friend from graduate school and a friend

from the east coast. She said they started up their little book club last July.

“It’s just something to keep us connected so we feel like we’re doing the same activ-ity,” Wiesen-Martin said.

Even though the women are separated by distance, their book club helps with the separation. Wiesen-Martin said they choose a book to read and keep in contact with each other and discuss the book through text messages or over the phone.

When it comes to prefer-ence between physical books and e-books, Wiesen-Martin said she has a good mix of both but she prefers the phys-ical copy of a book.

“I’m not completely ready to give up my books, my ac-tual books,” Wiesen-Martin said, “There is something about getting a book from the library that’s a little older and the way it smells.”

Wiesen-Martin said she thinks she has about 300 books in her collection, not including academic books. She said she collects books from her favorite authors and if she is a fan of a book series she will buy every book in the series.

“I don’t like to get rid of books,” Wiesen-Martin said, “I have this vision of one day having walls of books.”

Wiesen-Martin said her favorite books are “Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Aus-ten and “The Outsiders” by S.E Hinton. She said she read both books many times, somewhere in the double digits. She is also a fan of the movie “The Outsiders.” When it comes to which is better, the books or the mov-ies, Wiesen-Martin said the books are always better.

“I think what’s great about books is that even though the book is more descriptive, you always have room for your imagination,” Wiesen-Martin said. “Being able to read the books gives you more free-dom.”

Wiesen-Martin said she reads a few books at a time and also has audio books on her iPod. She is currently listening to “The Astronauts Wives Club” by Lily Kop-pel on her iPod. The next book she will be reading with her book club is “The Book Thief” by Markus Zusak.

“I’m never going to run out of books to read,” Wiesen-Martin said.

UWRF music professor turns 1946 Chevrolet into mobile pizza truck

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If you are looking for some amazing brick oven pizza, Thomas Barnett is the man for the job.

Barnett is a professor of music at UW-River Falls and has been since 2001, yet his creativity goes further than just music.

Barnett has traveled all over the world, broadening his horizons in the world of food. Barnett has recently been working on a project that has caught some people’s eyes: a pizza truck.

Recently, Barnett bought a 1946 Chevrolet two-ton truck from an old friend. With the acquisition of this truck, Bar-nett began this project by re-creating the 1946 Chevy to be not only functional as a ve-hicle on the roads, but as well as a full-fledged pizza cook-ing machine.

Barnett has now created a website for the pizza truck called classicpizzatruck.com. The website gives an over-view of Barnett’s idea to put a wood-powered brick oven that would be strapped to the back of this classic truck.

Barnett proposes this truck

can not only be a way to cre-ate delicious pizzas, but to bring people together as well.

“It’s not just pizza, it’s about food, friends and fun,” Barnett said. “It’s not just getting together and eating pizzas, it’s really creating an event that people are going to remember, and that’s just the side bonus, because I just love cooking on this thing.”

Barnett says that the cost to buy the truck, as well as the oven and installation, which he would do himself, would be less than \$10,000. He has his truck slated for usage by May at the earliest. Barnett also proposes this could lead to fundraising events for any-one who is interested in this pizza truck.

“They could basically pay me whatever it cost me to be for a couple of hours and any revenue is made, I would give to whatever organization is hosting the event,” Barnett said.

This particular brick oven, which is ordered from Italy, is mounted to the back of the truck and cooks the pizza at about 1,000 degrees Fahren-heit and takes less than two minutes to bake. Barnett talk-ed about this special kind of

pizza making and how origi-nal it really is.

“You have to have this oven, because when you get it up to 1,000 degrees, you can’t get the same texture and chew on the dough of the pizza unless this oven is used, so there is a bit of science to it,” Barnett said.

Barnett has spent some time in Italy as well, learning on how they cook pizza. Bar-nett has cooked on this style of oven for over three years now.

Pizza trucks have been made and used for business around the country, but for some reason not in the Mid-west.

“You see a lot of these modern box style pizza trucks in the East and West Coast, but not so much here, but I predict within five years, you’re going to see a number of these trucks here.”

Barnett never anticipated any compensation with this idea, but the interest from all over has created an op-portunity for Barnett, and has numerous events already planned including a grooms-man party, a graduation party and even a birthday party.

Follow the Student Voice on Twitter @uwrfvoice

Make sure to look for Freddy’s Feather in every issue of the Student Voice!

EDITORIAL

UW System president has no answers for UWRF community

“I don’t know what to do” was a common phrase used by UW System President Ray Cross in his visit to UW-River Falls on Tuesday. Students, faculty and staff were expecting concrete answers or at least some possible solutions to ease the folks at UWRF that are already being affected by the UW System budget cuts.

One thing that was made perfectly clear by Cross was that people simply don’t value education anymore. Cross explained that the public believes that it’s more important to have a job instead of working towards a career, and that has negatively fueled the decision for the budget cuts to the UW System.

Cross also explained that changing the public’s view on higher education is no easy task. He mentioned the “Knowledge Values Wisconsin” campaign that was attempted a few years back that had very little impact overall. Cross made it clear that he didn’t know how to change this negative stigma in Wisconsin.

Going into the meeting, there was a feeling that the university was finally going to learn what exactly was being done. Some actually thought Cross was going to tell the audience that UWRF was going to fine after the budget cuts. What the audience members learned, however, is that there is no new information and that nothing can be done to save the campus from the budget cuts.

In Cross’ public forum, the crowd quickly learned that the recent steps, voices and actions from UW System students, alumni, faculty and staff hasn’t amounted to much in terms of change to the impending UW System budget cuts.

The inside conversations between the higher decision-makers weren’t made clear by Cross, but it seems as if the push back from the UW System has left UWRF in the same spot it was in early February.

One positive, according to Cross, is that faculty benefits won’t take another hit. Cross chuckled at this as if the benefits couldn’t get any more embarrassing than they are now, namely 1 or 2 percent pay increases, which don’t equal inflation increases.

Cross covered a broad number of sub-topics. Unfortunately, the focus of the meeting was quickly lost. A presidential tour seemed like a good idea at first: 13 schools in four weeks, but it could be mistaken for a farewell tour.

It would have been comforting if Cross had a speech prepared, and if he didn’t, as he put it, “ramble on” about things unrelated to the budget cuts, but the simple fact is that there really wasn’t anything to say. The public forum could just as easily been a five second speech where Cross threw up his arms and said: “there is nothing that can be done.”

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

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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 WISCONSIN editorial staff by e-mail through editor@uwrvoice.com.

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Student Senate threatens to freeze Student Voice and WRFW funding

Natalie Howell

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Student Senate met Tuesday night and discussed several motions, including the Recognized Student Organization (RSO) request for information, the varsity sport review resolution, the UW System naming resolution, and the student media compliance resolution.

Because it would take multiple columns to talk about all of these, I am just going to focus on one this week.

Academic Council Chair Stephen Middlemiss introduced the “student media compliance resolution,” that was seconded by Vice President Shelby Hehr, to be voted on by Senate. This resolution is aimed toward the journalism course “News Practicum,” in which journalism majors and minors gain journalistic experience through reporting and writing. Written stories can be published in the Student Voice, and audio stories can be broadcast by WRFW.

The resolution calls for the journalism department to make the appropriate changes to the course so that it complies with the Board of Regent Policy that prohibits those involved in organizations funded by Segregated University Fees (SUF) to also receive academic credit. It was stated by Middlemiss that if the journalism department doesn’t make the correct changes by the end of the year, the funds for the Student Voice and WRFW will be frozen.

There was a lot of discussion about this between the members of Senate, and it was clear that what needs to happen is that the wording needs to be changed in certain documents to make it clear that the journalism department isn’t breaking any rules.

It was moved that Senate needs to set up a meeting with the head of the journalism department, Chair Sandra Ellis, and the Allocable Fees Appropriation Board (AFAB) in order to talk about what needs to be changed. The resolution was then passed with unanimous consent.

I’m a journalism student that eventually will take News Practicum, and I work for the Voice, so I do have a bias when it comes to this resolution. However, I believe that because of my bias, I am informed enough on this issue in order to form an educated opinion on it.

I think that if the journalism department is doing something that is against the rules, they should indeed be notified

and the proper changes should be made. Everyone has to follow the rules, and no department should be an exception. I don’t think that the journalism department is breaking the rules in this case; because I don’t think students are graded on whether or not their articles get into the paper, it’s just an added bonus to have clippings to show to future employers.

However, I don’t think that it is an appropriate response of Senate to threaten put a freeze on the funds of the Voice and WRFW if the journalism department doesn’t comply. There are a lot of people who are involved in and consume the Voice and WRFW that aren’t involved in News Practicum or the journalism department. It doesn’t seem to make sense to threaten to take away student media because of what Senate said was merely a technicality.

Furthermore, the Student Media Committee has already been through the ringer this semester, not unlike many other organizations, in order to have bare-bones funding to stay in production because of the lowered enrollment and lack of funding. There were many Senate and AFAB meetings about this budget, ending with Senate deciding to cut the Student Media Committee budget by a fourth and the Voice having to cut its production in half.

Because of this, I think that this threat of a freeze would only stir up more bad blood between people involved with student media and Senate. It’s pretty unnecessary and brash to threaten the department over a technicality considering that there hasn’t even been a meeting between Senate and the journalism department yet. This can be done in a civil manner, and Senate should address the issue at hand before immediately jumping to the consequences of a compliance failure.

All the information in this column is from the Senate meeting and documents from the Senate page on OrgSync. It’s very important for all students to stay informed on what is going on with Senate on campus. Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center, and the meeting agendas can be found 24 hours prior on the Senate page on FalconSync. To see the details of what was discussed last Tuesday, visit the Senate page on OrgSync and read through this week’s minutes document.

Natalie Howell is a sophomore journalism student from Rochester, Minnesota. After graduating, Natalie hopes to earn a job working for a newspaper.

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Traffic and construction affects commuter students

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Commuting is a major issue for a lot of students, faculty and staff at UW-River Falls. Those who live within an hour from campus and don't have to live in the university dorms will often choose to commute rather than find housing in River Falls. Commuting is popular for nontraditional students, and commuters are most likely taking the highways or interstate to get to their destination. There are three main highways that feed into River Falls: highways 35, 65 and 29. These three highways see a lot of traffic each and every day. Highway 35 from the north gets about 1,400 vehicles a day, according to the Department of Transportation. Highway 65 sees about 5,000-6,000 vehicles a day. Highway 29 from Prescott, Wisconsin, sees about 7,000 vehicles per day, and the east gets about 3,000. "I have two county highways before I get to I-94 and Highway 35; it depends on when I have to come to school. But if I come to school in the morning, it's a lot of traffic, and going home is even more traffic," said UWRF student Angie Devine.

"That's why some days, if I only have class until two, I like to get out of here right away. But when I come to school in the morning and at night, it doesn't seem to matter if I'm coming to school at 8 a.m. or if I'm going home at 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. or whatever, there is always a lot of traffic going back. People drive crazy on Highway 35." Highway 35 is a four-lane express way. One of the big questions that comes up with a lot of people using these roads all the time is: what can be done to make travel on these roads easier and safer? "We would probably look at the intersections and try to make sure the intersections accommodate the traffic getting on and off of the system in the most efficient way," said Department of Transportation Program and Planning Supervisor Jim Koenig. The Department of Transportation has multiple projects coming up in this area in the coming years. "We got some improvements planned on I-94 through the Hudson area to add some ramp-to-ramp lanes that will help the merging and exiting traffic; and in turn, that will help the through traffic make a smoother ride, let's say between the

Minnesota border and the exit for Highway 35 south, which leads to River Falls. Those improvements are planned in the year 2017," said Traffic Safety Engineer Greg Helgeson. "We also have an improvement planned at Highway 35 and County Road M (Division Street) on the east side of River Falls that will convert that intersection to a right-in and a right-out; there will be no right turns there, and that will make that intersection function much better than it does today. That is scheduled to be done in about five years," Helgeson said. "We also have a minor improvement scheduled at the intersection of Highway 35 and Highway 29 East (Cascade Avenue). That is a signalized intersection now. We are planning to install some flashing yellow arrow indications for the left turns, and we think that is going to improve the safety of that intersection. That is also scheduled in the year 2017." But just like everything else nowadays, money has a large impact in what can be done.

The Student Voice will be running several commuting stories over the next month in an effort to discover how commuting affects the campus and community.

Street parking for commuter students is problematic

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Those commuters coming from outside the River Falls area to the university on a daily basis understand the importance and value of a good parking spot. Knowing where to park legally can save commuters from getting needless parking tickets. Tickets can cost a lot initially, but they cost more if left unpaid. With the city, if the basic \$25 ticket is not paid within 10 days, the cost goes up to \$80. According to River Falls Community Service Officer for Parking Enforcement Bill Rasmussen, the current residential parking rules have been in place for around 15 years and usually work well. Tickets are given for more than parking in the wrong place, and sometimes, for more than one offense at a time. Learning the rules can help avoid the problem of parking fines. "Distance from fire hydrants, distance from driveways, distance from crosswalks, visibility of crosswalks, vehicles have to be a certain distance back," Rasmussen said. "Distance from an intersection, they have to be a certain distance back. One student will park in violation; and then all of a sudden, more students see that car parked there. They assume, for whatever

reason, that it's okay for everybody to park there." Signs are posted on every street with parking instructions or restrictions. The city of River Falls has detailed parking rules and a map of the city with legal parking instructions on its website. UWRF senior Katelyn Loncar only parks on city streets and received a few tickets before she learned to park carefully. She said she wished they had not remodeled Cascade three years ago, because she thought the parking situation was easier then. Now she has to arrive for a 9 a.m. class at 6 a.m. to find a closer parking spot. "I never really used the commuting parking lot because it was just so far away from the main campus," Loncar said. UWRF Chief of Police Karl Fleury doesn't like to give students tickets. He wants students who commute to know the rules on campus and choose the parking location best suited for their needs. Campus parking information can be found online and maps and brochures can be found at the campus police office. "We would rather have the education and compliance than the tickets," Fleury said. "Issuing citations, that's not what our goal or objective is. We want to make sure everyone complies with the rules."


The campus will have a new 24-hour commuter pass in the fall. Fleury said he is very excited to offer this new parking program for students. The new commuter pass will cost the same as a parking pass in residence hall lots. Fleury said the pass will be convenient for those students who live in River Falls, off-campus, but lack adequate parking at their apartments or homes. Parking for 24-hour commuter passes and regular commuter passes will be in the Hunt Arena and Knowles Center parking lot this fall. Parking lot construction will be done by the fall semester, and there will be more room in the lot. For further information and a parking map concerning River Falls parking regulations, go to the city's website at www.rfcity.org. For campus parking rules go to the campus police office in South Hall where you can get many helpful brochures or go to their site at www.uwrf.edu/Parking/index.cfm.

The Student Voice will be running several commuting stories over the next month in an effort to discover how commuting affects the campus and community.


STUDENT VOICES

What do you think of the new DAR?


Compiled by Amara Young




Left:
Aly Olsson, freshman,
art education:
"It is easier to navigate."



Right:
Tom Crawford, junior,
political science:
"I like the graphs."



Left:
Justine Backes, freshman,
journalism:
"The old DAR I had to stare at for like an hour; the new one is less time consuming."



Right:
Jimmy Garay-Triviski, freshman,
elementary education:
"I still really don't know how to work it."

Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor.

Email your thoughts to editor@uwrfvoice.com

Check out the Student Voice online at uwrfvoice.com.

Research program supports UWRF students

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There are programs all over UW-River Falls that are dedicated to helping students achieve academically. One group that has been here to help students with research projects or showcases is Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity (URSCA).

This program supports students who are conducting research through grant funds. URSCA also helps research by providing training workshops for students to learn how to properly conduct a research project. Each training workshop is different and can be from postmarking to research ethics to resume

writing skills.

Lastly, URSCA helps students with dissemination events, which are where students take their research projects, which they have been working on, and share it with the rest of the research community.

“Research isn’t considered research by the research community if the results are not shared with society,” said Director Lissa Schneider-Rebozo.

UWRF has two on-campus dissemination events, which is more than any other school in the UW System. Some schools in the UW System do not even have any dissemination event for undergraduate students. The participation for these on-campus dissemination events

have “doubled, tripled and then quadrupled and quintupled participation,” according to Schneider-Rebozo.

This program also sponsors the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, which is where students in the URSCA show their research findings nationally and that will be happening at the end of April.

The program offers different kinds of grants to students and one specifically to students who want to conduct research, specifically dissemination research, which are called the “Falcon Travel Grant.” These grants help students who want to go to discipline specific conferences with their particular

research mentor from their program or department.

Any student is welcomed to join URSCA, apply for grants and present at the events as long as they are a currently enrolled student at UWRF. Students who participate need to find a research mentor, which can be a professor, for their project.

URSCA provides a workshop that teaches students how to find a mentor. Students can either do an independent research project or with a team. Once a mentor is found and a team is built, students then write for a grant that will help them conduct their research project. After the research is conducted, they present on campus either in the spring or in

the fall, and can also apply for another grant to help them present off campus.

When presenting their findings, students can either use a poster board or do a hands on. Schneider-Rebozo explained the different kinds of hands on they have had in the past.

“In our first event we had a student who had been to the Amazon studying amphibians and he brought into the University Center his collection of poison dart frogs, along with this research results and date,” Schneider-Rebozo said.

The showing of the research project is the end of this month and will have people from four colleges presenting.

UW System President Ray Cross visits UW-River Falls



Jack Haren/Student Voice

UW System President Ray Cross speaks to UW-River Falls students and faculty on Tuesday, March 31, in Abbott Concert Hall. He delivered “campus community remarks” as part of his day-long visit to campus.

Student entrepreneurs advance to ‘Big Idea Tournament’

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UW-River Falls announced the two top teams from the UWRF New Venture Competition that are moving on to the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament on April 11 in Madison, Wisconsin.

SoPOD, a start-up developing pod technology that aims to let passengers flying to avoid TSA’s 3-1-1 requirements, placed first. Team members of SoPOD include Eric Wenz, a senior majoring in business administration; Andrew Lind, a senior majoring in business administration; and An Trieu, a junior in chemistry.

Second place was given to Charg-e Inc., which is developing a portable power bank with inductive charging for mobile devices. Members of Charg-e Inc. are Jiaxin Li, senior in business administration; Christopher Han-

sen, a post-baccalaureate student from River Falls studying biology; and Thomas Makens, a senior in chemistry.

Third place was given to Forage Warehouse, but they won’t be participating in the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament.

The New Venture Competition has a goal to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit in UWRF students and faculty, where they generate external funding and participate in the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament. Participants worked on their business plans since October and had to submit a two-page business plan. Finalists were decided based on judge’s opinions of their business plans, and they were also required to present their ideas at booths.

“I’m impressed with the level of creativity and commitment demonstrated by these students,” said Danielle Campeau, director of the UWRF Center for Innovation and Business Development. “Starting a business isn’t

easy and they are truly thinking like entrepreneurs. It’s a pleasure working with highly motivated students that are passionate about exploring innovative business ideas.”

First place was awarded a \$3,000 business stipend and a \$1,000 cash prize, second place was given a \$2,000 business stipend with a \$750 cash prize and third place was awarded a \$1,000 business stipend and a \$250 cash prize.

Finalists will be given the opportunity to meet with Daymond John from ABC’s Shark Tank, who was announced in October to be the speaker for the fourth annual Scholarship Benefit Dinner on Friday, April 24.

The Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament is an entrepreneurship event available to undergraduates attending any two- or four-year UW System university, excluding Madison. Participants will compete for paid internships and a chance to win \$25,000.

According to the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament website, the competition represents a new paradigm in entrepreneurship. It’s not a business plan competition but rather a business idea competition based on a new way of thinking about the entrepreneurial process and business concept development. Each company must present the findings of its work in a brief 10-minute presentation to judges.

Winners of the Wisconsin Big Idea Tournament have the opportunity to move on to compete on a national and international level. The 2014 winners were students from UW-Milwaukee. According to “In Wisconsin,” the winning company, Grypshon, offers safe, non-corrosive and convenient mats that provide a surface on which aerospace mechanics can stand or place tools.

University leaders consider cutting another sport

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A year after the UW-River Falls swimming and diving team was cut, the university is going through a similar situation with the possibility of women’s golf or tennis being cut from UWRF.

After Gov. Scott Walker proposed his \$300 million UW System budget cut, which will take away approximately \$4.9 million from UWRF, the university is forced to look into cutting things as efficiently as possible. The participation numbers in tennis and golf are low, which make them the easier to cut because it won’t affect as many people.

Student Senate President Tony Sumnicht is involved with some of the ideas to help re-

duce the budget at UWRF and showed some insight about what the budget cut may do to the university.

“There is some general concern among the university that there is a perception that there is not going to be the same university next year, but we are making cuts strategically and we are trying to have as little impact as possible on academic programs,” Sumnicht said. “The priority is to protect the academics, at a Div. III school most students come for academics and not the athletics.”

The idea to cut a women’s sport was just brought into discussion last week, and the athletic department is yet to release a statement on the matter so it did not comment.

Sumnicht said that the wheels are turning to cut a sport and was expecting some sort of

statement in the coming weeks.

“They’re in the process of eliminating a sport. It is something that is broadly being considered, because the athletic department has not made a recommendation yet,” Sumnicht said. “The decision is ultimately left up to the Chancellor and then it’ll be reviewed by a Faculty Senate committee.”

Sumnicht commented and said that cutting a men’s team would not be possible, because the WIAC has a minimum number of sports that must be offered for each gender and UWRF is at the minimum for men’s teams.

Another factor that needs to be considered is Title IX. Title IX rules state that the ratio of men and women athletes participating in sports, needs to be very close to the ratio of men and women students. Golf and tennis

both do not have large participation numbers so it will not break Title IX rules if one is cut.

Around the UWRF campus the idea of cutting a women’s sport does not bother most of the students.

“I don’t think it will be a problem if tennis or golf gets cut, I don’t think there are many people who pay attention to them anyway, other than the athletes,” said UWRF student Alex Boyer. “I think it will be interesting to see how UWRF changes next year after they address the new budget.”

This historically large cut will be stretching the university thin next year and Sumnicht hopes that they do a good job addressing it. It will be interesting to see how the university changes in the upcoming months.

UW-River Falls track and field team starts season strong



Left: Jacinta Roggenbuck runs in the 4x200-meter relay. Top right: Justin Barnes competes in the high jump. Bottom right: Josh Leonard (left) and Shane White compete in the 55-meter hurdles at the UW-MN Dual held in the Knowles Center on Feb. 14. The men placed third in its last meet, and the women placed fourth.

Kathy M Helgeson/University Communications

UW-River Falls softball sweeps a pair of double-headers

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As spring temperatures finally roll into River Falls, the softball team is starting to find its stride. After going 5-5 on its trip to Florida, the Falcons have won four straight games up north thanks to a pair of a double-header sweeps.

The Falcons waited over a week to play a game upon returning from sunny Florida. The squad was scheduled to take on Finlandia University in River Falls in its first home series of the season, but due to poor weather the game was moved to Rosemount, Minnesota, so the games could be played indoors.

Both victories over Finlandia saw masterful pitching performances from the Falcons. The first game was won by the arm of Brooke Lauritzen, who pitched four hitless innings while striking out seven hitters. Lauritzen helped her own cause in the game by knocking into two runners.

Lauritzen started the scoring with an RBI single in the second inning. The single sparked a run rampage for the Falcons as they went on to a 10-1 victory in the first game. A pair of two-run home runs highlighted the box score with designated hitter Kaitlyn Lepine hitting one in the third and Katie Thompson hitting hers in the fourth. The Falcons plated so many runs that the game was called in the fifth inning.

If Lauritzen’s pitching performance was impressive, Abbie Morris’ performance in game two was sparkling. Morris was an error away from pitching a perfect game, but a fielding error by Morris during the second batter of game two threw that out the window.

Morris went seven innings allowing no hits and no walks in a much closer game against Finlandia.

Only two runs were scored in the game, only one was earned, but both were for the Falcons. The bat of right fielder Shannon Borchardt brought in the first run, but she was not credited with an RBI. Borchardt’s shot to the third baseman was thrown away and an error was assigned as Amber O’Connell touched the plate to score the first run.

Run two was brought in from game one’s star, Lauritzen, as she hit a double to left field which scored O’Connell for her second run of the game. The game went the full seven innings with the Falcons winning 2-0.

Morris said she’s been working on her control and that showed in game two against Finlandia.

“I’m working on decreasing the amount of walks I have, so that was one of my goals going into the game was just to dominate and not to have as many walks,” Morris said.

Head Coach Faye Perkins has been impressed with both her key pitchers.

“I think both Abbie and Brooke, they’ve both really increased their confidence,” Perkins said. “I think our game against Tufts University when we were in Florida, we got beat



Kathy M Helgeson/University Communications

Amber O’Connell swings the bat against Bethel on April 10, 2014. The Falcons begin WIAC play on Friday, April 3.

2-1 by the number one ranked team in the nation, two-time national defending champions, and we played a tough game and I think the confidence of our whole team has improved with that.”

On Monday, the Falcons traveled to Arden Hills, Minnesota, to take on Bethel University, and once again the Falcons swept a two-game set. Lauritzen once again started the game and went six innings while only allowing two runs. The Falcons scored five runs in the contest including a three-run fifth inning.

Two runs scored for the Falcons thanks to a pair of errors on one play after Morris struck out swinging, but the Bethel catcher couldn’t handle the pitch.

Borchardt hit a home run in the sixth in route to a first game 5-2 victory for the Falcons. Morris came into save game one against Bethel and then turned around and was the starter for

game two. Morris went 3 1/3 innings allowing two runs in her outing in a 6-5 victory.

A recurring theme in the Falcons’ four games is the clutch play of Lauritzen. The Falcons were trailing 5-4 going into the top of the sixth inning when Lauritzen hit a two-run home run to give the Falcons a 6-5 lead. Lauritzen went to the pitching rubber in the seventh to close the door and notch a save as well to seal the Falcons victory.

The Falcons have its next game scheduled for Friday at home against UW-Whitewater to open up WIAC play. Perkins notes that it is anybody’s ballgame in WIAC play.

“The goal is to win the conference, right? That’s always the goal,” Perkins said. “We know in the WIAC that anybody can beat anybody on any given day, so it’s whoever comes ready to play, whoever is fired up and is ready to win the game.”

Feminist movement goes beyond battle of sexes

Molly Kinney

Columnist

Already four weeks ago it was International Women’s Day, apart of Women’s History Month. To celebrate, I shared an apple-walnut pancake with my seven-year-old niece at a cafe, making a point not to worry how many calories were in it. We instead used that energy to scheme how we can best conquer the patriarchy, and discussed just how awesome it is to be women.

Women can bring new people into the world with just our egg cells, wear pink, lace dresses or corduroy jeans and no one will think anything of it. We can express our emotions pretty much wherever and whenever we want, and it’s not regarded as strange. The female brain is hard-wired to process more than seven tasks at once. Since 1982, we’ve earned 10 million more college degrees than men. And, women actually are better at driving.

That night, though, I was walking to my car across town alone, quite late. A man walked across the street towards me, and instinctively I changed the grip on my keys to use as a dagger if I had to. Of course, this guy was just walking to his car too, but I was sickened by the realization that I automatically reacted as if I may have to defend myself. I know I’m not the only female who practices this when walking alone at night.

The frequency of violence against women is not the only area where inequalities remain, though one in five college-aged women will experience some type of sexual assault. Across the board, women are still paid only \$0.78 for every dollar white men make. There are more men named John in executive positions than there are women as a whole. In the developing world, one in nine girls will be married before she is 15. In

China, about 1.1 million baby girls are abandoned, aborted or killed every year, due to the preference for male children.

And by now one could probably make the assumption that I identify as a feminist. For too many people this garners images of hairy-legged, bra-burning, man-hating, and angry women. This is not an accurate portrayal of a feminist. I shave my legs, I admittedly shop at Victoria’s Secret, and I am grateful everyday for the respectful, thoughtful and kind men in my life, especially when I need jars opened.

In the media, “feminism” was a hot topic in 2014. It was suddenly hip for famous women—and men, for that matter—to “come out” as feminists and to give their two cents on the trend, and this has definitely continued into the new year. From Taylor Swift to John Legend, everybody had something to say about gender equality.

However, feminism isn’t just a “trend,” it’s a movement for cultural reform that affects every single person on Earth. Far too often, the feminist movement is viewed as synonymous for “women’s issues.” This isn’t the case. Feminism is simply the belief that the sexes should be regarded as equal politically, economically and socially.

Actress Emma Watson was made a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador in early 2014. In October, she gave a powerful speech launching the United Nations He-ForShe campaign. She highlighted exactly why men need to be apart of the feminist movement and formally extended an invitation to all members of the male sex to join the conversation about gender equality.

It’s been my delight to discuss these problems at length with guys I’ve gotten to know this year, and have been overjoyed at the number of them who have readily embraced the term and after much contemplating, it’s clear that feminism isn’t about putting women ahead of men, but bringing everyone to the same level.

Anybody that believes men and women should be equals socially, politically and economically—and acts on that belief—is intrinsically a feminist.

To the male students of this university: when was the last time you felt honestly able to cry when you were extremely overwhelmed, or talk deeply with your male friends about your emotions?

Do you think it’s fair that you are still socially expected to spend thousands of dollars on a piece of jewelry if you want to spend your life with someone?

Is it right that you’re less encouraged to pursue the arts and humanities than your female counterparts?

Are you okay with the fact that you are far less likely to win custody of your children if you ever get a divorce?

From what I’ve personally gathered, most men don’t have the benefits of gender equality, either.

Since the evolution of the human species, no person has been exclusively masculine or feminine. Psychologically, as well as physiologically, everybody possesses both qualities at varying levels.

Perhaps the most impactful moment of Watson’s 13-minute speech was when she said to the United Nations, “It is time that we all perceive gender on a spectrum, instead of two sets of opposing ideals.”

Between race, class, sexuality, nationality, environment, species, etcetera, feminism has many intersections. Sadly, there is still a stigma about the word “feminism” and only 20 percent of Americans identify with it. And of those, only four percent of those people are men.

Everyone should take the time to become informed about the movement. We need your help if equality is ever to be achieved. It would increase the quality of life for all of Earth’s citizens—regardless of gender.

Molly Kinney is a journalism student with a political science minor. When she is not writing, she enjoys reading, camping, art, music and exploring new cities.

Death Cab for Cutie returns with ‘Kintsugi’

Jack Tuthill

Reviewer

Death Cab for Cutie has been a mainstay in alternative music since taking the Seattle scene by storm in the late nineties, but it’s not 1998 anymore, and the loss of longtime guitarist, backup vocalist and producer Chris Walla seems to have taken a toll on the once cannot miss band from Bellingham, Washington.



The band’s latest album is titled “Kintsugi,” which is the Japanese art of fixing broken pottery with lacquer dusted with powdered gold, silver or platinum. The album hit stores on March 31.

“Kintsugi” sounds a little too much like 2011’s “Codes and Keys,” and is a far cry from 2003’s “Transatlanticism,” which is one of the greatest alternative rock albums since the turn of the century.

The first song on the album, titled “No Room In Frame,” is arguably the best of the 11 tracks with Death Cab for Cutie-typical guitar riffs and a good mix of synthesizer and drumbeats. Lead singer Benjamin Gibbard, also known for his work with The Postal Service and his short-lived marriage to actress Zooey Deschanel, still has the same soothing vocals he had nearly 20 years ago. Gibbard’s age shines through his writing: “I don’t know where to begin. There’s too many things that I can’t remember. As I disappeared like a trend, in the hum of the five in the early morning.”

“Black Sun,” the album’s first single, while catchy has an early 21st century rock sound. The track is less Death Cab for Cutie and more, dare I say, 12 Stones?

Only four tracks into “Kintsugi” you can tell Death Cab for Cutie has definitely changed in its four-year absence.

Despite being the band’s worst

effort since 2001’s “The Photo Album,” this album still has some great moments and actually flows like a studio-recordings should. There are three songs back-to-back-to-back in the middle of the album, titled “You’ve Haunted Me All My Life,” “Hold No Guns,” and “Everything’s a Ceiling” that slow things down and puts the focus on Gibbard’s silky vocals, which are among the best in the business.

“Everything’s a Ceiling” is certainly a bright spot on the album, with its groovy guitar and late 80s-sounding synthesizer. Gibbard’s lyrics seemed aimed at a former loved one, Deschanel perhaps?

“So what am I supposed to do? I’m calling out to you, but you’re miles away, it’s true. Digging with someone new.”

“Ingénue,” the 10th track on the album, is a terrific play on a literary or cinematic figure who stops being kind, gentle and sweet, and starts searching for something more: “Framed like a cartoon, the borders clear and defined, the colors bold and bright. You’ll want to be taken more seriously, but they just play a cue.”

Critics and fans alike are going to cry out for tracks like “Summer Skin” and “Souls Meets Body,” but one thing is for certain: Death Cab for Cutie doesn’t replicate. Each album is significantly different while maintaining a similar sound and style. Yes, “Kintsugi” doesn’t have a defining track that ranks among the band’s best work to date, but it’s proof that aging changes musicians too.

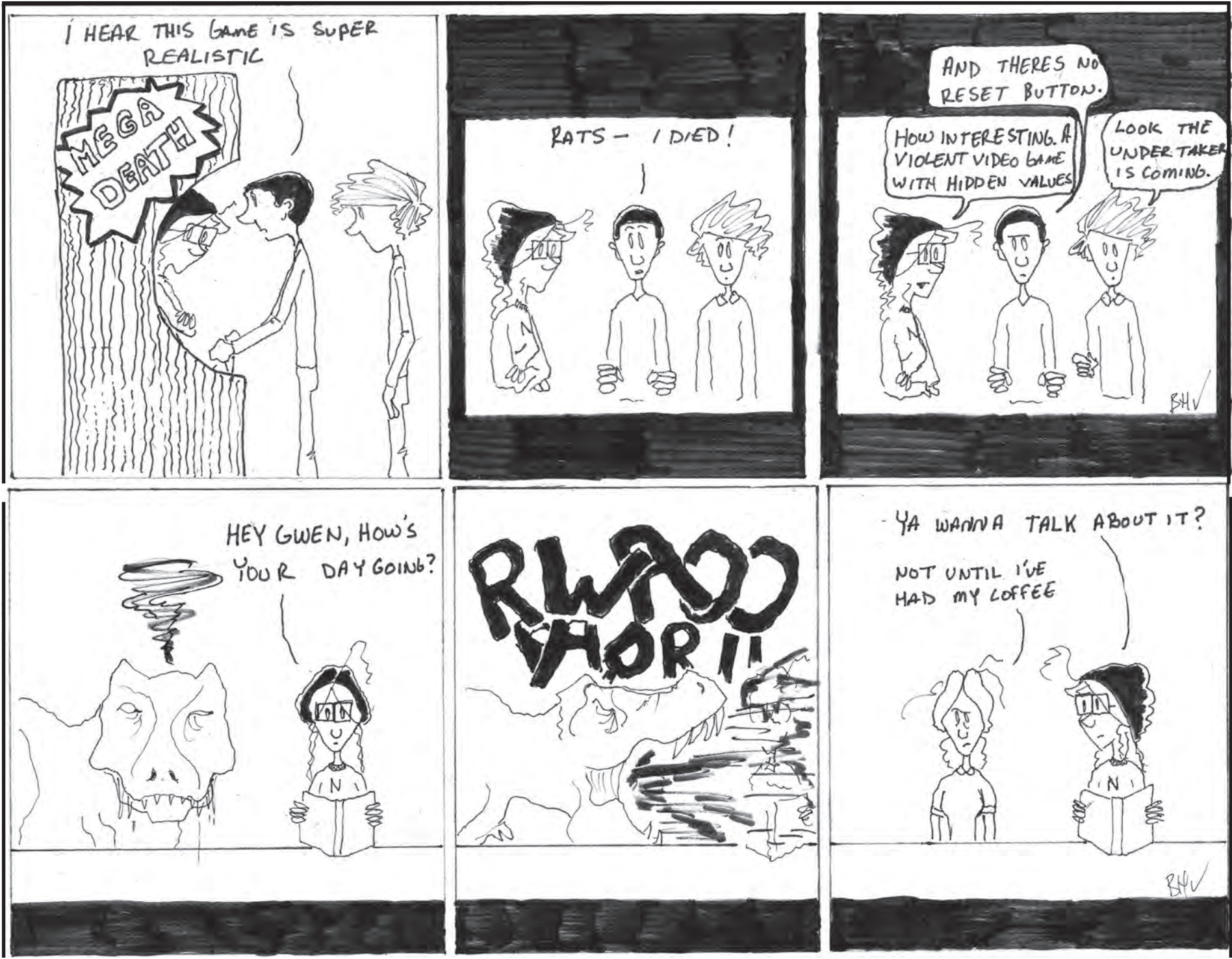
Gibbard is growing old and this album is tamer, slower and precise, but there’s no doubt that Death Cab for Cutie will turn up the volume next time around.

Death Cab for Cutie made a trip to Omaha, Nebraska, last summer for the Maha Music Festival on August 16. The band played a superb, nearly two-hour set featuring such hits as “You’re a Tourist,” “Title and Registration,” and “Grapevine Fires,” and there is no doubt that the band can still rock.

“Kintsugi” may not be “Transatlanticism” or even 2008’s “Narrow Stairs,” but I expect this album to age beautifully, and in time it will sit firmly in the collection of Death Cab for Cutie albums that were deemed tremendously successful.

Jack Tuthill is a senior journalism student with a professional writing minor from Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

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Cartoon by Benjamin Heer