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Craig Finn provides uniquely interesting performance



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## New campus carry proposal sparks debate

Phelan Patten

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At this point in time, no UW System schools and technical colleges permit concealed guns in university buildings. However, a bill proposed in early October would make concealed weapons legal in all UW System schools, taking away the individual colleges' rights to choose a stance on the matter themselves.

UW-River Falls' campus Police Chief Karl Fleury describes the bill simply as a "change in the concealed carry requirements."

The argument to allow concealed weapons in campus buildings is this: those in favor of the bill say concealed weapons in campus buildings would make them safer in the event of a school shooting or similarly hazardous situation. Those against the bill argue that adding concealed weapons to campus buildings would make them less safe, increasing the possibilities of firearm accidents and assault.

The bill, championed by state Representative Jesse Kremer and state Senator Devin Le-Mahieu, has been preceded by a similar one in Texas. As for the likelihood of the bill being passed in Wisconsin for UW schools, Fleury says that he doesn't know if it will pass or not.

"Like any other bill...it has to go through the processes," he says, but adds, "If it does pass, we have concerns for our campus systems."

Fleury explains that, to carry a concealed weapon, you have to be at least 21 and fill out an application which he says is "not extensive"

# Allowing firearms inside campus buildings adds a new layer of difficulty to dealing safely with threats

According to Fleury, any time a new variable–like the proposed bill–is introduced, it will "cause concerns for well-being on campus." He says that allowing firearms inside campus buildings adds a new layer of difficulty to dealing safely with threats; responding officers don't know if students carrying firearms are good Samaritans trying to help, or potentially harmful people, so they have to treat everyone as if he or she were an individual threat.

UW System President Ray Cross and UW System Chancellors are also not in favor of

the bill. In a public statement, they explain, "We have significant concerns and questions with this proposal and cannot currently support it. We are, however, actively engaged in a dialogue with the legislative authors, regents, and campus police professionals to ensure our concerns are addressed."

The response from the community about the bill has been predictably split. "Any time you introduce the question of firearms...you get a lot from both sides," Fleury comments. He says that he realizes that it is an area of concern for citizens, and encourages them to search for information about the bill. He advises looking up the bill and what it actually says. "There's not a lot to it," he encourages.

Student Kerstin Strosahl is not against the bill's implementation. "I would be fine with it," she says. "Each state has their own laws about how you can get concealed carry and stuff...if you pass that test, I don't see why not. I think a lot of people would be against it, but I think it would make us a safer community overall," she continues.

Student Kate Engelhard has a different opinion. "I would feel slightly concerned, but not completely opposed," she said. "Because if they have it, and if some crazy person comes into the building, they have self-defense – they have protection."

However, Engelhard does believe in taking precautions. "Checking out who is buying weapons, making sure that there's not extra felonies, and stuff like that," she describes.

#### Whether the bill passes or not, the community, like the nation, is deeply conflicted about the issue.

Whether the bill passes or not, the community, like the nation, is deeply conflicted about the issue. In response to the bill being introduced, for example, another was proposed by Democrats which would ban guns completely from college campuses. In River Falls, the debate is likely to be similarly fierce. Here on campus, Student Senate is also trying to raise awareness about the bill.

Regardless of the bill's outcome, Chief Fleury repeats, "I know it's an area of concern," but continues, "I want to reassure everyone that we have a very safe campus and community."



Tori Schneider/Student Voice

Signs like this can be seen on buildings throughout campus.

## Campus to introduce new Safe Ride Home Program

Natalie Howell

Falcon News Service

A Safe Ride Home Program is coming to UW-River Falls that will allow students to get a free taxi ride home from anywhere in River Falls

At its Oct. 20 meeting, Student Senate passed the Safe Ride Home Allocation, which would use \$5,400 from the Senate funding pool to support a trial run of the program. The program will use the River Falls Taxi Service and would allow students a free ride back to campus or back to their off-campus housing from anywhere in River Falls. The service will be available from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday and will run for 15 weeks, starting in November and ending in March, according to the meeting's minutes document.

With its usual hours ending at 10 p.m., it costs \$30 an hour for the River Falls Taxi Service to offer extended hours for the program. Because of the price, the program will be using one taxi to make sure that students get home safely.

The reasons the university hasn't attempted it is due to the easy access to Main Street from the university and the lack of public transportation in River Falls.

According to UWRF Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Gregg Heinselman, this is the first time that UWRF has taken on a

safe ride home program. Heinselman said that the reasons the university hasn't attempted it is due to the easy access to Main Street from the university and the lack of public transportation in River Falls.

However, this is not the first time that UWRF has teamed up with the River Falls Taxi Service. Through UWRF Student Health and Counseling Services, students of the university are able to get free roundtrip transportation, provided that they show their student ID, to the Vibrant Health Family Clinic, the Pierce County Reproductive Health Service, and the St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team Center in River Falls, according to the university website.

This kind of program is common within the UW-System, with several universities funding variations of the Safe Ride Home Program. UW-Eau Claire, for example, has a partnership with the Eau Claire Transit, in which university students, faculty and staff are able to ride the bus for free with the presentation of a valid UW-Eau Claire Blugold ID card, according to the university's website. UW-Madison has several transportation options, including a free UW Campus Bus and a Badger Cab that runs for 24 hours a day, but costs money to use.

Student Senate's approval of the allocation did not come without debate, with 10 votes in favor of the program and five votes against. Opposition to the program included concern over the service being used as a form of a "drunk bus" and encouraging students to

drink alcohol and become intoxicated.

Kelsey Kuehnhold, a senior animal science major who is a member of Senate, said that although she believes it will be a good pro-

gram, she doesn't like the idea of Senate funding something that would only help a handful of students.

"I would rather see the money put towards something that is clearly for all the students on campus," said Kuehnhold. "Where it's not going to be underlined as just a safe ride home from the bars."

Senate President Christopher Morgan said that he is not surprised by the difference of opinion in Senate, and that the Safe Ride Home Program will be marketed in a way that will not highlight drinking.

"I knew going in that there were people that saw it just as an issue regarding drinking, which is not what it's about at all," Morgan said. "It's about keeping students safe."

Danielle Sveiven, a sophomore sociology student, said that she likes the idea of a Safe Ride Home Program coming to UWRF.

"I think it's really good. I don't personally go out on the weekends, I'm scared to. But I think it's good for the people that do because it's a way to get back," said Sveiven.

When it comes to how the program will deal with intoxicated minors, Heinselman said that the university is not looking to be involved in citing or dealing with conduct aspects of the program unless it becomes a major issue or concern. Along with that, Morgan said that students will not have to identify their age when they get in the taxi, they will just have to show proof that they are a student of the university.

when they get in the taxi, they will just have to show proof that they are a student of the university.

"In terms of how do we get students to trust the program, it is marketing it in a way that we say we do not care what you were doing

before you stepped foot in the car," Morgan

said. "Our main mission is to get you home

safe."

The Safe Ride Home Program is a pilot, meaning that after the 15 weeks, Senate will re-evaluate the usefulness of the program and determine whether it should continue into the next year. If the program does prove to improve student safety, the university will look at adding a \$1 to \$1.50 fee to continue to fund

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The program is still in the planning process when it comes to marketing and how students will be able to use the service. Current plans include handing out business cards to students that would include the phone number of the taxi service and a place where the student could write their address to give to the taxi driver. Senate also is planning on partnering with the Residence Hall Association and Greek Life in order to spread the word about how students can leave events safely, according to Morgan.

"It's a small investment on behalf of Student Senate to give a try at student safety on our campus," Morgan said. "If it works, that's amazing. If it doesn't, we can look back and say we didn't sit idle while students were unsafe."

## Student Senate Update: budgets and bylaws

Student Voice Staff

editor@uwrfvoice.com

At the Student Senate meeting on Oct. 27, Senate passed the It's On Us Week of Action Allocation, the AFAB Bylaw Amendment, and the Bylaw Amendment.

The It's On Us Week of Action Allocation, which was originally introductory only status but was later changed, was a motion to allocate \$600 out of the Student Senate funding pool to buy food and hats for the It's On Us Week of Action. It's On Us is a national campaign that works to spread awareness of sexual assault on college campuses. UWRF adopted this campaign last fall, with sexual assault prevention being one Senate's core initiatives this year.

Although the original budget for the Week of Action was \$600 with the food costing \$250 and 50 hats costing \$350, an amendment was made to change the budget to \$450, with \$50 to be spent on food and \$400 to be spent on hats. The excess funds from the Week of Action would go back into the Senate funding pool. The amendment was quickly passed, with the main motion being voted on and passed as well.

Next, the AFAB Bylaw Amendment was introduced. The motion called for a change in the Allocable Fee Appropriations Board's bylaws concerning when student organizations can begin to request single-event funding for the spring semester. This amendment calls for singleevent funding requests to begin at AFAB's first meeting in December, instead of at any time as it was previously written. After some discussion about whether or not this kind of change to the bylaws was necessary, the AFAB Bylaw Amendment was passed.

Lastly, Senate discussed the Bylaw Amendment that called to change Senate's bylaws concerning office hours for members of Senate. The amendment called for the Senate office to be staffed throughout the day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during weekdays. Changes to the bylaws also included not allowing Senate ad-hoc committees to last longer than a year. After some discussion, this amendment was voted on and passed.

All information in this update comes from the Oct. 27 Student Senate meeting, and select documents from the OrgSync Student Senate page. It's very important for all students to stay informed on what is going on with Senate. They meet at 7 p.m. every Tuesday in the Willow River Room of the University Center, and the meeting agenda can be found 24 hours prior on the Senate page. To see the details of what was discussed last Tuesday, go on the Senate page, and read through this week's minutes document.

## **News briefs:**

### St. Croix Valley Symphany Orchestra collaborates with Irish tenor Anthony Kearns

University of Wisconsin-River Falls students, alumni and community members in the St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra will collaborate with Anthony Kearns, leading Irish tenor, when he visits the St. Croix Valley for a rare solo performance on Sunday, Nov. 1, at 3 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater, Minn. Kearns will sing a variety of selections from "Bring Him Home" from Les Miserable, to his signature interpretation of "Grenada" and much, much more. The performance is open to the public.

The St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra will collaborate with Kearns, the Trinity Lutheran Choir and special guests Natalia Moiseeva, violin, and Phil Kadidlo, piano. Join directors Kris Tjornehoj and Carol Carver for an afternoon of international music and flair.

Tickets are available at the door, online, or by calling Art-Reach at 651-439-1465. There are limited VIP pre-sale tickets (deadline Wednesday, Oct. 28) for dinner, photos, and a private reception with Kearns following the concert. Visit SCVSymphony.org for more information.

orr John Halgan

Complete list of selections: This is My Sono

This is My Song arr. John Helgen
Nearer My God to TheeTraditional
Shine Like the SunKaren Black
A Prayer for Our Time
FinlandiaJean Sibelius/arr. John Helgen
Irish SuiteLeroy Anderson
Clarinet CandyLeroy Anderson
The Stars and Stripes ForeverJohn Philip Sousa
Symphony No. 103Franz Joseph Hayd Mvt. II
Bring Him HomeClaude-Michel Schönberg/arr. J. Tate
Danny BoyTraditional
GranadaAgustin Lara/orch. E. Stern
I'll Be Seeing YouSammy Fain/arr. Gavin Murphy
When Irish Eyes Are SmilingTraditional/arr.
Murphy/Kearns
Kitty of ColeraineEdward Lysaght/arr. Murphy/Kearns

"La donna é mobile".....Giuseppe Verdi/arr. Murphy/Kearns Love Thee Dearest......Celtic Thunder/arr. Noel Kelehan Nearer My God to Thee......Traditional/arr. Murphy/Kearns Shenandoah.....Traditional/arr. Murphy & Kearns

Kearns is a classically trained tenor with the incredible ability to flawlessly sing what audiences love to hear. He is the consummate performer with universal appeal. Kearns establishes immediate rapport with his audiences, dazzling them with a rebirth of music they have loved for years: Broadway's

beautiful hits, the remarkable Mario Lanza songbook, Viennese romances, Italian classics, and the lovely lilt of Ireland. His astonishing talent lights up a stage; he enthralls crowds with the power and magnificence of his voice; and his allencompassing repertoire. Bravos ring out all evening long at Kearns' concerts and his audiences pull him back for encore

### **Bowls for Hope** event raises money for charitable organization

Early each year the University of Wisconsin-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the Bowls for Hope event in which proceeds raised help a worthy nonprofit organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley. Applications are now open for the 2016 recipient of this charity event. The 2016 Bowls for Hope event is Tuesday, March 8, from 5-7 p.m. at UW-River Falls.

To be considered for the 2016 Bowls for Hope proceeds to benefit your St. Croix Valley nonprofit organization, complete the Request for Funds form. Interested charitable organizations should submit their requests online by Monday, Nov. 23.

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

The 2015 Bowls for Hope event raised \$6,225 for Bridge For Community Life, Inc. Since 2010, Bowls for Hope has raised more than \$34,000 for St. Croix Valley charitable or-

For more information, visit the Bowls for Hope website or email mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu.

## University Theatre presents 'The Spitfire Grill'

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls University Theatre will present "The Spitfire Grill," Oct. 29-31 and Nov. 5-7, in the Blanche Davis Theatre located in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

"The Spitfire Grill" is an American musical with music and book by James Valcq and lyrics and book by Fred Alley, based on the award-winning film of the same name by David Lee Zlotoff. The story follows the journey of a feisty young woman, Percy Talbott, who has recently been released from prison. Talbott follows a page from an old travel book to the small Wisconsin town of Gilead, and finds herself working at Hannah Ferguson's Spitfire Grill.

The grill is for sale, but there are no takers for the restaurant in the struggling town, so Talbott suggests to Ferguson that she raffle it off. For a hundred dollars and an essay about why they might want the grill, anyone can enter. Entries pour in,

and renewed hope for the future spreads through the town. With its folk and bluegrass tinged score, "The Spitfire Grill" is an inspiring celebration of fresh starts and the power of what one person can do.

The production is directed by theatre instructor Sean Dooley, a working actor in the Twin Cities. The cast, consisting entirely of UWRF students, includes Kendra Yarke (East Bethel, Minn.) as Percy Talbott, Molly Hayes (Anoka, Minn.) as Hannah Ferguson, Corey Fern (Shakopee, Minn.) as Sherriff Joe Sutter, Danielle Bebus (Forest Lake, Minn.) as Shelby Thorpe, Nic Persoon (Mahtomedi, Minn.) as Caleb Thorpe, Emma Johnson (Shoreview, Minn.) as Effy Krayneck, and Ben Heer (Rice Lake) as Eli Ferguson. The orchestra members are Deb McPhetres on piano, Trevor Holien on violin, Jim Wainwright on cello, Donna Byrne on accordion, and Walter Croll on guitar and mandolin. The musical director is Calyssa Hall.

Tickets are \$15/adults, \$12/seniors (60+) and \$5/children and UWRF students with ID. Recommended for ages 10 and over. The box office, located in the Kleinpell Fine Arts building, is open weekdays from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. Oct. 22-28 and Nov. 2-4. The box office opens at 6 p.m. on performance days. Tickets can be purchased in person, by phone at 715-425-3114, or on the University Theatre website.

For more information, call 715-425-3114 or email martha. donnelly@uwrf.edu.

# Check out the Student Voice online at



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8 oz. stout lager

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### Tuesday, Oct. 20

A theft was reported off-campus around 2 p.m.

### Thursday, Oct. 22

- A welfare check was conducted in Hathorn Hall around 10 a.m.
- A fire call occurred at 615 S Third St. around 7 p.m.

### Friday, Oct. 23

A case of underage alcohol was reported in Johnson Hall around 3 p.m.

### Monday, Oct. 26

A theft was reported at Stratton Hall around 9 p.m.

### Editor's note:

Information for this section is taken from River Falls Police and River Falls Police Department incident reports.



### Biology professor's research examines Great Lakes' wetland areas in Canada

Katie Galarno

Falcon News Service

A UW-River Falls professor is participating in research about the Great Lakes funded by a \$10 million grant, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

As part of the Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Monitoring program, Joseph Gathman, associate professor of biology at UWRF, is among researchers from several universities and agencies studying the wetlands along the coast of the Great Lakes

The grant is a renewal of a previous one that covered five years of work by Gathman and his colleagues. The renewal is worth \$10 million for five years, but Gathman said that UWRF's portion is around \$250,000.

"The first one was intended to cover all of the wetlands around the Great Lakes in five years," Gathman said. "In fact, that was an underestimate. It turns out there's more separate wetlands than we thought initially, so we couldn't cover all of them."

# Gathman's work with the project is based in Canada with Jan Ciborowski of the University of Windsor.

Gathman's work with the project is based in Canada with Jan Ciborowski of the University of Windsor. Their crews cover the coast of Lake Erie on the entirety of the Canadian side and most of the U.S. side, as well as part of Lake Huron. They visit 30 wetlands every summer.

The researchers use a system called an Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) to measure the health of the wetlands. There are different IBIs for different living things in the systems. The IBIs allows the researchers to compare wetlands numerically and calculate which are the most in need of restoration.

The project started small, but in 2010, the White House launched the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). As part of the initiative, Congress puts a certain amount of money each year toward research and restoration of the Great Lakes. The GLRI helped the project grow from a small operation funded by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to a large work order funded by the EPA.

The EPA estimates that there were more than 220 million acres of wetlands in the continental U.S. in the 1600s. More than half of that has been drained for other uses. Gathman said that this is due to human activities such as building factories and cities on shorelines and draining wetlands for farming purposes.

"That's why the EPA is focused on trying to do something about that now," Gathman said, "because people have been ignoring them for a long time."

Gathman said that initially getting the research approved was difficult because some of the members of Congress wanted results through restoration of the wetlands, not just data.

"What they don't understand is you can't restore something if you don't know enough about it," Gathman said. "How do you know which sites could be restored or could be helped if you've never gone out and looked at the data?"

Different teams conducting the research have made efforts to collaborate with local agencies and conservation organizations that are interested in protecting the wetlands in their areas. Gathman said that when a partnership is formed, that wetland gets benchmarked and the team revisits the site every year.

During the next five years, Gathman's teams will revisit the same wetland sites from the first round of research to build up a database that tracks changes in the different areas.

"The idea is that this would be an ongoing thing indefinitely so you would have this measure from five year period to five year period of what's been changing," Gathman said.

The data from the first round of research are currently being analyzed at the University of Minnesota Duluth. After the data has been analyzed, Gathman said that it will go into an online EPA database for the public to access.

Bradley Caskey, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UWRF, said that having a faculty member involved in a big project like this benefits the university through financial gains and recognition for faculty.

"It helps out with us because a person becomes more well-known," Caskey said. "Students hear about them and then we get people coming to campus because they want to work with someone like Dr. Gathman."

So far, there have been no current UWRF students directly involved with Gathman's research. He said that working in Canada requires a work permit, which can be complicated for students to obtain. He did bring one of his recent graduates during the first year of his research, but finding a place for her to stay became an issue.

"We didn't put money in the grant to pay for someone like her, so we had to figure out a way for her to stay somewhere pretty cheap, and that was tricky," Gathman said. "She was kind of hit with sticker shock because everything in Canada costs a bit more."

In planning the grant for the next five years, Gathman has included money to allow for a student to accompany him for a short time. However, he said that it would have to be the kind of student who can handle the pressures of working hard every day and being away from

In planning the grant for the next five years, Gathman has included money to allow for a student to accompany him for a short time. However, he said that it would have to be the kind of student who can handle the pressures of working hard every day and being away from home.

"I think it's a pretty big challenge for most undergraduates to think of doing that, unless I know they've had that kind of experience before," Gathman said. "So we'll see. It might happen."

# KFA exhibits student works

Ryan Funes

Falcon News Service

Paintings, book covers and pottery are adorning the gallery in the Kleinpell Fine Arts Building, all neatly arranged for anyone to walk by and observe in an effective way. All of this is the result of the hard work of seniors in the Art Department at UW-River Falls.

Started Oct. 23 and continuing until Nov. 2, art students have been displaying their works to the public, an effort that has taken quite a while for them to produce.

This work though should be expected, because the senior exhibition is one of the most important parts of their education. Students are meant to mount their pieces themselves, write an artist's statement, a press release, and create a portfolio of their work.

Associate Lecturer Jeannine Kitzhaber is teaching the course that leads these students to the exhibition, and she says that real world experience is the biggest thing these students gain from it all.

"Everything they are doing in this exhibition they can duplicate when they have shows and galleries, when they are applying for jobs," Kitzhaber said. "They will leave with a portfolio of art and can apply for galleries."

She went on to say that a lot of what the students are doing now is all on their own, another aspect of being an artist that will be important for each student when they leave the college.

Students in the course have said they have gotten a lot through their experience. One student, Krysta Fisher, spoke of the difficulty that comes in this course.

"The work load for doing an exhibition is pretty crazy. It's kind of like a juggling act making sure you have everything going off at the time it's supposed to," she said in an email interview. "I've probably been writing at least five 'to do' lists a day, just for my exhibition."

But things are already looking good for Fisher.

"I'm excited that I have just started my first job as a photographer at a studio in Minnesota," she said. "All of my experience at UWRF has led me to this amazing opportunity in my dream job."

Among the other students happy to have gone through the exhibition was Kristopher Stempel, whose paintings cover the inside of the gallery.

"With the senior exhibition class there isn't much in the way of hand holding," he said. "I'll be doing shows and galleries hopefully for the rest of my life... I'd even like to be a curator at some point, so that is good experience."

Among the things the exhibition has been doing for him, he said that if there was anything that fellow students might learn down the road outside the course is accepting the tough times.

"I feel like if there is something that will come up in time is disappointment," Stempel said. "There's going to be a lot of submissions and a lot of rejections. I think like in a smaller campus we don't get much rejection or really negative feedback. There will be plenty of that down the road."

The senior exhibitions may be tough and challenging to students, but it cannot be denied by the people who fight through that their art is something worth suffering for more.

### University works to reduce racial bias

Rebecca Meidl

Falcon News Service

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is one of several institutions working on reducing bias in education against students of color. Leading the effort is Donald Lee Stovall, a professor in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology

The Reducing Bias in Education project, according to its website, is concerned that "American Indian and African American students are disproportionately represented in special education programs and discipline procedures involving suspensions and expulsions." The project aims to reduce the number of African American and American Indians placed in these programs.

The program focuses on African American and American Indian families, care givers and the students themselves who are located in Minnesota. The federal Office of Civil Rights monitors the data related to the two groups.

"This project actually dates back 1998," Stovall said, "when the state of Minnesota produced a manual called 'Reducing Bias for American Indians and African American Students' because back even as 1998 people were looking at data and seeing that there was some significant issues in terms of representation with those specific groups in special education programs and also in discipline."

Three years ago Minnesota offered a grant to renew the manual. Stovall applied for the grant and got it. He started his work with a clear goal to update and reduce the amount of African American and American Indian students in these programs. He did so by looking at what can be done so that services regarding special education placement decisions, for those two groups, are fair. Stovall said that these two groups "are by far more likely to be in those programs than white students. So it's more than chance that that is happening. So there is something breaking down in the system where those

students are being placed in those programs, and sometimes it's a fit and other times it's not a fit."

Among theories that try to explain what is happening is that students of color are not getting the same quality of education as others, and that may be related to understanding of cultural differences. Since everyone does not have the same background, people do not know how to handle the culture of others and it is often ignored or misunderstood.

"I think that in our society we don't do a good job talking about culture," Stovall said. "We don't do a good job talking about race; we don't understand race. It's kind of a taboo subject for people."

Another factor that Stovall and his colleagues have noticed is the climate of the school. Teachers need to be aware that every student does not come from the same background and skill set.

Another factor that Stovall and his colleagues have noticed is the climate of the school. Teachers need to be aware that every student does not come from the same background and skill set. If students walk differently or talk differently, that should not be labeled as a problem but as a difference and teachers need to make the adjustment.

A way to help fix the overrepresentation of these two groups in special education programs and discipline procedures is that people should be talking more about race, culture and differences, Stovall said. Another way is by teaching teachers that if a student is different they shouldn't be referred to a special program. The connection between the staff and the parents of these two groups is also very important because, as Stovall explained, they don't want the parents to think the teachers are biased against their child.

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November 11

### **EDITORIAL**

## For Halloween, care should be taken when dressing up

As you all know, this Saturday is Halloween. For many adults, that may not be that big of deal. Some people love Halloween, while other people just tolerate it. But on a college campus, that is usually not the case. College students love Halloween, and maybe it's because it's just a fun way to blow off some steam and escape from the stresses of college. Students plan and pick out their costumes, usually topical or skimpy, and they go out and play pretend for a night. College is the last stepping stone from childhood to being a fully functioning adult, so why not partake in some Halloween nonsense before all the responsibilities kick in?

When you're picking out your Halloween costume this year, however, it might be time to re-evaluate what costumes can be funny, and what can be offensive. It seems like every year, costumes rely more and more on stereotypes and things that tend to offend in order to get a laugh. Costumes that seem to be popular this year include Middle Eastern terrorists and something called "Anna Rexia". You can guess what that is making fun of. Older kinds of harmful Halloween costumes include wearing blackface.

In 2013, a poster campaign was started with the message, "We're a culture. Not a costume." Messages they purvey include: "This is not who I am, and this is not okay" and "You wear the costume for one night. I wear the stigma for life." This helped open people's eyes when it came to how a funny costume to someone can be hurtful to someone else, and yet every year we still see people absentmindedly throw on turbans and sombreros. Chances are that they don't mean to offend, but that doesn't mean that those costumes don't hurt others.

This year, the university has dedicated the year to further teaching students about the country of Mexico, naming it the Year of Mexico. This includes many events, such as a Day of the Dead celebration that is planned for early November. The UW-River Falls Student Senate has also dedicated this year to four initiatives, one of which includes increasing inclusivity on campus and making everyone feel welcome.

If our university can make efforts to decreasing tereotypes through education and making everyone feel accepted and comfortable, should we as students do the same? Halloween can be so much fun, but it's important to remember that although you might not mean any harm, your costume may have a negative effect on someone who is different than you are. So when you're picking out your costume for Saturday night, remember how much fun it is when everyone feels comfortable being themselves. And stay safe!

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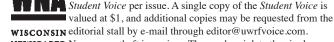
The Student Voice is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published Fridays during the regular school year.

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

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

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

Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the



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## Procrastination can be avoided

Melanie Meyers

Columnist

Procrastination is not a onetime occurrence for most college students. In fact, it is often times a habitual experience, a part of their daily lives, per se. Procrastination is, as defined by the Oxford Dictionary, "the action of delaying or postpon-

ing something." Students are widely known by their professors to wait until the very last minute to turn assignments in or submit their online exams.

In many cases, procrastination leads students to pull allnighters prior to deadlines for papers due or when cramming needs to been done before major exams that students haven't well-prepared themselves for. This loss of sleep due to their procrastination habits increases the pains of procrastination. According to the University of Michigan's Student Life, "The amount of sleep that a college student gets is one of the strongest predictors of academic success. Sleep plays a key role in helping students fix and consolidate memories, plus prevent decay of memories. Without sleep, people work harder but don't do as well."

Students attribute their procrastination skills often times to laziness and a lack of motivation. Time management is also a major factor in the successes or failures of college students and how their level of procrastination plays out. Princeton University's McGraw Learning Center declares, "Procrastination is not a matter, solely, of having poor time management skills, either, but rather can be traced to underlying and more complex psychological reasons...In reality, procrastination is often a self-protection strategy for students...For the most part our reasons for delaying and avoiding are rooted in fear and anxiety—about doing poorly, of not having control of our outcomes, of looking stupid, of having one's sense of self or self-concept challenged. We avoid doing work to avoid our abilities being judged."

In essence, procrastination hurts students' academic performance and can also lead to sleep deprivation. Neither of which are beneficial to young adults seeking degrees for employment.

Here at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls counselors in the counseling services department are available to help students seeking assistance in the area of combating procrastination. If a student is unwilling to seek help through the utilization of the university's counseling services, they might want to try other self-help remedies, many of which can be found online through a simple Google search.

The McGraw Learning Center lays out tips for success, which I have summarized for your utliziation.

- Ask a friend to become an accountability partner, someone you can rely on to kick your butt into drive when you're feeling weary. They should be able to keep you accountable for your assignments, reading and studying while also ensuring you have proper motivation to keep you going. An accountability partner shouldn't push you to exceed your limits.
- Develop goals, ensuring that they meet all of the requirements to becoming a S.M.A.R.T. goal. If they're not specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely, the goals won't be as effective in keeping you on track to combating procrastination and becoming successful. When you have set your goals, they become a great resource for your accountability partner to keep you accountable.
- Taking short moments for yourself in between studying will help you to have lasting endurance. One can become too worn down if they lack the opportunity to regroup a little and remove themselves from the work at hand. If you're in the library, you might take a moment to run to the bathroom. The short walk will allow for some time to clear your mind. In the dorms, a causal stroll to the drinking fountain might give you a new perspective.

As mentioned earlier, procrastination isn't all about laziness and poor time management skills; ensuring you have adequate time to reflect on your reasons for procrastinating will help you better tackle your procrastination mentality in the future. By confronting, head-on, the factors that cause you stress, you can learn to target these specifics and set a new mindset for

Melanie Meyers enjoys Greek Bible Study, Ballet I (Dance 224) and Einstein's surprisingly well-done Americanos here at the university. When not in River Falls, she takes great pride in cheering on the Mondovi, Wis. Buffaloes. Meyers is majoring in dairy science and communication studies. However, she also academically pursues a variety of unique subjects including political science and French.

#### Benghazi hearings a waste of resources

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

Another week, another failed takedown of former Secretary of State, First Lady, United States Senator and current Democratic Presidential candidate Hilary Rodham Clin-

With a front-row seat to 11 hours of repetitive and redundant questioning, Clinton was stalwart, calm and quite presidential as audiences watched a split screen view of the live-streamed proceedings. And by the way, the split-screen style of live-streaming was probably the best part of these hearings. Watching the faces of the committee members AND Clinton at the same time was priceless, almost like I was there. I felt sorry for special committee members Trey Gowdy and his other GOP-ers as their performance paled in comparison to Clinton's, who looked completely in her element and in charge as she conducted herself with the grace and ease of what I hope any leader of our country would

After the intense but seriously lacking investigation and interrogation of Clinton about whatever misdoings she was supposedly said to have had in connection with Benghazi, I made myself stop angrily fixating on how Gowdy was so intently narrowed in on her emails and of his plain intentions of attacking Clinton for political reasons. I made myself not watch Hilary's killer facial expressions but instead narrowed in on other compelling information that I don't think people even realize they should be focusing on: the price of these relentless "investigations".

From information from the Benghazi Research Center's own website I found a convenient and detailed infographic that lays out the raw numbers of this whole charade. The first fact that stood out to me also happened to be the largest number on the chart, a number about this committee's budget—a "\$20 million minimum total cost - with operating costs of the first seven congressional investigations unknown," kind of budget.

Which brings me to the point of all of this, and the point to your own personal connection to these Benghazi hearings. I bet some of you didn't even know you had a connection to any of this. If you pay taxes, you have contributed, albeit unwillingly and most likely unknowingly, to this farce to the tune of \$4.5 million dollars AND COUNTING, according to an online

post published on HuffingtonPost.com.

As someone who does in fact pay taxes, I really prefer to believe that the money I contribute out of my wimpy paychecks fund the desperate need for rebuilding our country's infrastructure or for projects that will greatly impact people in need. I am almost always unsurprised, however, when I realize that I am part of "The Bank for Fools" - a name of my own creation – which wastes money faster than it can get its hands

Going back to the Benghazi Research Center's website, where crucial information for all to easily understand can be found, lets any curious minds know that out of all the investigations started there have been "0 investigations that have found any administration wrongdoing...[or] evidence of an intelligence failure." Money hardly well-spent, I think.

With money still being leeched from taxpayers and no end to this investigation or any real proof in sight, I don't understand how there are not more people who are outraged by this. Frankly, at this point I would take just plain bothered. Do people not even know where their taxes go? Apparently not.

If a definition of the word "insanity" is, "doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results," (thank you, Albert Einstein), isn't it insane that after 32 Benghazi hearings (again, please take a look at the Benghazi Research Center's website), there is no evidence and not even any proof of any wrongdoings? Does anyone else think that it is crazy that money that should be allotted for other purposes is stuck in the chokehold grips of elected politicians and officials who are trying to discredit a person instead of focusing on the facts?

With an "unlimited budget granted to the Benghazi Select Committee by the Republican controlled House of Representatives," it is time that people affiliated with any political party know what their money is paying for; let us all willingly and knowingly fund progress and defund regression.

Lauren A. Simenson is a sophomore majoring in communication studies. Her interests include eating dark chocolate, online window shopping and reading anything she can get her hands on. While not at work, at school, taking naps or doing homework, she likes to cook, canoe, fish and write.



Cartoon by Benjamin Heer

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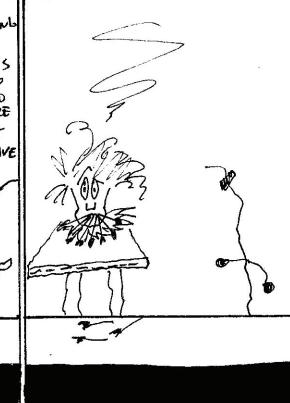
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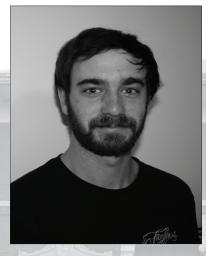


Cartoons by Benjamin Heer

# STUDENT voices

What are you doing for Halloween?

Compiled by Molly Kinney



Greg Mathews
Senior
"I'm dressing up as the pope and blessing the people I'll be partying with."



Emily Lobitz
Junior
"I will be enjoying the festivities surrounding my friends and I."



Casey Machajewski
Freshman
"I'm dressing up as Dexter."



Kayla Doherty
Junior

"I'm trying to convince my boyfriend to dress up as the characters from How to Train Your Dragon."



JJ Knapp
Junior
"I'm wearing a unicorn mask."

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

The first person to report the find to editor@uwrfvoice.com AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins!

The winner will be announced on the Voice's Twitter and Facebook accounts:

@uwrfvoice and
facebook.com/Uwrfstudentvoice

Now Playing: Woodlawn



Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor.

Email your thoughts to editor@uwrfvoice.com

# Annual volleyball game for cancer awareness shifts focus in honor of student's mother

Kate Vruwink

Falcon News Service

The UW-River Falls women's volleyball team lost to UW-La Crosse 1-3 on Wednesday, Oct. 21, at Karges Center. However, there was something different about this game.

Each October all sports teams around the WIAC hold a game where they highlight breast cancer and raise money to fight it. This year when the annual cancer awareness game, Dig Pink, rolled around for the volleyball team, the players decided to change it up and focus on raising awareness for bile duct cancer. Dig Pink turned into Dig Green, and for a very special reason.

Volleyball player Samantha Garvin's life changed forever in 2011 when her mom, Maggie, was diagnosed with cholangiocarcinoma, a form of bile duct cancer. She was given a year to live. According to the American Cancer Society the survival rate for that type of cancer past five years is zero percent. Garvin's mom is on her fourth year.

Garvin, No. 4 for the Falcons, recalled how that diagnosis changed her life and how it affected her relationship with her mom.

"It's brought us closer, if anything. It made me realize how important family is and how much time I need to spend at home," Garvin said "In five years I won't care that I missed whoever's birthday party. I'll care that I spent another Sunday at home with my mom."

However, just one month ago Maggie was told she would hopefully make it to December. But Garvin's mom didn't let that bring her down.

"She was like, 'I don't care, I'm going to make it another two years. I'm going to see your (little) sister graduate college," Samantha said with a laugh. "She said, 'They've told me this stuff before, this is BS."

Maggie always had a positive attitude towards her diagnosis and worked throughout her treatments, but when the latest

prognosis was given she had to leave work. Previously Maggie refused benefits that directly helped her, but was pleased by this event in her honor because it would aid others with the same diagnosis.

Samantha went to her teammates with the hope that they could raise awareness and money, but she found out they were already planning it.

The "Dig Green" event honored Maggie by having all the women warm up in black and green T-shirts that said "Team Maggie." Fans at the game also wore green because it's the color of the cancer. The announcer later introduced Maggie as an honorary coach for the night, and she came out on the court with her husband and two daughters.

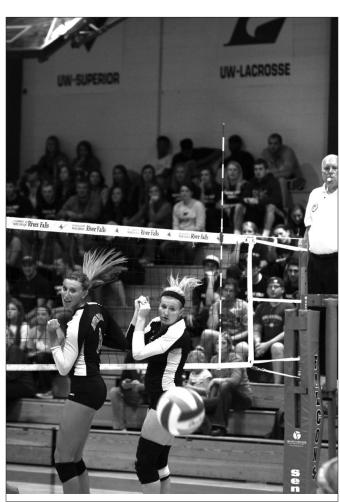
According to head Coach Patti Ford, it was important to focus on the Garvin family.

"This year we thought since we had a person affected by cancer on our team, and it doesn't get a lot of recognition, that we were going to go ahead and honor Sam's mom and her family," Ford said. "I think any time you can help out the cause in a big picture, but also help out and honor a family that's going through some pretty tough stuff I think that's what we do, and why we do what we do."

To raise money the team sold T-shirts, bracelets, held a silent auction, and collected donations. But instead of the money benefiting the Garvin family, they decided all proceeds were to go to bile duct cancer research in the hopes that someone would be the first to make it past the five year mark.

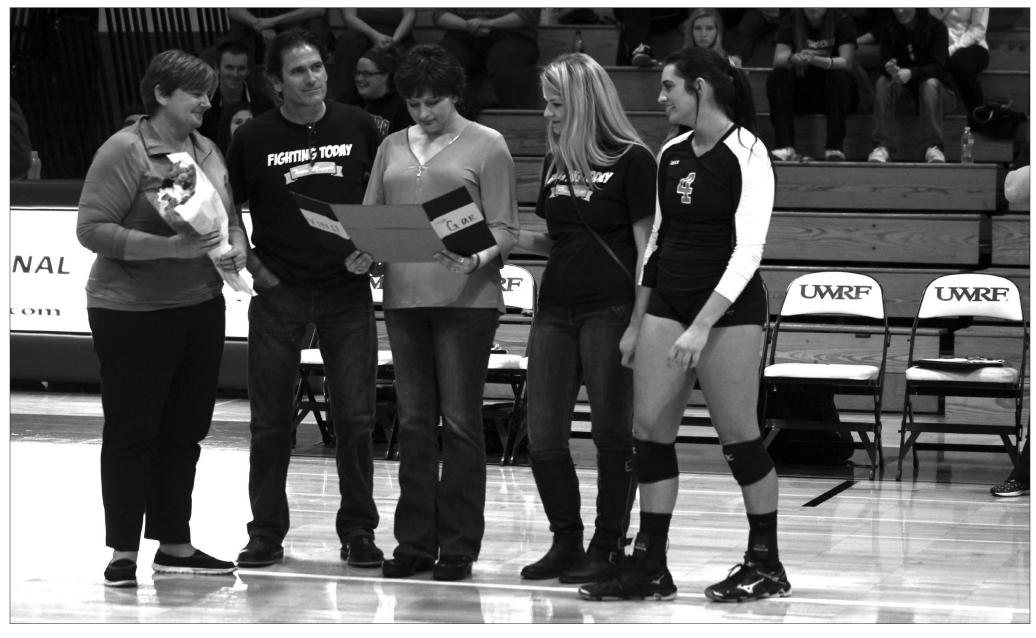
Donations to the cause can be made online through the bile duct cancer page of the American Cancer Society's website.

The Falcons are currently 14-19 overall, and 2-4 in conference. Their next match is away against UW-Oshkosh at 7 p.m. on Oct. 30.



Tori Schneider/Student Voice

Amara Meyer, a sophomore middle hitter and Raven Klein, a junior setter watch a ball fall after missing a block during the Falcons Volleyball game against UW-La Crosse on Oct. 21 in Karges Center.



Tori Schneider/Student Voice

Falcons Volleyball Head Coach Patti Ford (left) presents Maggie Garvin (center) with gifts before the game. Garvin was joined on the court by her husband Joe and daughters Shannon and Samantha. Samantha is a sophomore right side hitter on the team.

### UWRF football win ties team for second in WIAC

Zach Dwyer

zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The Falcons put together one of their best offensive performances in years this past Saturday, beating UW-Stout 54-48 in a shootout.

With most of the praise going to the defense so far this season, the Falcons' rushing and passing attack stepped up to a level that the UW-Stout Blue Devils just couldn't handle.

When it was all said and done, UWRF had accounted for an incredible 548 yards on the day. It was also an extremely balanced attack on offense, with 277 yards coming through the air and 271 coming on the ground.

"We had more big and explosive plays than usual on Saturday. Our receivers made a lot of difficult plays and our running backs turned small runs into big plays. And quarterback Ryan Kusilek was definitely a dual threat on the afternoon, which brought everything together," Coach Matt Walker said.

But before the offense could start their dominance against the Blue Devil defense on Saturday, the Falcons' special teams stepped up huge like they have all year long. After the UWRF defense forced an early UW-Stout three and out, the Falcons blocked a punt that Junior Kyle Semann recovered in the end zone to put the Falcons up 6-0. That touchdown was Semann's third touchdown of the season on special teams.

The Blue Devils didn't take long to respond to the disappointing start, taking the ball 60 yards in under three

minutes. The drive was capped by a big 35-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Hank Kujak to wide receiver Brian Alvarez to put UW-Stout up 7-6 midway through the first

The Falcons responded as well, mixing runs from quarterback Ryan Kusilek and running back Rance Ashley to move the ball all the way down to the Stout four-yard line before the drive stalled. The Falcons then showed a bit of trickery when holder Tony Denn faked the field goal and ran it in for the touchdown to put River Falls up 13-7.

"The fake field goal set the tone right away and showed we were going to be in attack mode and play aggressively all day. It really gave us the momentum and was a catalyst for our offense," Walker said.

UW-Stout next began to throw the ball all over the field at will. After two successful drives in the middle of the second quarter, Stout suddenly found itself up 21-13 and quarterback Hank Kujak already had three passing touchdowns on the day.

River Falls just wouldn't go away though, stringing together three big drives in the closing minutes of the first half. Highlighted by a 60-yard rushing touchdown by Rance Ashley and a 36-yard touchdown hookup between Kusilek and wide receiver Matt Woller, the Falcon's found themselves in the driver's seat going into the break.

The 34-21 halftime lead was quickly cut down by a UW-Stout rushing touchdown, but River Falls controlled possession the rest of the way. The Falcons held the ball twice as long as the Blue Devils on Saturday and also converted on

twice as many third downs.

Coach Walker said, "It's always a key for us to not turn over the ball a lot, and coming into this game we knew the recipe to win was to control the ball. We're a grind-the-clock kind of team".

The Falcons continued to get big plays out of their offense, including an impressive 32-yard rushing touchdown by Michael Diggins and a difficult 42-yard receiving touchdown by wide receiver Nicholas Studer. Rance Ashley added a one-yard plunge to put the game out of reach at 54-35.

The Blue Devils added a few touchdowns in the closing minutes, but the Falcons managed the ball and came out victors by a final score of 54-48.

That brings the Falcons to 3-1 in the conference and tied for second place with UW-Whitewater. UWRF is extremely pleased with the position they're in, going into facing the number five team in the nation UW-Oshkosh.

"It's an extremely exciting challenge to be able to go into November and control your own destiny. We're finally in the position we all thought we could be to achieve our goals that we set in the offseason. Now we can go out and help decide who will be the leader of the conference," Walker said.

The next step is taking down a talented 6-1 overall Oshkosh team that has been very dominant in WIAC play so far. The Falcons travel to UW-Oshkosh on Halloween to play the Titans on their home field. Kickoff for the game is 2 p.m.

## Chancellor's Awards honors UWRF staff members



Tori Schneider/Student Voice Michael Martin, from the College of Education and Professional Studies, recieves the Chancellor's Award for Excellence for Academic Staff.



Tori Schneider/Student Voice Animal science professor Gary Onan earned the award for Distinguished Teacher of the Year.

### Falcon band holds first fall performance: Coming of Winter







Tori Schneider/Student Voice

UWRF's Falcon Band, the campus' jazz and rock ensemble, performed in the Abbott Concert Hall of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building Thursday, Oct. 22. Saxophone players Robert Bauer (bottom left) and Ariel Kramer (bottom right) were among the performers in the concert.

# Alt. rocker Craig Finn attracts diverse audience

Matthew Clark

Reviewer

On Saturday night, I had the pleasure to attend one of the two homecoming shows for Craig Finn, the front man for the famed rock band The Hold Steady. Finn is on a solo tour supporting his second solo album, Faith In The Future. The first stop of his weekend stay was at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, located in the Loring Park neighborhood, which is known for its upscale living and devotion

Being my first time at the Woman's Club, I was intrigued to see how the venue compared to the other, more famous venues in town such as First Avenue. When I first arrived, I was confused and convinced that I was at the wrong place. A doorman was placed at the front entrance and greeted guests clad in lavish attire. Surely this is not the audience that a rock and roller who sings about being hung over would attract. I was quickly informed that this side of the building was being used for a wedding and that I would have to walk to an entrance located on the other side. Arriving at the other entrance, I found myself surrounded by horn rimmed glasses and peacoats, which assured me that I was indeed at the right place. The theater itself was cozy and felt more like a high school auditorium than a rock club. The website claimed a capacity of 650 but the intimacy of the room made it feel even smaller. Bypassing the overpriced T-shirts, I found my seat, ready to take on Finn's performance.

Saturday's show seemed to attract every type of Finn fan from the salt of the earth working folk to the white-collar socialites.

As I settled in, others started to slowly seep in. The music of Craig Finn and Hold The Steady tracts a wide range music predicting

the audience of any given show can be tough. Saturday's show seemed to attract almost every type of Finn fan from the salt of the earth working folk to the white-collar socialites. Surprisingly, the audience members ranged from high school seniors to possible AARP members. The attire of the audience ranged from the honest apparel of Jacklyn Smith

to the elegant sootiness of the top designers at Saks Fifth Avenue. I like to think that my outfit of Old Navy and The Gap helped bridge the "gap" between the two parties. As expected at any show in which an alternative rock band is playing, I was treated to the sounds of conversations that featured lines such as "Hey, what time is your flight to Seattle on Tuesday?" and "I just don't have time for commercial films. I just don't think films should make money." For some reason, a large portion of the crowd seemed familiar to me and it puzzled me throughout the night. Why did everyone look and feel so familiar to me? Have I seen so many shows now that ing with Portland singer/songwriter Esmé Patterson, originally from the Denver folk band Paper Bird. I will admit, like most of the audience, I was not well versed in the work of Patterson or Paper Bird but after her 45 minute set, you can now call me a fan. With a voice that lays somewhere between Tristen Gaspadarek and Zooey Deschanel, Patterson brought her own mix of folky rock and roll to the well receiving crowd. Most of her set was made up of songs from her upcoming album and current release Woman to Woman, which is a concept album of songs written as responses to famous songs about women. With a telecaster strapped on, Patterson blast-



Matt Clark/Student Voice

Craig Finn (left, foreground), guitarist Arun Bali (right, foreground) and drummer Falcon Valdez (background) preform at the Women's Club in Minneapolis.



I've sat next to all of these people at one point or another? This puzzling feeling continued until well into Finn's set when I realized that it's not that I've physically seen each audience member, instead I had been introduced to them through Finn's songs. Many of the audience members represented the reoccurring characters in Finn's stories: the aging hipster, the bartender, the bartender's friend, the Midwest pixie dream girl, and the heartbroken college kid looking for "the one."

The show began promptly at 8 p.m.; start-

ed through each song with a confidence rarely seen by opening performers. I fully expect to see more of her in the future.

The main event of the night, Craig Finn, came out to a rousing applause from the homtown crowd. Opening with the slow burner, "Christine" from his latest record, Finn found his groove quickly and took a tight control of the audience. Without addressing the crowd, Finn quickly switched to the first single from the new record "Maggie, I'm Still Searching For Our Son." The song, which finds Finn

reflecting on several national incidents including mass shootings and the Waco siege. attempts to find a positive outlook in a time

of such grim, every day occurrences. Live, the song blasted through the theater and featured Finn's classic mannerisms that look like a panic attack crossed with a seizure. Finn transformed the fan favorite "Jackson," from a bluesy psychedelic number into a full fledged rock song with Finn shouting the refrain "why you asking about Jackson?"

This puzzling feeling continued until well into Finn's set when I realized that it's not that I've physically seen each audience member. instead I had been introduced to them through Finn's songs.

The story behind the lyrics of "Jackson" introduced Finn's classic style of songwriting, which features stories about drinking, heartbreak, bad decisions, and spending too much time inside of a bar. Before launching into the dangerously rocking "Newmyer's Roof," Finn gave an interesting background to the song, discussing being in New York City on 9/11 and staying positive in times of despair. Finn added that his significant other was in one of the towers when the first plane hit and walked down 32 flights of stairs to the ground floor. The rest of the night was filled up with other cuts from the new album and "Mission Veijo," one of the first songs Finn ever recorded with his former band Lifter Puller.

There's something you get a Craig Finn related show that you'd be hard pressed to find at other shows. When Finn is on stage, he is there to have a good time and focus only on the music. Finn is not interested in the party tricks that other bands offer; he is only interested in telling his wild and crazy stories. But with Finn, you also get the feeling of a humble man who on any other day, could be the man sitting next to you at the neighborhood bar. It's the personable and dorky charm that Finn offers that keeps audiences of all kinds coming back.

Matt Clark is a junior journalism student. On campus he is an active DJ at WRFW as well as the circulation manager for the Student Voice. In his free time, Matt is an active guitarist, playing in succesful rock bands in the midwest.

### Wednesday blues healed by nifty spinning office chair

Trevor Hoglund

Columnist

The UW-River Falls campus classrooms are sprinkled with a wide

assortment of differing sorts of chairs. Many classes have those odd plastic one with the slits in the back, which are probably there to help it flex? Whatever. Sometimes those have

I love my chair. It is a god among men, is what it is. A chair to behold. The pinnacle of seating arrangements.

those pointless little desk attachment things on which you can fit maybe a third of a math textbook. In the Student Voice office though, there

are the classic office chairs. You know, the puffy padded ones that roll around and spin and stuff? Yes, those. They all share some major flaws. Mostly related to the wheels. God, do those wheels get scratchy. Making it obnoxious and difficult to roll around the room, it's like all of the chairs just decided they didn't want life to be easy for anybody trying to sit in them.

Except my chair. I love my chair. It is a god among men, is what it is. A chair to behold. The pinnacle of seating arrangements. It's not particularly comfortable, just another office chair, but that is not what makes it so inherently better than all the other chairs I've sat in on campus. The wheels, they aren't scratchy. Need to throw something away? Just roll over. Need to see something on another table? Roll to it. Bored and just messing about? Roll around, the world is your oyster.

As I write this I am not sitting in that chair, merely reminiscing about the good times it and I had together not long ago... like three hours at most. The chair I am currently in is not nearly as good of a chair. The welding

between the seat and its stand is partially broken and as such produces an annoying screech whenever I reposition myself on it. The back has a part broken off that would normally keep it straight, but instead it just sort of flips around as it pleases. This chair is not an optimal chair. But this chair is the one I have in my room, the one from which I do most of my work.

I wonder how this chair would feel if it knew I had such strong feelings for another chair. Would it be sad to know that I despise it and dream of my life together with another chair whilst sitting atop it? Would it be lonely to think of the fun I am having with other chairs while I'm away? In the case that it does know, and that it is angry with me for being so adulterous with my chairs, I would like to point out that it brought this upon

itself. It really is dissatisfying to sit in this one here - the screeching, the moaning, the constant shifting, the inability to return to a position previously held in it – all making it quite troublesome

I yearn for my chair in the **Student Voice** office. It does not yell when sat on, it does not scratch when it rolls.

to work on my website. It really is not a good chair.

As such, I yearn for my chair in the Student Voice office. It does not yell when sat on, it does not scratch when it rolls. It is a decent chair, and it deserves all praise it is given. Though now that I have bragged about my chair so, I feel as if it will be necessary to protect my claim to that chair. Many others may seek the comforts it provides, but they must know that it is my chair, and no other's. I quite love that chair.

Trevor is a sophomore at UWRF majoring in physics and computer science.

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