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STUDENT VOICE

University of Wisconsin River Falls

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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 LeMahieu, 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.

"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 it.

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.

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."

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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 absent-mindedly 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 stereotypes 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!

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

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Procrastination can be avoided

Melanie Meyers

Columnist

Procrastination is not a one-time 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 postponing 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 all-nighters 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 procrastina-

tion. 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 utlization.

- 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 yourself.

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 Clinton. 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 have.

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 on it.

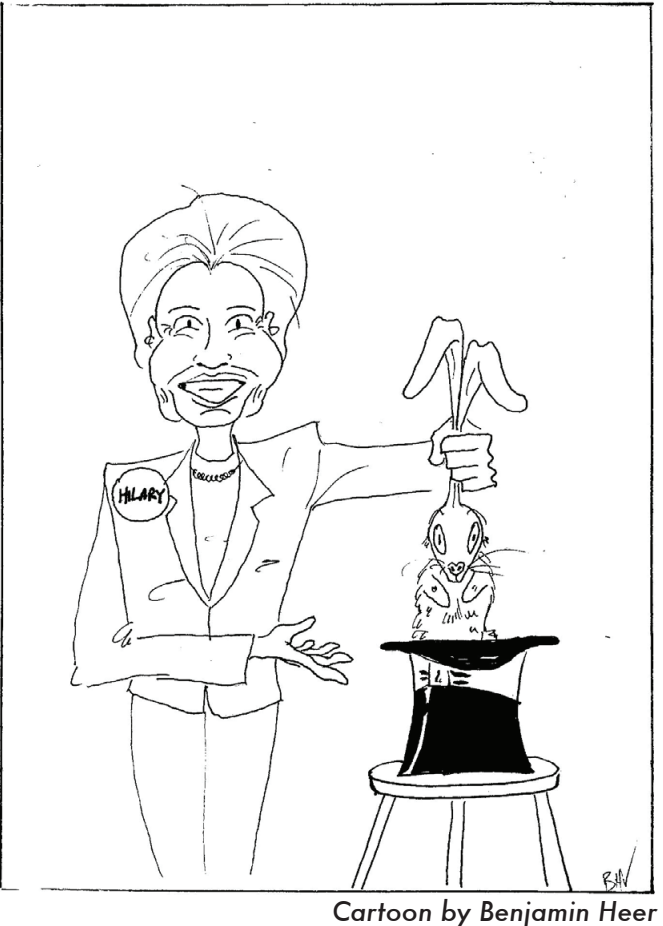
Going back to the Benghazi Research Center’s website, where crucial information for all to easily understand can be found, lets any curious minds know that out of all the investigations started there have been “0 investigations that have found any administration wrongdoing...[or] evidence of an intelligence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

With money still being leeches 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 Caption Contest

Visit the Student Voice’s Facebook page at facebook.com/Uwrfstudentvoice and leave a comment with your best caption!

The winning caption will appear in next week’s issue.



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

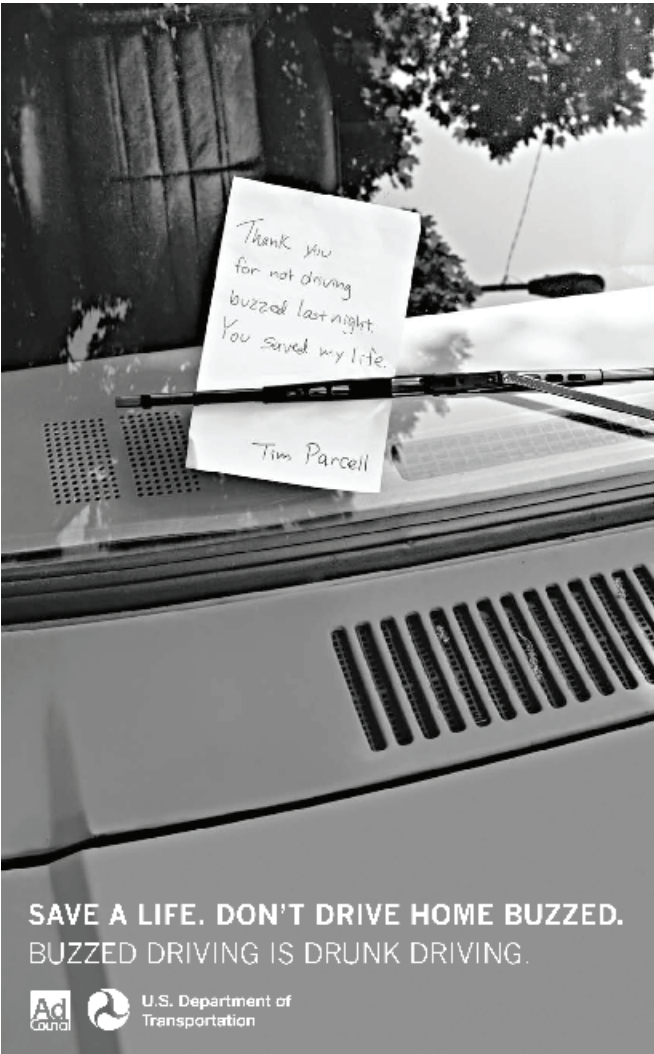
“I’m wearing a unicorn mask.”

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

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Now Playing: Woodlawn



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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.

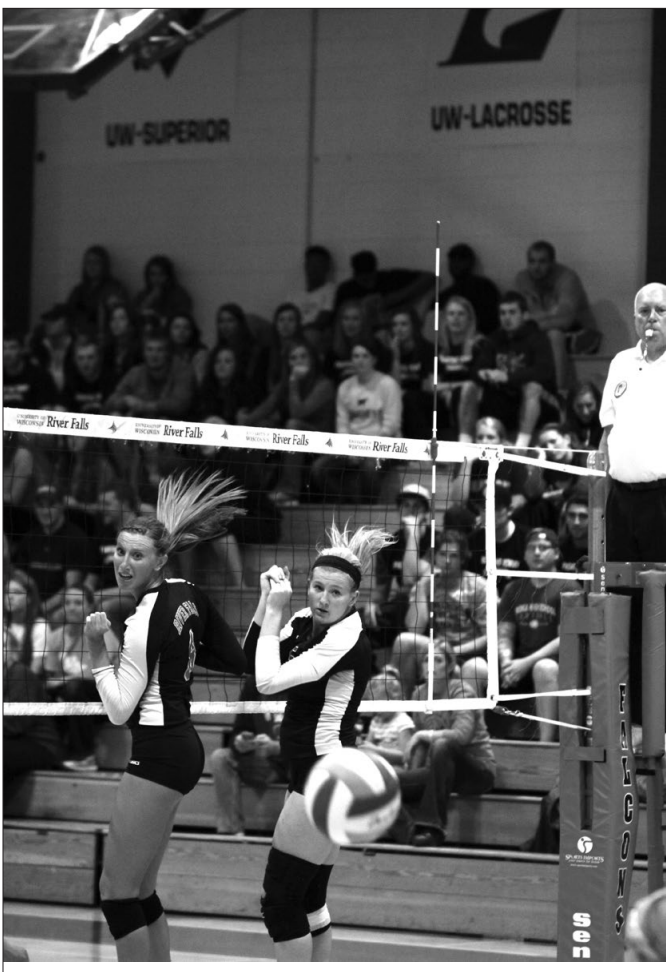
According to head Coach Patti Ford, it was important to focus on the Garvin family.

“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.”

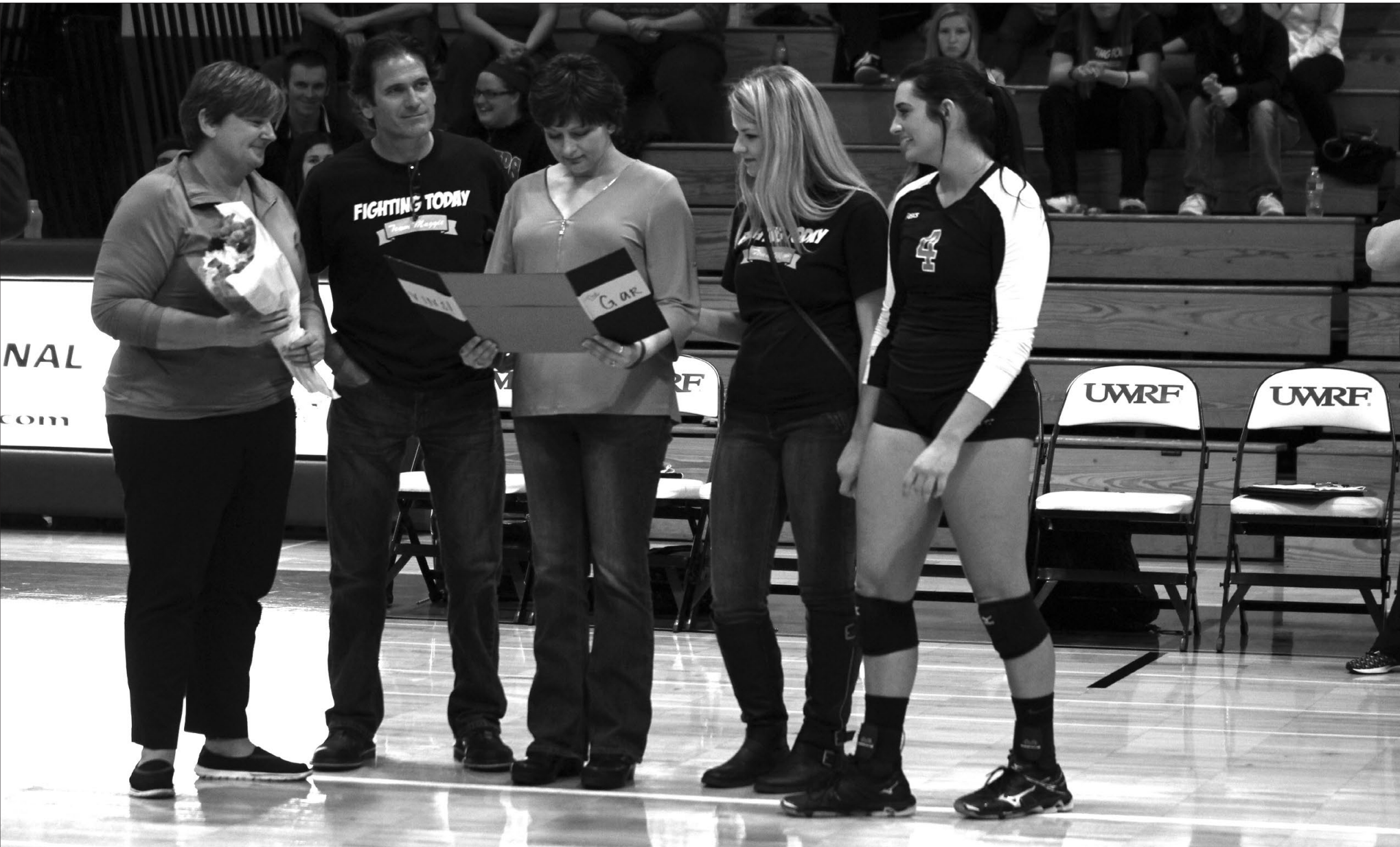
To raise money the team sold T-shirts, bracelets, held a silent auction, and collected donations. But instead of the money benefiting the Garvin family, they decided all proceeds were to go to bile duct cancer research in the hopes that someone would be the first to make it past the five year mark.

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 quarter.

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.

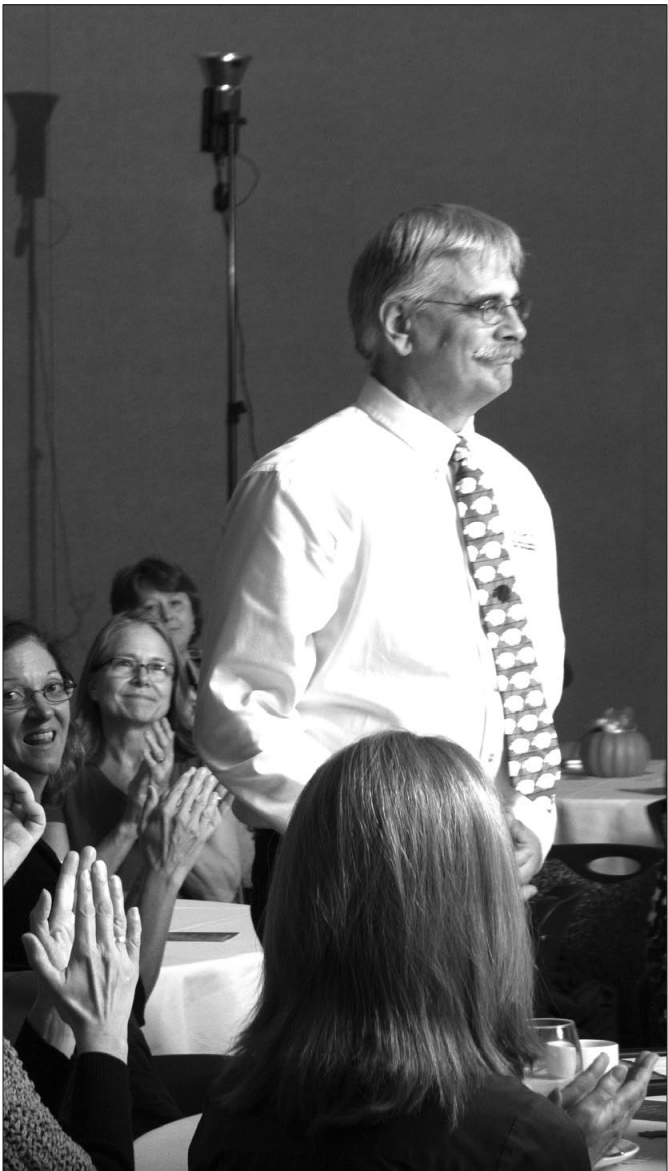
“It’s an extremely exciting challenge to be able to go into November and control your own destiny. We’re finally in the position we all thought we could be to achieve our goals that we set in the offseason. Now we can go out and help decide who will be the leader of the conference,” Walker said.

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, recieved 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 to the arts.

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 pea-coats, 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 The Hold Steady attracts a wide range music lovers and 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-

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.



Matt Clark/Student Voice
Craig Finn (left, foreground), guitarist Arun Bali (right, foreground) and drummer Falcon Valdez (background) perform 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 hometown 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

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 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

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

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 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.

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

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

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