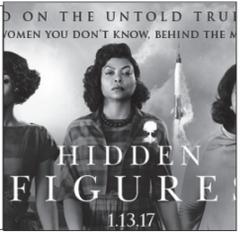




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'Hidden Figures' is a riveting tale of civil rights



# STUDENT VOICE

University of Wisconsin River Falls

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## Student researchers find littering a problem on campus

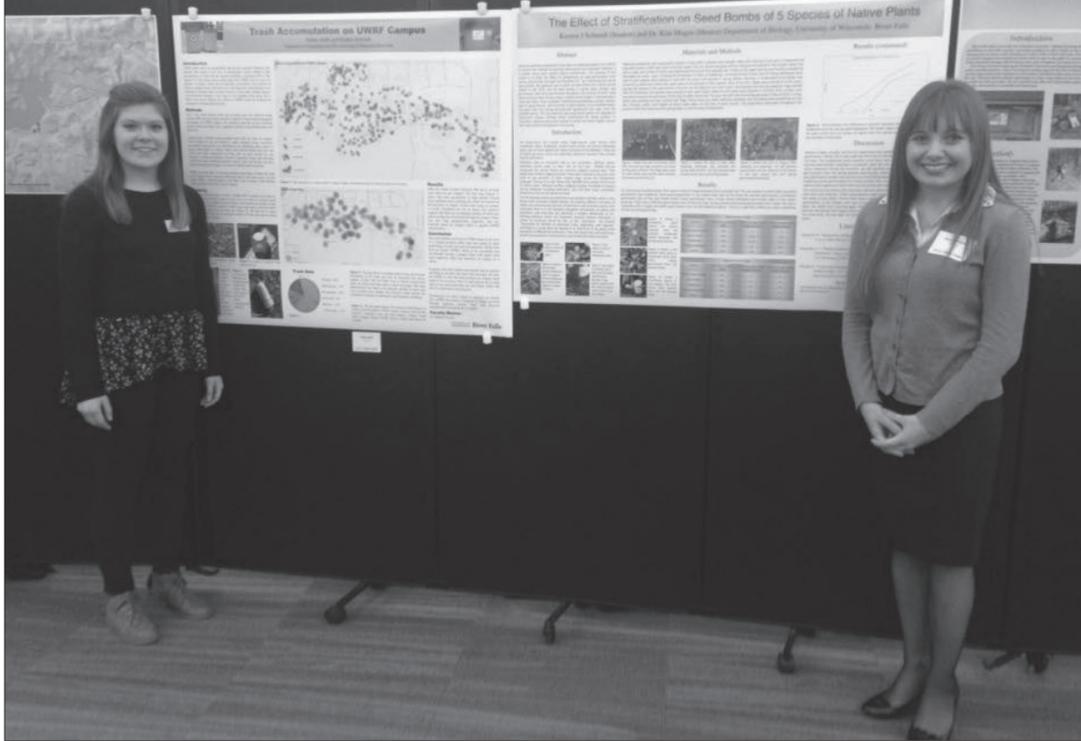


Photo courtesy of Kirsten Schmidt  
**UWRF students Kalley Swift (left) and Kirsten Schmidt (right) display their research detailing the distribution of trash relative to trash receptacles on campus at the URSCA Fall Gala in December 2016.**

Sophia Koch  
Falcon News Service

A research project conducted by two students shows that, despite its reputation as a sustainable university, UW-River Falls has a problem with littering that may be ingrained in campus culture.

"Our original plan was just to see where the trash was located on campus, and then compare it to where, like, the trash can locations were, and to see if we had adequate trash cans," said Kalley Swift, one of the two student researchers.

Swift is a junior history and geography double major with minors in geographic information science (GIS) and cartography. Kirsten Schmidt is the other researcher and is a senior field biology major with a GIS minor. The project was part of the requirements

for the class Field Methods and Global Positioning System (Geography 366), which they took under Assistant Professor Matt Dooley from the Geography and GIS Department.

"I didn't think there was gonna be enough data," said Dooley, who also served as the faculty mentor for the project. "I didn't think there was much trash on campus because it's picked up. They went ahead and proved me wrong, big time."

The original project was largely a fact-gathering process, and involved Swift and Schmidt walking around campus to collect pieces of trash. According to a poster they presented at the URSCA (Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity) Fall Gala in December, in two weeks they found more than 800 pieces of trash and recyclables that ranged from coffee cups and candy wrappers to cigarettes

and alcohol bottles.

"I found, like, a broken bong, once," said Schmidt. "That was kind of gross."

With every item, they would mark and save the location coordinates using a GPS receiver, and upload those locations to a map. On their poster, they created two separate maps: a heat map that shows the concentrations of garbage as orange and red splotches, and a spatial analysis map that represents each trash item and each trash receptacle on campus as a single dot. In order to assess whether each trash item could have made it into a nearby trash or recycling bin, Schmidt and Swift assigned each receptacle a "buffer zone" of 100 feet, and marked these zones on the spatial analysis map as blue circles that surround the bins.

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## Walker budget proposal could mean trouble for student organizations

Natalie Howell  
natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu

A budget proposal by Gov. Scott Walker to reinvest in the UW System has been receiving mixed reactions concerning several different proposed policies.

On Tuesday, Walker announced a reinvestment of the state government in the UW System, proposing a budget increase of more than \$100 million, as well as a list of policies focused toward college affordability and building up the Wisconsin workforce through higher education. The full 2017-2019 Executive Budget was then presented to the Wisconsin Legislature on Wednesday.

"The UW System plays a key role in developing our future workforce," said Walker in a press release. "Our investment today ensures student success by making college even more affordable, providing greater opportunities for students to earn their degree, and helping to bridge the gap between higher education and our workforce. We want our students to fuel the growth of our economy."

In his budget proposal, Walker laid out plans to make higher education more affordable for students, including cutting tuition for resident undergraduate students by five percent, which, according to the press release, would save students an average of \$360 per year.

In order to make up for the tuition cut, there will also be a General Purpose Revenue (GPR) increase of \$35 million in the UW System's block grant.

Other policies laid out in Walker's budget proposal include doubling the number of core credits that transfer between the institutions in the Wisconsin Technical College System and the UW System, financially rewarding universities and colleges in the UW System on performance-based criteria and requiring students to have an internship or work experience before graduating.

The budget proposal has received support from many officials within the UW System, with UW System President Ray Cross and Board of Regents President Regina Millner releasing statements recognizing the need of the state government to reinvest in the UW System.

Continued on Page 3

## TEDx not to be held at UWRF this year, likely to return

Katie Galarno  
katie.galarno@my.uwrf.edu

Despite two years of positive feedback, a TEDx event will not be held at UW-River Falls this year.

TEDxUWRiverFalls, associated with the nonprofit TED (Technology, Education and Design), featured speakers including UWRF alumni and current students sharing their stories.

In order for the event to be branded a TEDx event, a university employee needs to be approved for a license through TED. In September, Paul Shepherd, the former director of Student Involvement, left UWRF for a job with the Minnesota State System office. When he left, he took the university's TEDx license and the rights to hold the events with him.

Assistant Director of Student Involvement Karyn Wells said that, because the event was such a large undertaking for the office, it made sense to hit the pause button this year.

"When [Shepherd] left, it was pretty sudden, and our budget and operations person left like the same week, too," Wells said. "There was so much turnover and just survival mode."

Another concern regarding the event is financial. TED regulations say that the event's speakers cannot be paid. Instead, they receive professional-quality videos of their speeches as official TED Talks in exchange for speaking. Wells said that this complicates the situation.

"[It's] really, really cool in theory, because then they're doing it for the right reasons," Wells said. "But, because you're not paying them, you need to make sure that you're producing a very professional video afterwards."

Wells said that UWRF cannot afford to produce such professional-quality videos, which means that the university has to contract the job out to someone else. This can cost around \$10,000.

Although Wells said that the event received positive feedback from most attendees both years, the turnout was not as strong as she had hoped, with just 88 students attending the 2016 TEDx event. However, Wells said that attendance is not the only thing the office considers when it comes to best using students' segregated fees.



Natalie Howell/Student Voice  
**Cathy Wurzer, host of MPR's Morning Edition and UWRF alumna, talks about her experience of telling the story of a terminally ill man and learning the power of love in everyday life in her talk "Prescriptions for Living (Take as Directed from the Dying)," at the TEDxUWRiverFalls event during the spring 2016 semester.**

"We definitely don't determine the success of something based solely on the numbers, because for those 88 students, for all we know it could have been life-changing," Wells said.

Student Senate President Chris Morgan said that he thinks it is very important for institutions of higher education to host events like TEDx.

"I just know that our campus has so many unique stories to share, and that provides such a great platform to share those stories from," Morgan said.

Having that powerful in-person experience is something that Wells said can be priceless for students.

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# News Briefs: UW-River Falls Dance Theatre to present annual spring concert

The UW-River Falls Dance Theatre will present its annual spring concert Feb. 15-18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Blanche Davis Theatre of the Kleinpell Fine Arts building.

Dance Theatre, a modern dance company, has brought an artistic dance program to students who love to dance for over 30 years. Dance Theatre strives to provide rich dance experiences and performances to River Falls and the surrounding communities.

The 2017 concert features the work of numerous UWRF Dance Theatre Alumni, current students, faculty and professionals. The evening will consist of diverse dance forms from contemporary, modern, hip-hop and jazz.

Dance Theatre alumni Rana Kuebker and Allison Kocak collaboratively created a dance, "Waste Not, Want Not," that explores, with great comedy and whimsy, our disposable society and the necessity of minimizing our carbon footprint in a light hearted display that will have all ages chuckling.

"Driven by Desire," choreographed by Danielle Ricci, utilizes childlike curiosity, allowing our questions to follow us. This piece balances powerful movement that is based in the modern dance aesthetic tradition, with beautiful avant-garde compositional and visual elements.

"Aspiring," choreographed by Dance Theatre Director Mari Kline-Kluck, will be adjudicated at the American College Dance Association Conference shortly after the spring concert concludes. The piece represents the journey taken to acquire insight of one's own character and values.

The male dancers of Dance Theatre have teamed up to create "J'ai besoin de café." This humorous piece combines quirky movement with athletic outbursts of virtuosic spectacle.

Gaelic movement, language and poetry inspired the full company piece titled "Níl Sa Saol Seo Ach Ceo" that evolves from unadulterated to exuberant movement sequences highlighted by the large cast of dancers. Movement unfolds in patterns like a kaleidoscope of dancers on stage.

The annual spring concert is open to the public and is appropriate for all ages and backgrounds. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors aged 60 and up, \$5 for students and children and free for UWRF students with a valid student ID.

Tickets can be purchased at the University Theatre Box Office in Kleinpell Fine Arts Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and from 6:30-7:15 p.m. on performance nights, by phone at 715-425-3114 or online at <http://marketplace.uwrf.edu/collections/dance-theatre>.

For more information, call Mari Kline-Kluck at 715-425-0743 or email [mari.kline@uwrf.edu](mailto:mari.kline@uwrf.edu).

## UWRF to host discussion on fake news and democracy

UW-River Falls is hosting a panel discussion, "The Effect of Fake News on Democracy," Thursday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. in the North Hall auditorium. The discussion is part of the Communication & Media Studies Department's Working Journalists Lecture Series.

Free and open to the public, the discussion features UWRF faculty: Grace Coggio, assistant professor in Communication Studies; Neil Kraus, professor and chair of the Political Science Department and the International Studies Program; and Andris Straumanis, associate professor in Journalism.

Coggio teaches courses in organizational leadership, intercultural, technical and small group communication. Her research interests include technology and communication, innovation diffusion across cultures and intercultural communication via collaborative technologies (i.e. global virtual teams).

Kraus teaches courses on American politics and policy. He is the author of two books and several articles and book chapters on urban politics and policies and related subjects.

Straumanis teaches courses in reporting and news writing, media history and online journalism. His research interests focus on the history of immigrant and ethnic media.

For more information, call 715-425-3169 or email [journalism@uwrf.edu](mailto:journalism@uwrf.edu). The event is sponsored by the Communication & Media Studies and Political Science departments at UWRF.

## 8th annual Bowls for Hope set for March 7

Each March, UW-River Falls works with the community to raise funds through the Bowls for Hope event where proceeds raised help a worthy organization make a difference in the St. Croix Valley. This year, the Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County – Moolah for Milk program has been selected as the benefiting organization.

The 2017 Bowls for Hope event is Tuesday, March 7, from 5-7 p.m. in the Riverview Ballroom of the University Center at UWRF. Tickets are now on sale.

For an entrance fee of \$25 for adults and \$5 for children aged 12 and under, participants at the event may select and keep a bowl created in ceramic, pottery, fibers, wood and glass studio 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. Guests have the opportunity to vote for their favorite soup. A Chefs' Choice Award will also be awarded to the soup favored by the chefs participating in the event.

"The Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County – Moolah for Milk program is honored and excited to be chosen as the 2017 charity recipient of the Bowls for Hope event," said Jeff Bealles, coordinator of the Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County.

The Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing hunger and inadequate nutrition in Pierce County through service, education, communication and coordination. Moolah for Milk annually provides thousands of milk coupons, redeemable for a free gallon of milk from area grocery stores, to individuals and families in need throughout Pierce and St. Croix Counties. Free milk coupons are distributed to clients in area food pantries and are also included in school backpack programs.

"Fresh dairy is a vital source of vitamins and nutrients, and an ingredient in many recipes. It's a high priority for our pantries to make it available to everyone and the Bowls for Hope funding will go a long way to ensuring this. We're very appreciative," Bealles said.

For more information on the Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce County – Moolah for Milk program, visit <http://www.hungerpreventioncouncil.com>.

Participating restaurants are Belle Vinez, Bo's 'N Mine, Copper Kettle, Dish and the Spoon Café, Kilkarney Hills, Perkins Family Restaurant & Bakery, River Falls Area Hospital Dining Services, Kinni View Deli at Riverwalk Square, South Fork Café, UWRF Chartwells Dining Services, West Wind Supper Club and Whole Earth Grocery.

Artists contributing bowls are Marilyn Anderson, Donna Badje, Ingrid Bjerstedt-Rogers, Katie Burce, Roger Evans, Cathi Herriman, Jay Jensen, Randy Johnston, Jennifer King, Michael Luethmers, Pat McCardle, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Wendy Olson, Doug Peterson, S.C. Rolf, Scott Zeinert, Rhonda Willers and her ceramic classes at UWRF, Eoin Breadon's glass studio classes at UWRF, Renaissance Academy classes taught by Anne Buchholz and Kyle Stapleton, River Falls High School pottery classes taught by Gina Pedriana-Basche and Kelyn King's class at Meyer Middle School.

Nan Jordahl will provide live piano music throughout the evening.

Tickets can be purchased at the River Falls Chamber of Commerce, 215 West Maple St.; at the UWRF Chancellor's Office, 116 North Hall; and at the Information Desk in the University Center. For questions about advance ticket sales, call 715-425-3201. Tickets will also be available at the door. Purchasing tickets in advance, however, will guarantee a bowl.

For more information, visit [www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope](http://www.uwrf.edu/bowlsforhope) or email [mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu](mailto:mary.vangalen@uwrf.edu).

## UWRF workshop for Montessori educators to be held at library

Educators in public or private Montessori schools can gain professional knowledge and skills in a new workshop offered by UW-River Falls.

The workshop, "Visual Literacy: Creating Context for Students to Express What They See," will be offered Friday, Feb. 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the lower level of the River Falls Public Library. Cindy Goldade, a Montessori early childhood credentialed educator and licensed Brain Gym Instructor, will present the workshop.

"In this participatory workshop, learn how to develop visual observation skills in your students and how to encourage respectful expression of what is seen," said Linda Jacobson, program manager, UWRF Outreach and Continuing Education. "Participants will discover how to cultivate a willingness to present ideas, ask questions, rephrase and think critically in their classroom community."

According to Goldade, Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), upon which this workshop is based, were originally developed as an art appreciation tool but have been shown to have a cascading positive effect on both teachers and students. Applying these strategies in the classroom helps students develop critical thinking skills that transfer to many subject areas from group discussion to individual writing, she said.

Advance registration is required and is available online at [go.uwrf.edu/Montessori](http://go.uwrf.edu/Montessori). Fees for this workshop range from \$39 to \$79 with discounts available for early registrations and group registrations of five or more participants. The fee includes instruction, lunch, materials and five professional development hours. Parking is free. Participants who are

interested in earning graduate credits with additional tuition and coursework outside of the workshop should contact Jacobson at 715-425-3190 or email [linda.r.jacobson@uwrf.edu](mailto:linda.r.jacobson@uwrf.edu).

UWRF provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable. A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at [www.uwrf.edu/ContinuingEducation/or](http://www.uwrf.edu/ContinuingEducation/or) may be obtained by calling 715-425-3256, 1-800-228-5607 or sending an email to [outreach@uwrf.edu](mailto:outreach@uwrf.edu).

## Student Senate Update: Feb. 7

Three senatorial appointees were confirmed at the Feb. 7 Student Senate meeting:

**College of Business and Economics:** Jake Jin was confirmed at the CBE senator.

**College of Education and Professional Studies:** Cassandra McGuire was confirmed as the CEPS senator.

**At-Large:** Chris Jurewitsch was confirmed as an at-large senator.

One executive branch position was confirmed:  
**External Relations Director:** Austin Smith was confirmed as the new external relations director.

Three motions were discussed:  
**It's On Us Midwest Summit Funding Appropriation:** A motion to allocate \$9,000 from the Student Senate funding pool for the purposes of holding a Midwest It's On Us summit.

- Passed: 9 in favor, 3 against, 2 abstained.

**Allocation of Funds for Hump Day Cafe:** A motion to allocate \$5,000 from the Student Senate funding pool for the Hump Day Cafe to be held every Monday and Wednesday.

- Passed.

**AFAB Bylaws Revision:** A motion to add a sunset clause to the AFAB bylaws altering the single event funding pool, specifically regarding how much student organizations can request and what happens to unused organized activity fee funds.

- Passed.

*The information in this update comes from the weekly Student Senate meetings and the minutes posted to the Student Government Association FalconSync page. Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.*

## Campus Events Calendar:

- **University Center Lunch Bingo**  
**Friday, Feb. 10, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Pete's Creek, University Center**
- **UWRF Self Defense Seminar**  
**Saturday, Feb. 11, 12:30-2:30 p.m.**  
**Riverview Ballroom, University Center**
- **Snowshoe Day Trip**  
**Saturday, Feb. 11, 1-4 p.m.**  
**Falcon Outdoor Adventures/Kinni Trails**
- **Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner and Dance**  
**Saturday, Feb. 11, 6-10 p.m.**  
**River Falls Moose Lodge**
- **Delete Blood Cancer - Cheek Swabbing**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Falcon's Nest, University Center**
- **Valentine's Day Swing Dance**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 14, 7-10 p.m.**  
**University Center**
- **Dance Theatre Spring Concert**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 15 - Saturday, Feb. 18**  
**7:30-9:30 p.m.**  
**Blanche Davis Theatre, Kleinpell Fine Arts**

**Visit [uwrf.edu](http://uwrf.edu) for a full schedule of events**

### Weekly UWRF Crime Report

#### Friday, Feb. 3

- Disorderly conduct was reported at Ames Suites at 2:09 a.m.
- Computer ID theft was reported at McMillan Hall at 6 p.m.

#### Saturday, Feb. 4

- An underage alcohol complaint was reported in Parker Hall at 1:09 a.m.
- A drug complaint was reported in McMillan Hall at 5:36 p.m.

#### Monday, Feb. 6

- A harassment complaint was reported at the Regional Development Institute at 1:24 a.m.

#### Editor's Note:

Information for this section is taken from the UW-River Falls Police Department incident reports.

## Student researchers find littering a problem on campus

Continued from Page 1

“We originally chose 50-foot buffer zones,” said Swift, “but when we went out and tested the walking distance at a trash can we realized that 50 feet would be too constricting and people should be capable of walking more than that to throw away their trash. We also measured out 75-foot, 125-foot and 150-foot buffer zones before determining that a 100-foot buffer zone was the most adequate.”

According to the maps, almost anywhere a person goes on campus they will be within roughly 100 feet of a trash or recycling bin. What this shows, Swift said, is that the litter they found is not the result of a lack of receptacles. Rather, it is more of a cultural problem.

“I think in general, we’re more of kind of like a ‘throw away’ culture. If something doesn’t work anymore, it’s like, ‘Oh, well, I’m gonna just throw it out and get a new one,’” said Swift. “Even if you see a trash can, you don’t want to put that effort in, even to walk that hundred feet.”

A study by Keep America Beautiful in 2009 shows results similar to what Schmidt and Swift found. After making observations at 130 locations across the United States (118 of which had at least one trash receptacle in the area), the study recorded that out of almost 2,000 instances of garbage disposal, 17 percent resulted in littering.

This attitude, Schmidt said, may have a lot to do with litterers not fully understanding the impacts of their actions: “I think, being a field biology major, I’ve taken a lot of environmental science classes, so I’ve seen what happens when, like, birds pick up the trash and put it in their nests... So I think if, maybe, certain majors don’t get that, so they don’t understand what happens with the trash.”

Schmidt and Swift will be continuing work on their project as they prepare for the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, which will be held in April in Memphis, Tennessee. They plan to expand their research into the cultural aspect of littering, and to compare their results at UWRF to other campuses, other times of the year and different types of locations such as parks and residential areas.

## TEDx not to be held at UW-River Falls this year

Continued from Page 1

“It’s different than watching a TED Talk online, when you’re there and you live it,” Wells said. “It can be funny and interesting and uplifting and sad and the whole range of emotions.”

Wells said that she would like to hear from students who attended the events, but she would also like to know why students chose not to attend. For her, a major concern is making sure that feedback from students is utilized in order to create an event that will interest them.

“When we bring it back, we want to do it better than we ever have,” Wells said.

As far as what it will take to bring the event back, Wells said that the office is looking into it. One of the first orders of business will be to fill the director position for Student Involvement. Then, someone from UWRF will have to obtain a license to hold the event.

Student Senate has helped make the event a reality in the past, and Morgan said he is confident that could happen again.

“I can say that at least everyone I know in the student government would be very supportive of either providing funding to get it back or working with the administration to get someone certified that’s going to be here long term,” Morgan said.

According to TED’s website, over 1,500 TEDx events are coming up around the world. Just over 19,000 have been held in the past.

## UW-River Falls Student Senate appoints new vice president



Natalie Howell/Student Voice

**James VandenBergh was confirmed as the Student Senate vice president for the spring 2017 semester.**

Karina Clausen

karina.clausen@my.uwrf.edu

The UW-River Falls Student Senate found themselves needing to fill the position of vice president this semester after Halan Tran, the last vice president, left the position vacant.

In light of this new opening, Student Senate President Chris Morgan was in charge of appointing a new vice president, since elections for Senate positions only run in the fall. Morgan said that there was a good set of candidates, but of the four who applied, he appointed James VandenBergh for the position. This choice was later confirmed by the rest of the Senate before becoming official.

VandenBergh, however, is already familiar with the duties of vice president because he has held this position before. Being the vice president during the previous spring semester, he could have run again for his position in this past fall semester but became the external relations director instead. When asked why he decided to apply to become vice president again he said he values “any opportunity to make a greater impact on student lives.”

VandenBergh having had previous experience is one of the many reasons Morgan picked him for the position. Morgan said that VandenBergh has shown “reliability, hard work ethic and proven leadership” in the past. Morgan continued by saying that VandenBergh is a “hard worker, knows what’s right and is willing to work for it.”

Going forward, VandenBergh said he plans on continuing his work with the It’s On Us campaign that he worked on as external relations director. He also is hoping to create a new student organization or committee that would focus

on campus inclusivity and promoting diversity of different backgrounds and cultures. Morgan echoed this goal by saying he wanted his choice in vice president to be one that would “work to elevate tolerance.”

As vice president, VandenBergh will now be in charge of appointing students to fill empty seats within Student Senate, for the rest of Senate to confirm. VandenBergh said that “the vetting process can be difficult, you have to find out who just wants to build their resume and who wants to really make a difference.”

In addition to a new vice president, Student Senate has also decided to make the executive committee into an executive branch which can now veto Senate oversight. This gives the establishment a better checks and balances system since the president position had too much unchecked power before.

Due to this checks and balances relationship between student branches, an individual student cannot be in both the executive branch and Senate because they cannot vote twice. The exception to this rule is the president and vice president.

Morgan and VandenBergh agreed that the biggest issue they face on campus is student disengagement.

There are many positions currently open within student government. Though not all are voting positions, they are still very influential to the UWRF community and make sure different issues are heard and considered.

## Walker budget proposal, seen as reinvestment in UW System, could mean trouble for student organizations

Continued from Page 1

“We appreciate the governor’s investment in the UW System. As Regents, we have a strong responsibility to keep the UW System affordable and accessible for Wisconsin families while protecting the quality and excellence for which we are known the world over,” said Millner. “Our graduates contribute to thriving communities, a robust workforce, and globally competitive businesses. Wisconsin families, businesses, and communities are depending on the UW System to do what it has always done so well – meet the challenges of today and help prepare for the challenges of tomorrow.”

UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen, who attended the budget address in Madison on Wednesday, said that he is encouraged by the renewed commitment of Wisconsin leaders to the UW System.

“While there are details of the Governor’s proposal that will require further analysis, I am committed to working with our elected of-

ficials and other leaders during the state budget process to ensure the best possible outcome for the UW System and our campus,” said Van Galen.

One policy in the budget proposal that has caught the eye of UWRF students and the Student Senate is the proposed policy to allow students in the UW System to “opt-out” of paying allocable segregated fees, additional fees students pay that fund student activities and services.

At UWRF, allocable segregated fees cover the operating budgets of the student organizations, Student Media Committee (which funds the four student media organizations on campus), the Student Senate and programming and events through the Office of Student Involvement, including Finals Fest and Homecoming and Family Weekend.

According to the UWRF website, each student paid about \$50 in allocable segregated fees for the spring 2017 semester.

There are currently 140 student organizations on campus, according to Darren Ward, a graduate student intern for the Office of

Student Involvement. These student organizations vary from fraternities and sororities, identity-based and cultural, academic, performing arts, political, religious, social action and hobbies and social organizations.

It is still unclear, if the budget proposal passes, how exactly students will be able to “opt-out,” whether it will be in certain categories such as “student government,” that individual students can decide not to fund, or if individual line items will be available where students can pick and choose which student organizations and other student services they wish to fund.

According to the budget proposal press release, the reasoning behind this policy is to give students the power to decide what they do and do not want to fund, stating, “Allocable fees do not go towards long-term commitments or ongoing operational costs of the university owned and controlled buildings.”

Student Senate President Chris Morgan called the policy “incredibly irresponsible,” saying that it would be putting vital programs at the university at risk.

“They say these aren’t long-term commitments, tell that to the Student Voice that’s over 100 years old, tell that to the student government that was founded in 1937,” said Morgan. “These are programs that bring the campus together, and my fear with this policy is that that is all up for grabs now. That’s all up to be lost.”

Morgan said that he encourages all students who find issue with this proposed policy to get in touch with their legislators and to call the governor’s office to voice their concerns. Members of the Student Senate will also be traveling to Madison on Feb. 16 with the UW System Student Representatives to meet with lawmakers to lobby on different issues concerning education.

“The more you understand the situation, the more you should be concerned,” said Morgan. “I don’t know who’s driving this, but we’re going to try really hard to make sure they lose on this one.”

Have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor!

Send your thoughts, opinions and musings to [natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu](mailto:natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu)

Check out the Student Voice online  
at [uwrfvoice.com](http://uwrfvoice.com)

## EDITORIAL

# At UWRF, campus engagement still leaves a lot to be desired

Among its students, UW-River Falls has a pervasive reputation as a suitcase school. Students who live on campus notice residence hall parking lots largely empty on the weekends, as many students decide to head home after the first few weeks. Unfortunately, many student organizations and campus departments notice a similar trend.

Members of different student organizations may start the semester off strongly, with meetings and events heavily attended by students eager to get involved. Some may experience booming numbers of people interested after events like the Involvement Fair.

However, those optimistic numbers begin to taper off shortly after. Much like we decide that we don't need to be here on the weekends, we're guilty of deciding that we don't need to focus on campus involvement.

To be fair, it makes sense. After all, many of us are trying to keep up to speed with our classes while also working, trying to have a social life and trying to get enough sleep. It may feel like there are not enough hours in the day to do everything we need to do, never mind trying to add extra fun and engagement to our schedules.

Still, campus engagement plays a vital role in finding one's place on campus and feeling connected to university life. We can become friends with total strangers based on shared interests. We can make a difference in the community by volunteering. We can do all kinds of fantastic things, and we should!

It is not all up to us as intrigued students, though. The leaders of student organizations can take a few steps to make sure that those who are interested stay interested. For example, consistent communication can make a huge difference. In this age of social media use, it's admittedly hard to get everyone on the same page! Keeping an updated FalconSync page can also help, as a curious student will know he or she is contacting the right person in charge and showing up at the right times and dates.

Maybe what we need is something more like easier exposure to our opportunities outside of FalconSync. Perhaps a current list of active student organizations could be placed under the "Quick Links" section of our university's website.

We encourage everyone to head to FalconSync for now and explore the possibilities. You never know what kind of group might be waiting for you.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Response to Professor Watchlist article

Dear Editor,

In response to the previous article concerning the Professor Watchlist, let us dig deeper into the information present.

Professor Watchlist is a composite list of individuals noted to profess politically left tendencies, gathered from existing outlets. The list is currently new, launched on Nov. 21, 2016.

It is run by Turning Point USA, a conservative non-profit. It seeks to teach students about the values of "fiscal responsibility, free markets and limited government." Mainstream conservative tenets, not those of the alt-right. That information is available on their About Us page.

The list only cites professors when they meet the condition stated in it's About Us page: "While we accept tips for new additions on our website, we only publish profiles on incidents that have already been reported somewhere else." The result of this criteria is that what might end up as "s/he said" online is culled out. Only those articles that concretely have proof and evidence of existing incidents are included.

This list is described on other sites that it could stifle free speech on the part of the teacher. However, no mass calls for the harassment or the removal of the teachers have occurred or have been reported. As reported by thecollegefix.com: "TPUSA [is] using our free speech rights to publicize

publicly available information. Perhaps if we were calling for professors to get fired or harassed there would be reason to be concerned."

The quote above is from the Matt Lamb, TPUSA's director of Constitutional Enforcement and Transparency. While it should be noted that the information present should be taken with a grain of salt, to assume all 150 articles are all false, or raise legitimate concern, would be a gross error.

In this period of so-called fake news, we should not need others to tell us what is fake, for we should be able to tell immediately. Rather, we should expect the media to reveal and cite their sources, taking and utilizing the highest quality of objective journalism.

Facebook and Twitter do not need to censor out "fake news" for we should be able to decide for ourselves the truth, from the objective material available, crossing it with an article from a trusted site.

Perfect? Nope. We don't live in a perfect world, and there will never be one, so we must pick up and decide for ourselves two things: What is true, and who can we depend on giving us truth?

Jack Romanik, UWRF student

## Ask Colleen: Senior studying abroad

Colleen Brown

Advice Columnist

Dear Colleen,

**I am thinking about studying abroad, but I am hesitant to do it. I've always wanted to travel and have never had the opportunity, but I feel like college would be the perfect time. It will also be my senior year, and I am worried that I am going to miss out on things at school, with my friends and family. Also there is money to think about. I'm just really not sure what to do.**

**From,  
A hopeless traveler**

Dear A hopeless traveler,

My answer to your question is YES, do it! You won't regret it. When I first came to UW-River Falls, I was immediately intrigued by its study abroad programs.

Similar to you, I have always wanted to travel. When I went on my tour of campus, the thing that stuck with me the most was the study abroad office. After seeing all of the posters of different countries and seeing how happy the college students looked in the pictures, I knew that I had no choice but to study abroad.

I think you answered your own question. You said you've always wanted to travel, so do it. Although there are a lot of things that need to be figured out before you leave, college really is the perfect time to study abroad.

As I approach the end of my senior year, I have realized that I will probably not be able to travel anytime in the near future. I'll be working at a new job, and I won't have the freedom to take time off and there won't be any breaks built into my schedule like there are now. Do it now, while you have the time and not as many restrictions. There will really never be a time where you will be able to travel for a long period of time and still take classes.

River Falls offers many different study abroad programs, but I chose to go to Scotland for a semester during my sophomore year. Personally, I think the semester-long programs

are the ones to do. You get the most bang for your buck. You spend the same amount on a plane ticket either way, so you might as well stay as long as you can.

You said that you were worried about money, and that's definitely a big concern. However, from my own personal experience, anyone with any budget can make it work. Personally, I didn't have any extra money to go abroad. I was already working two jobs, but I was determined to make it work. I went to the financial aid office and they were able to help me with a couple of different loan options.

I had to take out some more money in loans than I would have liked, but I wouldn't change it for the world. The experience is also all about how you make it. There were classmates of mine who would travel every weekend and some who just stayed in Scotland. Either way, you can customize your experience on any budget.

Studying abroad for me was definitely the highlight of my college career. I went to a country I had never been to before only knowing a couple of people, and at first I felt exactly how you do right now. I was terrified of leaving my friends at school and my family back at home. I thought I was going to miss out on things back at college with my friends or miss out on a holiday back home.

However, I couldn't have been more wrong. Yeah, it gets hard to see all your friends hanging out or your family celebrating Easter without you, but I gained a whole new experience by leaving. Life back at school or home will move, but so will you! Honestly when I was abroad I was so busy with school, traveling, meeting people and gaining new experiences, I barely thought of home.

I know it will be your senior year, but trust me you won't regret it. Not only will you be able to travel, you'll make friends and memories that will last a lifetime. It may seem complicated now, but everything always has a way of working itself out.

Have fun,  
Colleen

*Colleen Brown is a senior at UWRF going for an English literature degree. One thing that makes her qualified for this advice column is that she is a college student trying to make it through, just like everyone else.*

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

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## Is outlet shopping too good to be true?

Melanie Meyers

Columnist

Is outlet shopping leaving consumers with less than what they bargained for? After a recent stroll through the Kate Spade outlet in Albertville, Minnesota, it seems as though that is indeed what is happening.

In the spirit of full disclosure, a recent friend's designer handbag, one that was received as a new Christmas gift, left me with green eyes. I have had much recent retail experience with this brand, buying multiple products in the last six months, so I couldn't be too full of envy as the bag did look a bit outdated. Further internet inspection led me to question the value of the newly-acquired bag as I discovered the gift was likely purchased at an outlet.

Outlet shopping has never drawn me in much, although I do admit the Lululemon Outlet, also located in Albertville, is quite a delight! In an effort to gain a better understanding of my lack of interest, I asked my mother why she was never very interested in outlet opportunities, as a great majority of my friends' parents happen to be.

My mom likes a good bargain. She's quite the thrift store, garage sale junkie, the complete opposite of me, but she'll spend money at full-price retail stores occasionally. There even was a Christmas when, being the unconventional suburban housewife that she is, she worked as a seasonal retail employee simply to receive the employee discount.

Her response to avoiding outlets was, "I didn't want to be pegged as a sucker!" She wasn't a fan of how, traditionally, outlet stores sold seconds. She seemed not to be interested in paying more than she would like for what she deemed didn't work initially.

In recent years, however, seconds are unlikely to be found in the busy outlet malls, as I recently noticed when I popped into the Kate Spade outlet. I was looking for two specific bags that I had found and fell in love with online, yet I failed to check the in-store availability. I assumed that, because they were both final sale items, they would rightfully be

placed in the outlet.

I got a clear answer as to why the bags were nowhere to be found after an in-depth internet search. What initially looked like it was an outdated gift turned into the discovery that companies are currently making products specifically for the outlets, at a much lesser quality, with very little significant dips in the price point. The problem with this is the customers are likely being duped.

Outlet shoppers are willing to travel farther and wait longer for discounted goods according to Donald Ngwe of Harvard's Business School. However, they are shopping under the false pretense that they are paying less for the same quality of product they would have purchased in a traditional store.

Most outlet shoppers are not aware of the falsity in the products they are buying. Outlets and discount stores (think T.J. Maxx) offer a MSRP price that can sometimes be completely false, as Melissa Mancini of CBC Marketplace discovered in her early January 2016 report on the network.

In Mancini's research, she interviewed Mark Ellwood, an expert on bargain shopping in New York City, who offered the advice "to think, this stuff was made to be cheaper" when entering an outlet mall, in order to better prepare such bargain shoppers.

Now, do not get me wrong, avoiding outlets may come across as a bit snobby. But when consumers begin to recognize the price they're paying may not be discounted at all, taking into consideration the quality of the product, they may think twice before a purchase.

In another effort of full disclosure, my first bag was a Kate Spade outlet find, but that's a secret only shared between you and I. I prefer the Lululemon outlet because their products are direct from retail. The price, however, is only about a \$15 discount, which is still worth it!

*Melanie Meyers would rather talk about her career experience than her college education, but nonetheless she enjoys her time at UWRF. She is an active member of many clubs, a regular customer of Einstein's and an engaged member of the outside community.*

# Empathy should not be confined to one's own country

Reo Ford

Columnist

Though far away and out of reach, events around the world are just as equally important as those happening here at home.

I am the type of person who likes to stay updated on what is happening not just around Minnesota, Wisconsin or even the United States in general, but also around the rest of the world.

As I was doing my usual browse through the latest news, I came across an article that quickly caught my attention. It was a story published by the Washington Post titled "Syrian girl who tweeted from inside Aleppo begs President Trump to save her friends." The title alone is chilling, as is what the article entails.

When I clicked on the link and began to read, I realized that I have in fact heard of this young girl before. Her name is Bana al-Abed and she is known for documenting her experiences of living in the war-torn country. It's initiatives like al-Abed's that can make a person really appreciate the internet. With that being said, the internet also acts as a wake-up call.

It's kind of embarrassing for me to admit this, but I don't really know a lot about the war in Syria or the details of what is happening in the city of Aleppo. I've read a few articles about it and I've seen videos on CNN of buildings turning into rubble in just a matter of seconds, but I've never really taken the time to familiarize myself with exactly why all the

violence is occurring and the details of what is happening to the civilians inside the country.

The article contains a picture of the letter, which al-Abed starts out by introducing herself. She adds that she is from Eastern Aleppo and even uses the word "besieged" to describe it. She talks about the fact that although she is able to attend school now that she has relocated to Turkey, there are still millions of children that don't have opportunities for education in Syria. She even reaches out to him on a personal level.

"You must do something for the children of Syria, because they are like your children and deserve peace like you," she writes.

She ends it by saying that she is looking forward to what he will do for the children in her homeland.

Along with the letter there are several screenshots of tweets that al-Abed has posted throughout the past few months. There is one that consists of a video of her crouching by her bed as we hear a bomb erupt. There is another one that includes the picture of a half blown-up building surrounded by piles of rubble, and she writes, "This is my reading place where I wanted to start reading 'Harry Potter' but it's bombed. I will never forget."

Although all of the messages that she has sent out are heart-wrenching and terrifying, the one that really strikes a chord with me is a tweet that she posted just a couple of weeks ago.

The tweet includes a picture of her standing near the water, with a large city in the background. She is wearing a pink coat, white scarf and grey leggings. Her hair is braided and she is presenting a small, but sweet smile. She looks like a normal little girl. The caption says, "No more bombing... I

have 20 days of peace in my life. I thought the world was just like Aleppo and bombing was normal."

The reason why that upsets me so much is because there are thousands, millions even, of not only children but adults alike, who know nothing more than poverty, violence and so on. They, like little Bana, may think to themselves that the whole world must be suffering.

As I previously mentioned, I love to read and watch the news, but I for some reason have neglected to stay on top of everything that is specifically happening in the Middle East. After reading this article, the importance for educating myself on foreign issues has been refreshed in my mind.

I think it's crucial for everybody to realize that importance too, because some of us may be like Bana - some may think that just because bombs aren't going off here and innocent children aren't lying lifeless in the street, that those types of horrors must not be happening other places. Newsflash: They are.

I also think that these sorts of events are important to read about because they are directly influenced by the ban that our new president, Donald Trump, has just recently put into place.

I feel sorrow, because I don't believe Trump will help the people of Syria, despite desperate pleas like the one from al-Abed. I mean, how could he? He's not even allowing them into our country.

*Reo Ford is a journalism student. She loves hiking with her dog, but when the weather doesn't permit it she enjoys bingeing on Netflix, writing and taking naps with her cats.*

## STUDENT voices

Compiled by Samantha Decker



Nicole Ferreira  
Senior

"Audi, because I support the message of equal pay for all genders."

What was your favorite Super Bowl commercial and why?



Logan Lenertz  
Senior

"Kia Niro. Melissa McCarthy falling from trees was funny."



Larissa Pfaff  
Senior

"Audi. It was motivating and I have a strong opinion on the matter."



Ethan Dahl  
Senior

"The Christopher Walken and Justin Timberlake commercial was funny."



Katie Callahan  
Senior

"Fast and Furious 8. I am a big fan!"

Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor.

Email your thoughts to [editor@uwrfvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrfvoice.com)

The Student Voice is looking for a circulation manager, reporters, columnists and a chief photographer!

For more information, email the editor at [natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu](mailto:natalie.howell@my.uwrf.edu)

## Two top scorers help make UWRF basketball championship contender

Zach Bares  
Falcon News Service

It's no secret that the UW-River Falls men's basketball team has been on a tear this season. A major key to its success has been the play of the team's two most consistent scorers, Alex Herink and Garret Pearson.

The two players took a similar path prior to joining the Falcons program. They both were standout high school basketball players and then each played at a different college before transferring to UWRF.

Pearson is a native of Rush City, Minnesota, and attended the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth before coming to River Falls for his sophomore season.

Herink's hometown is nearby Hudson, and he played two seasons for Div. II Minnesota State-Mankato the last two years. This year is his first year as a member of the men's basketball team at River Falls.

Both of them said that transferring helped them in some way. However, Herink said that he wasn't sure that he still wanted to play basketball when he transferred to UWRF, but that changed quickly.

"Once I got to know Coach (Jeff Berkhof) and some of the guys, I knew it was a great team atmosphere," Herink said.

Herink also said that being so close to home was a big factor in the decision to play at UWRF along with having another player from the area transfer in. Clay Seifert from Prescott is in his first year with the Falcons after playing one season at Bemidji State University.

Pearson didn't have the luxury of transferring in with any other players, but also knew the team was oriented toward what he wanted in a program.

The adjustment process is made a little easier when you're the kind of scorers that both Herink and Pearson are once

they step on the floor. Both of them are averaging double figures this season, Herink at 16.7 points per game and Pearson with 13.2.

The two players both said that there isn't a rivalry between them, but they do get after each other sometimes.

"In practice there's a lot of competitiveness between us," Pearson said. They agreed that it was good for everyone else to follow that example and want to work every day to get better.

The two don't keep track of who scores more points in any given game, but they are aware of the box scores and their individual performances.

The exceptional play of their dynamic duo has vaulted the Falcons into sole possession of first place in the current WIAC standings and has the team on the fast track to an appearance in the NCAA tournament. Herink and Pearson both have high expectations for the remainder of the season.

"I think with the group of guys we have, we're national championship contenders right now," Pearson said.

The Falcons have a great shot at contending at the end of the season. Their last WIAC conference championship was in 2012.

Both players know what they have to do down the stretch to make it happen.

"Just being a factor every night. Whether it's scoring or rebounding or finding an open guy," Herink said.

Pearson is a senior and one of three captains on this year's squad.

"I have to provide leadership and use my experience to help everyone," Pearson said.

However success is defined, there's no doubting that Herink and Pearson have helped the Falcons achieve it this season.



Samantha Decker/Student Voice

Alex Herink (left) and Garret Pearson (right) have helped lead the men's basketball team to a 19-2 record.

## UW-River Falls men's hockey team turns season around after slow start

Zach Dwyer  
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

The Falcon men's hockey team is finally hitting its stride at the proper time this season, winning 10 of its last 12 games as the WIAC tournament approaches.

This turnaround is even more impressive due to the Falcons' slow start to the season. UW-River Falls came out struggling to find its offense in the first half of the year and got out to a 2-8-1 start. This came after a preseason top 10 ranking and high expectations for the mix of young and experienced players.

But now the momentum has completely shifted, as the Falcons are on a four-game win streak with a key victory over defending national champion UW-Stevens Point at Hunt Arena.

Head Coach Steve Freeman is especially impressed by the team's ability to turn its season around. He said he credits the leadership of his nine seniors by showing their true talents and character to keep fighting for another conference championship.

"We thought all season we could compete with the top teams, but obviously, it didn't go that way to start. The guys really believe in what we're doing on a daily basis," Freeman said.

Senior forward Mike Fazio said he also feels like the team has a completely different look from the early part of the season. He says their will to compete and motivation has risen since their rough start.

"It really pushed us to another level, and I think we're hitting our full stride now. We've grown so much as a team, and I don't think we would be the team we are now without that losing streak," Fazio said.

The transition from struggling to score to now competing with the top WIAC teams wasn't solved overnight. The wins have started piling up by im-

proving in almost every aspect of the game.

"It wasn't that we were playing poorly; we were just struggling to make goals. We played pretty well defensively all year, but this group has shown to be very resilient and stuck with the plan. It finally broke where we're getting enough goals to win and it's been a terrific second half for us," Freeman said.

The Falcons took three consecutive wins into their winter break before returning on Jan. 5 against St. Johns. UWRF has responded by winning seven of its last nine games since returning and going 3-1 in WIAC play.

"Over break you feel good because your last few games were wins, but it's also hard to stay focused that long away from the rink. It's a pretty good job by our team coming back and staying focused and getting the job done," Fazio said.

A few strong performances were followed up by a tough 2-4 loss to UW-Eau Claire that saw the Falcons fall to the Blugolds for the second time this season. UWRF responded marvelously two days later, knocking off No. 4 ranked UW-Stevens Point 4-2 behind goals from four different Falcons.

"It was huge for us to beat a top team in the country, which gave us some confidence and we've been rolling with that. Everybody played well, and around the locker room we felt like we could beat them," Fazio said.

That boost in confidence is beginning to take the team a long way. Freeman said he hopes the upset can continue to carry them into the last weeks of the regular season and the WIAC playoffs.

"[The win] verified where we are at as a team. We're a pretty dangerous team to play right now, and we could be a tough draw in the playoffs," Freeman said.

With the WIAC playoffs only a week

or two away, UWRF will continue to rely on its strong goaltending from freshman Zach Quinn. Quinn has a save percentage of 93 percent and is only allowing 1.65 goals per game. This has helped him earn WIAC Player of the Week honors twice in his 18 games in net.

"Zach has done a tremendous job in the net for us. Now we just need to squeeze out another goal per game to take a little pressure off him," Freeman said.

The Falcons put this advice into action last Saturday when they traveled to UW-Superior a day after taking down UW-Stout 2-1 at home on Friday.

The team was on the attack early, when Mike Dietrich assisted on a Fazio goal to put them up 1-0 midway through the first period. It wouldn't be until the third period when they would put the game away with a goal from freshman Aussie Miller. The game was closer than the score showed, with the Falcons only outshooting the Yellowjackets 30-29.

"It was a real tough, grind-it-out game where we were playing our second game of the weekend on the road while they were fresh. We played a real structured, good defensive game, and the guys are really starting to excel in the puck protection game," Freeman said.

Even with all the recent success, the Falcons know improvements still need to be made to continue their streak and make a run in the playoffs.

"We need to be more gritty by getting pucks in front of the net and crashing. In the playoffs anybody in the WIAC can beat us no matter who we play, so we need to put our nose to the grindstone and get going," Fazio said.

The Falcons will close out their regular season at UW-Stout on Saturday before finding out their fate for the WIAC playoffs.

## Athlete of the Week: Colton Sorensen

Zach Dwyer  
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Colton Sorensen, a junior pole vaulter from Balsam Lake, Wisconsin, took home first place honors with a vault of 4.46 meters (14 feet, 7.5 inches) in the men's pole vault at the Wartburg Indoor Select on Feb. 4. His vault of 4.80 meters (15 feet, 9 inches) at the Chuck Peterson open in December currently ranks No. 12 overall in the country in qualifying heights and fourth in the WIAC.

The Student Voice sat down with Sorensen to discuss his indoor season goals and his time as a pole vaulter at UW-River Falls.

**Q: When did you first start pole vaulting? Did you compete in other events in high school?**

A: I started in seventh grade and I did hurdles, long jump and high jump in high school.

**Q: What made you want to focus on vaulting once you got to River Falls?**

A: I was pretty good at it, and it's a fun event.

**Q: What kind of thrill do you get from the event? What makes it so different from most other field events?**

A: It's thrilling going up that high in the air. There's a ton of technique in it so it just depends on the day if you're gonna be good or not, which makes it hard.

**Q: What are the most complicated and technical parts of the event?**

A: For me, the hardest part is the runway and leaving the ground and planting. Once you get off the ground, it's pretty easy.

**Q: What changes from competing in the indoor versus outdoor season?**

A: Outdoor the only factor is the wind, and that can either help you or hurt you. If there's a tailwind it's nice because you can get on bigger poles, but if it's a cross wind it's difficult because the wind blows your pole while you're running, and a headwind is just not fun.

**Q: Is it easier to be consistent indoors without as many outside factors?**

A: It's still kind of here and there because I'm very inconsistent. When I'm good I'm good and when I'm bad I'm bad. Most people are pretty consistent at a height as I'm consistent at making 15 feet. Most people have a consistent height they make but getting over that is the question.

**Q: What went so well at MSU-Mankato to jump a personal best 4.80 meters?**

A: I just felt good and wasn't sore, which is one of the biggest things for me when I'm running fast.

**Q: As a junior, do you see yourself as a mentor to the younger vaulters?**

A: The younger guys look up to me because they want to get better. Most of them are 11-foot vaulters right now so it's a pretty big gap in heights right now between 11 feet or 15 feet.

**Q: How much has this team grown this season?**

A: Everyone's getting better and definitely improving, but there's still a lot of things to work on. It's hard to adapt to college vaulting because pretty much everything you know from high school you throw away and start over with in pole vaulting.

**Q: What kind of expectations do you have for your team in the WIAC Indoor Meet?**

A: I would really like us to not get last place as a team. If a lot of the athletes podium in events they potentially can, I think we can do something as a team.

**Q: What personal goals do you have to improve upon for the rest of the indoor season?**

A: A personal goal is to qualify for nationals again. I really want to hit 5 meters, which is about 4 inches above my PR [personal record]. I qualified for nationals my freshman year with a height of 4.92, which is only 14 centimeters above what I did in December. It all just depends because on Monday night in practice I was getting well over 16 feet but was just hitting the bar. Everything's got to align because there's a lot of factors that go into if you make it or not.

## Sports Schedule

Feb. 10: Women's hockey at UW-Eau Claire, 7 p.m.

Feb. 11: Women's basketball at UW-Whitewater, 3 p.m.

**Feb. 11: Men's basketball vs. UW-Whitewater, 5 p.m.**

**Feb. 11: Women's hockey vs UW-Eau Claire, 7:05 p.m.**

Feb. 11: Men's hockey at UW-Stout, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 11: Women's indoor track and field at Carleton Meet of Hearts

Feb. 11: Men's indoor track and field at Carleton Meet of Hearts

**Feb. 14: Women's hockey vs St. Scholastica, 7:05 p.m.**

Feb. 15: Men's basketball at UW-Eau Claire, 7 p.m.

**Feb. 15: Women's basketball at UW-Eau Claire, 7 p.m.**

Home games in **BOLD**

# Alumni Spotlight: Casey and Kate Maude

Christopher Jurewitsch  
christopher.jurewitsch@my.uwrf.edu

It's not uncommon for students to meet their significant others while attending college, but UW-River Falls has a couple that emphasizes a unique example of that.

Casey and Kate Maude are a married couple, both working as lecturers in the English Department at UWRf. They reside in town with their two children and have worked together at the university for over a decade now.

Having both met at UWRf during their undergraduate studies, the Maudes went to the school from different backgrounds. While Kate initially wanted to attend UW-Madison, she decided to attend UWRf because her older brothers attended school there, and she felt that the smaller class sizes were more appealing.

"I was into punk rock and stuff," Kate said, "but Madison seemed overwhelming because of the size, so the smaller class sizes worked for me."

While UW-Madison didn't cross Casey's mind when he chose UWRf, he also wanted to attend a school that was close to home. Thinking he would try out for the baseball team, he later strayed away from the athletics for other interests, such as pottery and writing.

"This was close to home," he said, "so it felt familiar."

Both Casey and Kate enjoy the town of River Falls, specifically the scenic beauty of the Kinnickinnic River. Being that students could take as many ceramics classes as they wanted back then, Casey spent much of his time making pottery while working on his English degree. Kate, who was also an English major, was involved with editing *Prologue*, the school's student art and literary publication.

Casey and Kate met through a mutual friend, and coincidentally, they were both involved in the Europe Semester Abroad program. Over their time preparing for the trip, they developed their relationship, and after their experience in Europe, they fell in love.

"It came at a really convenient time," said Casey, "and by the end we traveled to Europe, and it helped solidify our relationship."

After graduation, Casey and Kate continued to live in River Falls, with Kate working at a frame shop, while Casey worked at Red Wing Stoneware making pottery. After discussing what to do with her degree, she decided to attend the University of



Katelyn Anderson/Student Voice

Arkansas-Fayetteville, earning a master's degree in English. While in Arkansas, Casey would later join Kate in attending graduate school, earning a master's in English, as well.

Unclear on what to do next, they decided to move back to River Falls after they finished graduate school, renting a house from Kate's former boss at the frame shop. Unexpectedly, they found out that their house was not far from campus, and one day they came across current English Department Chair Marshall Toman.

"I think we both bumped into him while we were walking the dog," Casey recalled. "And he said, 'Hey, we're always hiring,' and so that's how it all started."

Now that they're both faculty working at the same school where they met, they still enjoy the size and the engagement they have with their students and fellow faculty.

"For me, teaching in a small class of maybe 24 students, I get to know those students individually, and that makes it more enjoyable," Kate said.

For their advice for students, the two emphasize having positive connections with their professors and students.

"With a lot of people from small town and big cities," said Casey, "you're going to have a lot of opportunities to meet people from different places."

# Former head of UW-River Falls Montessori program receives top honor

Ace Sauerwein  
Falcon News Service

The former director of the graduate level Montessori Teacher Education program at UW-River Falls has been awarded a top honor in her field of teaching.

Gay Ward, professor emerita, in December received the Dennis Schapiro Award for Innovation in Montessori Teacher Education. The award was presented by the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education.

Ward said it meant a great deal to her, but she views the accolade as a group award.

"I see it as an award to the whole program. All of us put in hours and hours and hours," Ward said, describing her faculty and administrator's work ethic.

In 2012, Ward created the Montessori Teacher Education program at UWRf. Ward said it was the right time to start the program.

"We had the support of the university," said Ward. "Timing is just so critical. We had teachers looking for other avenues in graduate (studies), and we have incredible need for trained Montessori teachers in this whole area."

The program's popularity has steadily increased each year. The program has more than 30 students and continues to see growth. However, if Ward would alter something, she said she would add an undergraduate program to go along with the graduate program.

Not only did Ward create the program at UWRf, she also

helped to start the River Falls Public Montessori Elementary. Once again, the timing was right.

"We had a lot of parents who really wanted a public school option. We had a private school in River Falls, but a lot of the parents couldn't afford to keep their children in the private (school)," said Ward.

In the public school's creation, Ward named Melina Papadimitriou the coordinator and only teacher of the school in its first year. Papadimitriou is now the program coordinator of the UWRf Montessori Teacher Education program. Ward and Papadimitriou have been working and innovating together since 2001. Papadimitriou said there have been many long nights working and emailing each other at 2 in the morning.

"She's behind anything Montessori in River Falls," said Papadimitriou. "This was her vision and she worked tremendous hours of day and nights. She's not only an innovator, but she's a person that inspires others to innovate and practice Montessori."

River Falls Public Montessori Elementary Coordinator Nate Wells, who has worked with Ward quite a bit, said he sees the passion Ward exhibits with Montessori education.

"She has a good understanding of what a child is and what they are capable of," Wells said. "The Montessori was focused on some academic things, but she was more about the whole child, and it was at a time when education was very industrialized. The model was almost a factory model. And I think Gay has a passion for that."

# Former dining hall set to become new hub for UWRf student services

Matthew Clark  
Falcon News Service

David Rodli Hall on the UW-River Falls campus is slated for big changes in 2018.

More commonly known as Rodli Hall, it was built in the mid 1960s as a dining hall for students but over the years has seen a few changes, including its current use as an academic building and campus storage facility.

University officials are now preparing for another transformation to the building: a new center for student services.

The center will house most of the university's student-related services, including Career Services, International Student Services, Student Health and Counseling and the Writing Center, which all are currently located in separate buildings on campus. The building will also house student achievement and scholarship offices including McNair Scholars and Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity.

Campus Planner Dale Braun said the renovation is important because it will create convenience for students and push them to work together.

"Encourage students to collaborate on different academic things. That's why we have McNair Scholars and the Falcon Scholars and Honors, URSCA — all those kind of things — together," Braun said.

**More commonly known as Rodli Hall, it was built in the mid 1960s as a dining hall for students but over the years has seen a few changes, including its current use as an academic building and campus storage facility.**

According to UWRf's chancellor's office, a majority of the renovation will be paid for through \$11.1 million loaned by the state that must be paid back within 20 years. An additional \$4 million will be provided through a segregated fee of \$16.50 each semester, which was agreed to by the Student Senate.

Assistant Director of Counseling Services Jennifer Elsesser said moving Student Health and Counseling Services from its current location in Hagestad Hall to a more central location will help break the stigma some students might have about seeking counseling.

"Sometimes there's a lot of hesitancy when seeking services," said Elsesser. "So to be in a place surrounded by departments, it's just easier for students to go from tutoring to seeing their counselor."

Student Health and Counseling Services' current facility is too small to fit the program's needs and limits the number of students able to receive help. Elsesser also said the new facility will provide the program with more space to offer more services and to hire an additional counselor.

"Right now, on our floor, we are filled to capacity," Elsesser said. "When we move to Rodli, they've allocated more space for us to accommodate for any changes. We have a lot to gain."

Braun said the renovation will help the university modernize its campus and keep pace with current student goals and expectations.

"Students learn differently today, and in order to use modern teaching techniques, we have to have modern facilities to do that," Braun said. "In addition to that, things just wear out and so we are constantly replacing all these different mechanical systems that make these buildings live."

Construction is expected to start late this year or early next year with a completion date sometime in 2019. After Rodli Hall is renovated, the university will start to address plans to update its science facilities.

# Unlike students, UW-River Falls faculty and staff lack active shooter training, says UW-River Falls police chief

Destrey Zarfos  
Falcon News Service

An active shooter on campus is a situation no university wants to encounter. However, if it does happen, some faculty and staff at UW-River Falls may not be as prepared as students, according to the campus police chief.

In 2014-2015, according to the FBI, of the total 40 cases of active shooters in the U.S., three happened on college campuses and resulted in the deaths of 10 people and the wounding of 13.

Over the years, the threat of an active shooter has become a greater possibility. Because of this, many kindergarten through high school students receive training on how to react in the event of a lockdown because of a shooter.

UWRf Police Chief Karl Fleury understands some faculty and staff may not have had the same training as many students did earlier on in their education.

"They practiced tornado drills, fire drills," Fleury said. "They did not practice active shooter drills... The students' exposure, that are coming into the campus, is substantially more than what our faculty and staff have had over the course of their life."

English Professor Greta Gaard said she reviewed booklets and brochures regarding campus safety and couldn't find any information on what to do in the case of an active shooter.

"It is not clear to me what the institution could do for an active shooter, nor is it clear to me that they have plans for what to do," Gaard said.

Although the literature has not yet been made available, Fleury said he has confidence in his plans for an active shooter situation as well as the training and experience in his staff.

"We have things that are in place, we know how we are going to respond to an event, from the law enforcement side," he said. "We've done training with the tactical teams coming in here and knowing the campus. Our officers have went to training that is sponsored by the FBI... We have things that are in place."

While the security and safety of the UWRf campus community may lie heavily on Fleury's shoulders, he said he realizes it is a team effort.

"Emergency preparedness, our emergency management team, works on many different aspects in keeping our campus safe and activating the emergency management system," he said. "The police department has a role as

far as responding to that incident and we have partnerships with various law enforcement agencies in the area for assistance."

Brady Murphy, a UWRf junior, attended high school in Elk River, Minnesota, and received lockdown training during his time there.

**Although the literature has not yet been made available, Fleury said he has confidence in his plans for an active shooter situation as well as the training and experience in his staff.**

"The training entailed you and the rest of your class, or whatever group you happened to be in, going to a designated space that was deemed safe. Typically, you were in a classroom, the teachers would lock the doors, turn off all the lights, then you huddle so that no one could see you in case there was a shooter," Murphy recalled.

What Murphy remembers from training in high school mirrors what Fleury encourages in an active shooter situation.

"Run, hide, fight' is the format that we use," he said. "If you can flee and escape in a safe manner, do it. If you can't, you hide. Try to find the most secure area, secure the door, barricade the room, turn off the ringer on your cell phone, turn the lights off... The fight component is you have to make a decision on whether you're going to fight or not. That's a conscious choice that you as an individual has to make."

Discussions are in the works for Fleury and his staff regarding the best way to get the necessary information to campus.

"We'll be meeting on that in the near future to determine if we're going to do a videotape of the training and make that available online... My approach has been (to) get the faculty and staff trained and make them aware of what's available, how to respond, how to react, because I know that the students coming in have had a lot of exposure and training to active shooter."

Fleury said the campus police department relies heavily on the community and the case of an active shooter is no different.

"If they see something, say something, speak up, utilize our services, contact us," Fleury said. "It takes all of us working together collaboratively to keep our campus safe."

# 'Hidden Figures' is a riveting tale about civil rights

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

"Hidden Figures" is the untold story of Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, brilliant African American women working at NASA, who served as the brains behind helping launch astronaut John Glenn into orbit.

Now, most of you who will have wanted to see this movie have by now. But the rest of you who didn't plan on seeing it or were on the edge, you need to go see it. "Hidden Figures" is one of the most powerful and entertaining films that has to deal with sexism and racism within the workforce.

"Hidden Figures" is more than just the battle of civil rights. It is the story of humanity and the struggle for basic human rights, the ability to have the same chance and opportunities as everyone else. This movie doesn't try and push many boundaries, but rather just tells a good story. It does it so well that it feels like it's a story that has never been told before. This for me was one of the best civil rights/sexism/racism movies that I have ever seen.

"Hidden Figures" would be nothing without its fantastic cast. Octavia Spencer has received an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress, which was to be expected (but she won't win). She is really the people's choice when it comes to this category because, in all honesty, she was outdone by the other two supporting ladies Taraji P. Henson and Janelle Monáe.

Not to take anything away from Spencer, but the other two ladies simply had more to work with and were much more powerful emotionally than she was. I was very surprised by the Academy's pick, but I'm just glad someone got recognized.

Alongside the main ladies, we have the man that should win Best Supporting Actor, Mahershala Ali ("Moonlight"), Kevin

Costner (it is great to see him doing something good again), Jim Parsons (Bazinga!) and Kirsten Dunst. This amazing group of actors and actresses deserved to win the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture, they truly did.

I am very happy to see how well "Hidden Figures" has done in the box office. It recently crossed over the \$100 million mark (\$25 million to make), which is really good for a cast that focuses on leading ladies to do the heavy lifting. For some stupid reason, female lead films never seem to do as well in the box office but I am very happy to see that wasn't the case with this film. 'Hidden Figures' deserves all the recognition that it is getting.

*Nicholas Weninger is a fifth year broad field social studies major and has hopes to be a high school history teacher. He has a passion for movies, video games, sports and being outdoors. If you enjoy his reviews, check out his movie review website on Facebook called The Average Man Review.*



# Beyoncé's pregnancy announcement photoshoot brings back fond memories associated with growing up a twin

Lauren Simenson

Columnist

Just as everyone knows that the sky is blue and that chocolate ice cream is far superior to vanilla ice cream, it is now common knowledge that Beyoncé is pregnant with twins.

I was one of those millions of fans who liked her announcement post on Instagram and then eagerly headed to her website to view her entire pregnancy shoot. The full shoot on her website was spectacular. The photos and GIFs were everything I hoped it would be and then some.

I was spellbound as I scrolled through each incredible picture of Beyoncé and her exposed stomach artfully posed against lush backdrops teeming with an abundance of flowers, juxtaposed against vivid primary colors and floating in ethereal underwater shots full of billowing fabric. I was mesmerized by the photographs, but I was also, strangely enough, genuinely happy for Beyoncé, too.

The feeling that came over me was the same reaction I get when a family member or a best friend shares their great news with me. And just to be clear, the closest I have ever gotten to Beyoncé is watching "Lemonade," the visual album, way too many times. She does not know I even exist, at all. I felt this sudden rush of happiness for Beyoncé, because as great as her twin pregnancy photos were, I know for a fact that her life with her twins is going to be even more magical.

I have this special insight into the impending future of Beyoncé's life because on a cold night at exactly 8:35 p.m. on Nov. 21, I was born. Then, fifteen minutes later, my twin brother Erik was born. Apparently, the stretch of time between my birth and that of my brother's felt like years, and yet I cannot remember those fifteen boring minutes that I spent all by myself, when I was totally twin-less for the only time in my life.

To explain what it feels like to be half of a pair of twins, I want you to think of your best friend in the entire world. Think of how much you love to spend time with them, all of the inside jokes you have, the memories and all of the pictures of the two of you together. Imagine if you never had to say goodbye to them. Imagine knowing that no matter what you said, what you fought about, or that no matter what happened between you two, they would never stop being your best friend. That is nearly what it is like to have a twin.

For Beyoncé, I hope she realizes the insane connection that her babies already have. I hope that like my twin and me, Beyoncé's twin babies develop their own language and a way of communicating that does not require actually speaking to each other with words.

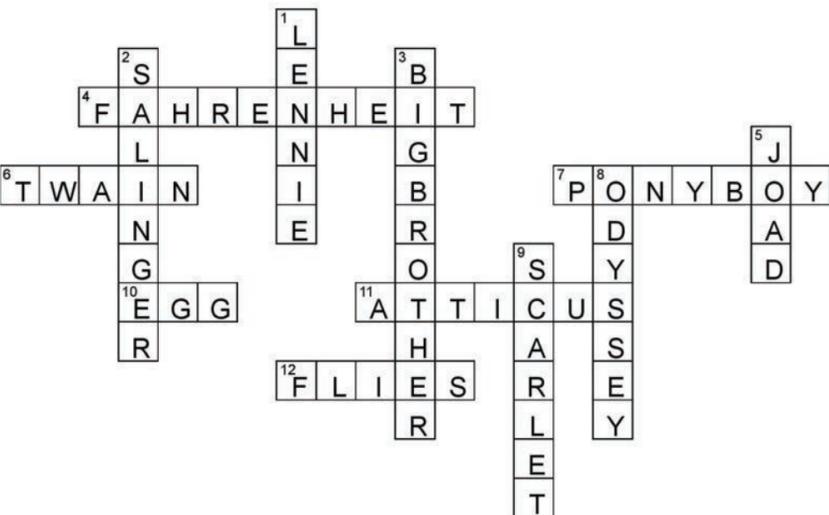
I hope that she raises them to understand how special it is that they get to be one half of a pair. I also do want to caution Beyoncé that she must always remember that they are two individuals, with distinct needs and preferences, so do not make their names rhyme!

I think that being a twin really is the best thing that could have ever happened to me, and I hope it will be the best thing to happen to Beyoncé and her family, too.

*Lauren Simenson is a junior majoring in journalism and 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.*

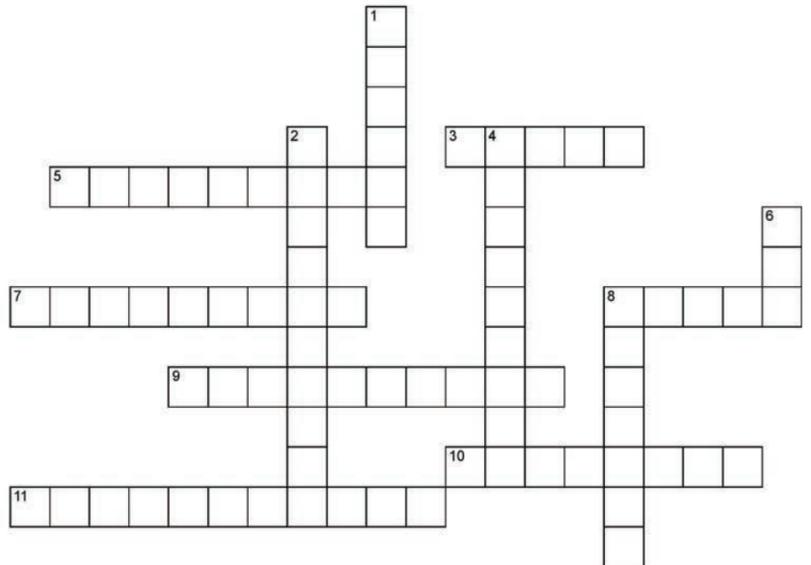
## Last Week's Answers

Books you probably read in high school



## Puzzle of the Week

Valentine's Day



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@uwrvoice.com](mailto:editor@uwrvoice.com) AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins!

Now Playing: The Lego Batman Movie

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

[@uwrvoice](https://twitter.com/uwrvoice) and [facebook.com/Uwrstudentvoice](https://facebook.com/Uwrstudentvoice)

### ACROSS

- 3 151 million of these are exchanged each Valentine's Day
- 5 Over \$1 billion of this is purchased for Valentine's Day every year in the United States
- 7 The saint for which the holiday is named
- 8 God of desire, often portrayed carrying a bow and arrow
- 9 This medicine was discovered on Valentine's Day of 1929
- 10 The month in which the day takes place
- 11 Food or drinks thought to stimulate sexual desire

### DOWN

- 1 The city of Verona receives around 1,000 letters addressed to her every Valentine's D
- 2 This day before Feb. 14 was coined by Leslie Knope of Parks and Recreation
- 4 Greek goddess of love
- 6 This color of rose stands for love and romance
- 8 The first Valentine's candy box was created by this Richard, a name we now know to associated with the company's eggs

Check out the Student Voice online at [uwrvoice.com](http://uwrvoice.com).