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STUDENT VOICE

University of Wisconsin River Falls

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Celebrating 10-year anniversary: Little-known facts about the University Center



Natalie Howell/Student Voice
The University Center put on a variety of events to celebrate its 10th anniversary last week.

Katie Galarno
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Last week, the University Center on the UW-River Falls campus celebrated being open for 10 years. Birthday cake and other goodies were given away all week, with a lunchtime bingo session topping it all off.

Despite being only a decade old, the UC is full of interesting facts that may not be known to students and the campus community.

- **The UC was originally going to be an addition to Hagestad Hall.**
Before the UC was the heart of the UWRF campus, Hagestad Hall used to be known as the Student Center. Campus Planner Dale Braun said that food used to be served in Hagestad Hall and in Rodli Hall (then known as David Rodli Commons).

“This created an east/west divided campus culture based on where people typically ate,” Braun said. “The campus wanted a more unified campus culture and one way to do that was through food.”

- **The building that used to be where the UC stands was deconstructed, not demolished.**

The Ames Lab School, not to be confused with Jesse H. Ames Suites, used to be where the UC is now. Around 90 percent of the materials were reused or recycled, according to the university’s website. It was one of the first buildings in the state to be deconstructed in such a way.

- **The Ames building still remains, in some form, within the UC.**
Some of the materials from the Ames building make up the artwork within the UC. One example is the Cup and Commons on the lower level of the building. Created by Peter W. Flanary in 2006, the artwork is composed of many parts, including the large mug and the bronze tables with stone seating nearby. All of the steel and stone used in the Cup and Commons came from the Ames building, according to the university’s website.
- **The artwork above the Involvement Center fireplace comes from a previous UC anniversary.**
River Fusion, known to some students as “Blue Bacon,” represents the Kinnickinnic River. The fused glass piece was created by Bonnie Rubinstein in 2008 in honor of the UC’s first anniversary. She wanted the piece to represent the importance of sustainability both to UWRF as a whole and within the UC’s

design, according to the university’s website.

- **There is more to the roof of the UC than one might expect.**
The roof of the UC has drains that collect rainwater to be reused. Underground, four collection tanks hold the water. The storm water is then used to flush the urinals and toilets in the building, according to University Center Director Cara Rubis. With a single inch of rainfall, 48,000 gallons of water can be collected.
- **The UC’s architecture is intentionally different.**
Braun said that the look of the UC does not match the red brick, enclosed look of many of the buildings on campus, which only emphasize two dimensions.

“Stairwells are usually enclosed and you don’t get a sense of connection between floor levels,” Braun said, “but in the case of the UC, we intentionally created a ‘great hall’ with open stairwells and bridges to engage building users between levels.”

- **Lighting is one of the biggest sustainability-focused aspects of the building.**
The large windows in the building allow for a lot of natural light to illuminate spaces like Pete’s Creek and the Involvement Center. Braun said that light sensors automatically

sense the brightness and adjust the electrical lighting so that only what is needed is used.

“Some occupants have commented that there is too much daylight, but those on campus occupying interior offices with no windows would be envious of such a condition,” Braun said.

- **The color scheme in the building has local roots.**
The interior designer purchased a postcard in downtown River Falls and was inspired by the color scheme, which led to the use of natural greens, blues and browns within the UC. The red was added later, according to Braun.
- **The UC produces a bunch of bagels every day.**
On average, according to Assistant Director of Student Involvement Karyn Wells, 450 bagels are baked each day at Einstein Bros. Bagels.
- **The flags hanging from the ceiling in the UC have a very specific meaning.**
Upon entering the UC from its main entrance on the first floor, one can look up and see a variety of flags. According to the university’s website, the International Flag Display is updated every semester to reflect the home countries of UWRF students.

UW-River Falls student leaders may soon make decision on long-awaited green fee proposal

Sophia Koch
Falcon News Service

A proposed “green fee” to support sustainability efforts at UW-River Falls may soon be back before the Student Senate, says its president.

The fee is an idea introduced by Student Senate President Chris Morgan in 2015. The money would be put toward projects related to sustainability on campus such as green energy investment and energy efficiency upgrades.

“It will be probably introduced in the next, I would say, week, two weeks, maybe three, but it’s coming up quickly,” said Morgan.

The first step, he said, is to introduce legislation to the Senate, which would vote on it a week later once senators decide on the particulars of how the fee would work. From there, the legislation would go to Morgan, then to Chancellor Dean Van Galen for approval, and then on to a referendum by the entire UWRF student body. Lastly, the green fee would have to gain approval from the Board of Regents before being put into action. Morgan plans for the fee to be implemented next semester.

Mark Klapatch, UWRF sustainability and custodial supervisor, expressed frustration at the length of time it has taken to approve the proposed fee. It was first discussed, he said, around fall 2015, but was prevented

from gaining momentum by Senate’s focus on other programs such as the “It’s On Us” campaign, “which is a great campaign, but the green fee kind of didn’t go anywhere.”

Another barrier, Morgan said, has been concerns about the cost of segregated fees. For spring semester, each full-time student at UWRF paid about \$700 in segregated fees. Among the fees were \$234.32 for the University Center, \$126.39 for Falcon Center operations and \$76.10 for Student Health Services. Other programs and services, as well as student organizations, also are supported by the fees.

“People are concerned about... affordability aspects,” Morgan said. “I wouldn’t feel that a majority of senators feel this way, but there [are] some senators who have expressed that maybe, now’s not the time to create a new fee.”

However, Morgan added that a lot of work has been put into gaining support for the project, and it seems to have a clear line of sight to completion. The main challenge, he said, will be getting word out to the student body. This is difficult, Klapatch said, because the particulars of the project have yet to be determined by Student Senate.

“If you’re going to do a campus-wide referendum you need a marketing campaign,” Klapatch said. “You need outreach, you need people out there educating people on the

green fee, and right now, we don’t even know how it’s going to be structured.”

The motion passed in December specified that the funds will be used strictly for “purchasing sustainable energy sources, energy efficiency upgrades, waste reduction, community garden expansion, and general environment improvement projects and sustainability initiatives.”

“If you’re going to do a campus-wide referendum you need a marketing campaign,” said Mark Klapatch, sustainability and custodial supervisor.

The main function of the money, said Environmental Corps of Sustainability (ECOS) President Natasha Horsfall, would be to serve as a funding pool from which people with project ideas can apply to draw from. However, ECOS has put forth the idea that the money also be used to staff a permanent position to oversee and advise people with projects. All of this, she said, will be decided on when the green fee is put before Student Senate for debate.

“It just has to go through all these initial hoops first,” Horsfall said.

UWRF student Antonia Gasperlin said that she would want more specific information on the proposed fee before making a definite decision in a referendum. Gasperlin is a creative writing major in her fifth year at UWRF, and will be graduating this semester.

“I would want to know how that’s going to change the lives of students on campus,” she said. “I’d want to know a little more financial information about it, what exactly how much is going to where, who’s in charge of it.”

Potential methods to get word out, Klapatch said, include Facebook, posters, emails and tabling events at the University Center where students can ask questions. Morgan suggested that student leaders from organizations such as the Residence Hall Association and athletics could spread the word. Klapatch added that professors who are part of the Sustainability Faculty Fellows, who teach sustainability as part of their class curriculum, could talk about the fee during their classes.

“It’s got to be comprehensive,” Klapatch said. “We can’t just assume students will know what this is and want to support it.”

News Briefs:

Public astronomy talks and observatory viewing to be held at UWRF

The UW-River Falls Physics Department begins its spring season of free public observatory viewings and astronomy talks on Tuesday, Feb. 21. Objects to be seen include planets, globular clusters, open clusters, nebulae, galaxies, moons and double stars.

The first stargazing (waxing crescent moon) session includes Professor Eileen Korenic presenting “Juno at Jupiter” at 8 p.m. in 271 Centennial Science Hall, located at the corner of 6th Street and Cascade Avenue. The discussion precedes the 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing on the third floor observation deck.

All observatory viewings are dependent on a clear sky. Please call 715-425-3560 after 6 p.m. or visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/PHYS/Observatory.cfm> to verify that the sky is clear enough for viewing. The talk will go on as scheduled regardless of the sky.

A Physics Department faculty member and/or student will staff each telescope and be available to answer questions at each open telescope session. Observers are encouraged to stay and look at as many elements as possible and request personal observing targets.

Since the dome is unheated and the observing deck is outside and open to the elements, visitors should dress appropriately for the weather. The viewings and talks are suitable for all ages.

Other viewings this semester include:

Tuesday, March 28, 8 p.m., “How Do We Know the Earth is Moving?” presented by Professor Eileen Korenic in 271 Centennial Science Hall, followed by an 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing (new moon) on the third floor observatory deck.

Wednesday, April 26, 8 p.m., “August Eclipse—America’s Turn!” by Professor Eileen Korenic in 271 Centennial Science Hall, followed by a 8:30 p.m. telescope viewing (Jupiter and Mars visible, new moon) on the third floor observatory deck.

For more information, email glenn.spiczack@uwrf.edu or eileen.korenic@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3560.

Falcon Center receives seven AEDs from Allina Health River Falls Area Hospital

UW-River Falls has received seven new automated external defibrillators (AEDs) donated by Allina Health River Falls Area Hospital. The AEDs will be placed in the Falcon Center, the new health and recreation complex on campus, just in time for American Heart Month.

An AED is a portable device that administers an electric shock to the heart when it suddenly stops beating in order to restore a normal rhythm. The devices have saved several lives locally, according to River Falls Ambulance Director Jeff Rixmann. There are now more than 200 AEDs in the River Falls area community.

“AEDs are one of the vital tools we provide to citizens of our city in an effort to save lives,” said Allina Health River Falls Area Hospital President David R. Miller. In River Falls, a “chain of survival” is already built. It includes citizens recognizing a medical emergency, calling 9-1-1, EMS/ambulance services, linkage to a hospital and integration with medical specialist. Adding more AEDs to heavily populated areas in the community, such as UWRF, helps to support this system so that a heart attack is treated early and quickly.”

“The devices will be a great asset to the university and will provide assurance to all who come to the Falcon Center that, should the need arise, we have the life-saving tools that are vital in the early moments of a cardiac event,” said Bill Folk, director of Falcon Center operations at UWRF.

For more information about the donation, email rachel.se-roka@allina.com or beth.schommer@uwrf.edu.

Kinni Creek Boys featured in Barn Dance Series

River Falls’s own Kinni Creek Boys will play at the Saturday Night Barn Dance Series on Saturday, Feb. 18.

The dance will be at the gym of the River Falls Academy (the former Meyer Middle School) on West Maple Street from 7-9:30 p.m.

The Kinni Creek Boys, a recent addition to western Wisconsin’s old time music scene, mark their third season’s appearance at the River Falls barn dances.

First-time dancers are encouraged. An experienced dance caller will teach steps to participants. All ages, singles, couples and groups are welcome.

The first part of the evening features family dances at a level easily grasped by children, with more advanced dances in the second half.

Remaining dances in the 2016-17 Barn Dance season feature the Rush River Ramblers on Saturday, March 18 and the Grit Pickers on Saturday, April 22.

The Saturday Night Barn Dance Series is co-sponsored by the River Falls Community Arts Base, River Falls Parks and Recreation and Allina Health River Falls Area Hospital. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for those aged 12 and under. Refreshments are available.

Relay For Life gets ready for March event

The rally cry for the 2017 Relay For Life of River Falls-Pierce County has a noted ring to it: “Cancer. Not Here. Not There. Not Anywhere.” The familiar cadence belongs to Dr. Seuss and is adopted by this year’s Relay For Life Pierce County to raise money to defeat cancer.

The event is set for Friday, March 24 from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., with fundraising opportunities and recognition events beforehand.

The River Falls contingency continues its fundraising momentum this year after being named No. 2 in the nation per capita in fundraising and invites others to join the fight against cancer.

Kellie Burrows, Relay For Life community manager, said, “It’s always exciting to start a new Relay, but especially this year because we were number two in 2016. We want to be number one in 2017 and continue to hit cancer hard!”

“Whether you’re a survivor, caregiver, family member, friend or team member, Relay For Life gives participants an opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate, remember and fight back against a disease that touches us all. It’s an opportunity for community members to come together for the common cause and goal of someday ending cancer,” said Andrea Fults, event co-chair this year along with Liz Swank.

To register a team, donate to the cause or ask questions, go to RelayForLife.org/riverfallswi.

The next upcoming event is the Survivor Reception, set for Monday, Feb. 20 from 6-7:30 p.m. at St. Bridget’s Catholic Church.

UWRF workshop for Montessori educators examines visual literacy

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. 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.

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 may be obtained by calling 715-425-3256, 1-800-228-5607 or sending an email to outreach@uwrf.edu.

Student Senate Update: Feb. 14

One senatorial appointee was confirmed at the Feb. 14 Student Senate meeting:

At-Large: Jacob Timm was confirmed as an at-large senator.

Two motions were voted on:

Allocation of funds for Chicago Trip: A motion to allocate \$900 from the Student Senate Funding Pool to help fund travel and lodging for Student Senator Spence to Chicago, Illinois to attend the Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Ally College Conference from Feb. 17-19, 2017.

- Failed: 4 in favor, 5 opposed, 7 abstained.

Allocate Funds for Student I.D. Cards: A motion to allocate funds for student I.D. cards (\$943.18).

- Passed unanimously.

Five budgets were discussed and will be voted on next week:

- The Athletics Department is requesting a three percent increase to its segregated fee.
- Student Health and Counseling Services is requesting a 13 percent increase to its segregated fee.
- The C.H.I.L.D Center is requesting a \$5 increase to its segregated fee.
- Textbook Services is requesting a three percent increase to its segregated fee.
- The Student Government Association is requesting a 57 cent increase to its segregated fee.

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

Campus Events Calendar:

- **2017 UWRF Jazz Festival**
Friday, Feb. 17, all day
Kleinpell Fine Arts
 - **Dance Theatre Spring Concert**
Friday and Saturday, Feb. 17 and 18
7:30-9:30 p.m.
Blanche Davis Theatre, Kleinpell Fine Arts
 - **RADD Jazz Series: Jazz Club Cabaret**
Friday, Feb. 17, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Abbott Concert Hall, Kleinpell Fine Arts
 - **RADD Jazz Series: “The UWRF Jazz Ensemble”**
Saturday, Feb. 18, 7:30-9 p.m.
Kleinpell Fine Arts
 - **Diversity Dialogue: Profiling**
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 3-5 p.m.
Apple River Room (University Center 333)
 - **“Just Eat It” Film Showing**
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 5-6:30 p.m.
University Center
 - **Networking Social**
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 5-6 p.m.
Falcon’s Nest, University Center
 - **Public Astronomy Talk**
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 8-8:30 p.m.
271 Centennial Science Hall
 - **Career Fair**
Wednesday, Feb. 22, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Riverview Ballroom, University Center
 - **Bingo**
Wednesday, Feb. 22, 11 a.m.-noon
Pete’s Creek, University Center
- Visit uwrf.edu for a full schedule of events**

Weekly UWRF Crime Report

Wednesday, Feb. 8

- Theft was reported at the Falcon Center at 9 p.m.
- Theft was reported at Crabtree Hall at 10:46 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 11

- A traffic stop was conducted at Johnson Hall at 2:51 a.m.
- Welfare checks were conducted at South Fork Suites at 10:02 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 12

- Found property was reported at the Regional Development Institute at 3:25 a.m.

Editor’s Note:

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

Fake IDs remain problem for bars, liquor stores

Destrey Zarfos
Falcon News Service

Fake identification (IDs), most often driver’s licenses, have been used in many establishments in River Falls, especially in the downtown area. Bailey Zastrow, a bartender at Broz, a popular spot for college students, is no stranger to them.

“We probably get at least 10 per week,” he said. “Of kids trying to use fake IDs that we catch, a lot of them are pretty impossible to catch because they’ll have their real name on their fake ID.”

Another issue that bars and liquor stores experience is underage drinkers using a borrowed ID from someone over the age of 21.

“Borrowed IDs are way more of an issue because it is obviously not the person’s picture and we are responsible for being able to see that and it is really hard a lot of times, especially with girls changing their hair color or makeup all the time,” Zastrow said.

Dan Suffield, owner of Shooter’s Pub, has experienced similar complications when it comes to underage drinkers using fake IDs. He calls upon his staff to handle those instances.

“Everybody on premise is responsible for checking IDs,” he said. “If there is a doorman on, generally they are the first line of defense. If a bartender has a suspicion or someone says that person is underage, the bartender has the right to make a challenge to that person to provide legal ID.”

Dan Suffield said he has a whole sack of fake IDs and catches at least half a dozen on a typical weekend while UW-River Falls is in session.

Suffield said he has a whole sack of fake IDs and catches at least half a dozen on a typical weekend while UW-River Falls is in session. Those fake IDs eventually get turned over to the police.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, people aged 12 to 20 years drink 11 percent of all alcohol consumed in the United States. Underage drinking is especially relevant in a college town like River Falls.

Officer Paul Jensen of the River Falls Police Department (RFPD) has witnessed the issues surrounding underage drinking firsthand.

“Like most college towns, we routinely find ourselves dealing with intoxicated underage persons for a variety of reasons,” he said. “Things like physical fights, medicals, noise complaints and trespassing are just a few call types we receive routinely. Alcohol is usually a problem in any city, but when you have a large percent of your population between 18 and 20, these issues are more apparent.”

A problem some establishments face is that many fake IDs will pass through a scanner the same as a legitimate ID would. RFPD is aware of the problem and is encouraging business owners to stop using the scanners, said Jensen.



Natalie Howell/Student Voice
Broz bar on Main Street is one of the many establishments in River Falls that experiences issues with fake IDs.

“This is the biggest issue we are finding right now. Some bars have invested \$1,000 plus on scanners that do not work and are merely giving them a false sense that they are not selling alcohol to underage customers. Almost every ID I have seen recently scans and many businesses do not know about the issue,” Jensen said.

For establishments that provide alcohol, selling to underage drinkers may warrant a citation of \$313 and serving after hours adds another citation of \$187.

To combat underage drinking, RFPD has begun working on compliance checks.

“The checks are with underage volunteers that are 18-20 years old who go into any alcohol license holding business in the city limits and attempt to purchase alcohol. This includes all bars, liquor stores, convenience stores, social clubs, restaurants, breweries or whoever else can legally sell alcohol,” Jensen said.

River Falls has 40 alcohol licensees and compliance checks

have been completed for 23 of them.

“Of those checked, six allowed our underage agents to purchase alcohol. Of the six, one did not check ID at all and the other five looked at it, but did not check the age,” Jensen said. He understands some establishments may be nervous about the checks but assures them if they continue to do their job and properly check IDs, they will pass every time.

Being caught with a fake or borrowed ID can lead to hefty fines, especially when additional citations are added. Drinking underage carries a fine of \$187, but doing so with a fake or borrowed ID would tack on an extra \$98.80. Operating a vehicle while intoxicated can carry a fine of over \$800.

For establishments that provide alcohol, selling to underage drinkers may warrant a citation of \$313 and serving after hours adds another citation of \$187.

Jensen said he believes the rapport between the RFPD, bar owners and patrons is a positive one.

“Overall, I think we have a good working relationship with both bars and students,” he said. “We understand the alcohol by its nature is going to have some problems associated with it when consumed. We just ask bar employees to do their part and check ID properly and to not continue to serve intoxicated patrons until they are unable to stand.”

Alumni Spotlight: Ann Lawton

Christopher Jurewitsch
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One lecturer at UW-River Falls has helped people with emotional and physical ailments by using visual expression and also teaches a class that helps students learn how to do the same.

Ann Lawton is a lecturer of art at UWRF, teaching art classes ranging from Introduction to Visual Art (ART 100) to 2D Design Foundation (Art 121). A licensed art therapist, Lawton also teaches an Introduction to Art Therapy (Art 292) class, teaching students how to use art to help treat mental illnesses. She has worked at UWRF since 2011.

Growing up in New London, Wisconsin, she described herself as an “angst teenager,” wanting to move as far away from home as possible to attend college. Nearly four hours away from her home on the other side of the state, she decided to attend UWRF.

“It just turned out to be an amazing perchance experienced that I was welcomed here and flourished here,” Lawton said.



Katelyn Anderson/Student Voice

While Ann Lawton wanted to become an artist, she didn’t know exactly what to do with her education. She then took an Introduction to Art Therapy class, and that’s when she realized that she could use art to help others.

Enjoying the beauty of the campus, she was part of her residence hall’s council and participated in Art Society. She said that the vast amount of activities offered on campus was one reason why she enjoyed her experience as a student, and that there are many more activities to choose from today than when she was a student.

While Lawton wanted to become an artist, she didn’t know exactly what to do with her education. She then took an Introduction to Art Therapy class, and that’s when she realized that she could

use art to help others.

“It was one of those epiphany moments,” she said. “This is exactly what I wanted to do.”

After enjoying her class, she later minored in psychology on top of her art major. After graduation, she attended Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, where she earned a master’s degree in art therapy.

As a registered art therapist, she uses visual expression to help heal those who have mental health problems, helping a variety of people heal emotionally and physically through art. In addition to her job as a lecturer, she holds group art therapy sessions with the Student Health and Counseling Services office, and she has a private practice with clients throughout the St. Croix Valley.

One thing Lawton said she enjoys about UWRF is the amount of intimacy that she can engage in with her classes and fellow faculty, being able to help her students and getting to know them personally. She enjoyed her ability to interact with her professors as a student, such as fellow Art Professor Bernice Ficek-Swenson and Psychology Chair Travis Tubre, both of whom are now her colleagues.

“To me, it feels to me like a home away from home,” she said, “and now that it is my home, things have come full circle.”

“To me, it feels to me like a home away from home.”

As for advice to current students, Lawton said that students should work hard and not be afraid to fail. She also suggests that students follow their own paths to success. Lawton said that she feels grateful for her time at UWRF and looks forward to the future.

Do you have something to say?

Write a letter to the editor.

Email your thoughts to
natalie.howell@my.uwrf.
edu

Check out the Student Voice online at uwrfvoice.com

EDITORIAL

Allocable segregated fees not something to ‘opt-out’ of

Last week, Gov. Scott Walker presented a new budget proposal to the Wisconsin Legislature. Part of this proposal includes the possibility for UW System students to “opt-out” of paying allocable segregated fees in the future.

If implemented, this aspect of the proposal could be disastrous for student organizations. Regarding allocable fees, the proposal reads: “They provide support for campus student activities and services that are allocated by campus student government and university chancellors. Allowing an opt-out helps students make the decisions on what they do and do not want to fund.”

Although the specifics of the plan have yet to be determined, one can’t help but imagine what this might be like. Imagine possibly being able to scroll down a list and decide which organizations you do not like. Even worse, imagine being part of a student organization that is important to you and finding out that your fellow students have made the conscious decision not to support you.

UW-River Falls has an abundance of student organizations, covering everything from identity-based to major-based interests. They provide a way for us to find our place and to connect with people with interests similar to our own.

Aside from social support, student organizations are a way to prepare us for the real world. Some of them can help us build our resumes or act as stepping stones that may help to bridge the gap between being a student and holding a full-time career. They also give us chances to get to know the advisors of our organizations better, because we’re interacting with them outside of the classroom.

Additionally, a huge part of the campus community comes from the events and consistent offerings that come from these fees. Events through the Office of Student Involvement, such as Homecoming and Family Weekend, for example, are funding through allocable segregated fees.

Some of the allocable segregated fees are so minuscule that opting-out of them would barely make an impact on our semester charges. For example, the fee that covers student media organizations is only \$3 this semester. The fee for sport clubs is only \$5. These fees may be convenient for us to “opt-out” of paying, but they are so vital to our experiences as students.

We are tremendously opposed to this aspect of Walker’s budget proposal. If it does pass, we encourage the students of the future to “opt-in” to every allocable segregated fee possible. They make this campus community complete.

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

STUDENT VOICE

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

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

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

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

Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the *Student Voice* per issue. A single copy of the *Student Voice* is valued at \$1, and additional copies may be requested from the editorial staff by email through editor@uwrfvoice.com.

WISCONSIN NEWS PAPER ASSOCIATION Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

Ask Colleen: The friend goes too far

Colleen Brown	Hi Colleen,
Advice Columnist	I’ve got a friend who is getting a little too comfortable joking around with me, and it’s getting to the point where I feel like she’s attacking me personally instead of just messing around. I will make a comment or even a self-deprecating joke, and she’ll expand on it and take it to a level that I’m uncomfortable with. To be clear, I think that giving your friends crap is a very important part of friendship. I love when my friends feel comfortable enough with me to do that! I’m probably just being too sensitive, but it’s starting to feel like she’s laughing at my expense rather than aiming for a “Lol that’s so me!” response. I don’t want to tell her directly that I’m feeling attacked because she’ll never let that go and never want to joke around again, but I would like to get the point across that she’s crossing a line. What should I do?

Signed,
Butt of the Joke

Butt of the Joke,

You are completely right, giving your friends crap and joking around is a very essential part of a friendship. It is what keeps us all humble and honest, but we all know what it feels like when the joke goes a little too far, especially if you are the butt of it. I am not saying what your friend is doing isn’t wrong or that your feelings shouldn’t be taken into consideration, but I can say that I have been on both sides in this situation, so let’s just think about where she may be coming from. As I’ve grown older, I feel like I need to follow the “every story has two sides” rule and look at the situation from someone else’s point of view. I know that sounds completely middle school-ish, but I think it can really put things into perspective.

My friends and I joke with each other all the time. I mean, we sometimes only give each other crap or call each other crude names, names, of course, that would be completely offensive if a stranger said them. The key difference is that these people are my friends. It’s like in movies or on television shows when the older brother says, “No one can make fun of my sister except for me.” We all know none of us are being serious, and it’s all in good fun. Plus, these are people that I have known for years and I know where the line is

drawn when it comes to joking around.

This friend could be testing your boundaries, pushing to see how far she can joke with you before she hits a soft spot. I know you said you don’t want to talk to her directly about this issue, but if you want her to stop or not cross certain boundaries I think that is what you’re going to have to do.

She may not know she is making you uncomfortable or that she’s hurting your feelings for the sake of the joke. If you are someone who always laughs back or jokes back with her she most definitely doesn’t have a clue that her jokes are hurting your feelings. If she can’t see your true reaction or you don’t mention anything to her, she will keep joking and keep pushing boundaries until one day you finally snap.

My advice for you would be to take her aside after she makes a rude remark and tell her that she went too far. This way, you aren’t calling her out in front of other people and you’re addressing the joke right after it was made.

If taking her aside isn’t something that you want to do right away, express yourself with nonverbals. Next time you find yourself in a situation where you’re the butt of joke, don’t laugh and shrug it off. Walk away or become quiet. Chances are, your friend will be able to pick up on your silence as a sign that she went too far. She may even come up to you after and ask why you seemed upset. This way you get her to come to you and you can address the issue from there.

Being the butt of the joke is never fun, but I will say it is important to be able to laugh at yourself. So when the line gets crossed, make sure whoever crossed it knows that it can’t be crossed again. It doesn’t matter what type of relationship it is, no one wants to feel attacked for the sake of a joke.

It comes down to you either addressing the issue by starting a conversation or through your nonverbal attitude after the joke was made. Now, if it were me, I would probably give her crap right back, but that’s completely immature. I should really be taking my own advice. Do as I say, not as I do, right? Anyway, everyone has their line that they don’t want crossed and it’s okay to let people know that.

Good luck,
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.

Hardships should be used as motivation to move forward in life

Reo Ford	Everybody goes through hardships at some point in their lives – unfortunately, some more than others. The
Columnist	older I’ve gotten, the more I’ve started to learn that the most important thing is what a person does with those hardships, how they move on from them.

As much as I would like to say that I always use my mishaps as motivation, the reality is that sometimes they act as really big setbacks in my life.

I read an article on Fox 9’s website the other day that really inspired me, and I think it’s worth sharing. The article “Minneapolis woman turns pain into power after losing fiancé to gang violence” is about a woman, Arica Shetka, who used her unfortunate loss as fuel to do something that she’s always wanted to do.

Her fiancé, Derrick Rodgers, passed away last May as the result of a gang-related shootout on the north side of Minneapolis. The article talks about how easy it would’ve been for Shetka to lay down and submit to the feeling of grief, which would’ve been totally understandable, but instead she decided to persevere.

She packed up both her and her daughter’s things, got off the north side and relocated to Las Vegas, Nevada. As a part of her new life, she wrote a novel, “The Rose Affair.” Her work is inspired by the events surrounding her fiancé’s death.

I think it’s important to note that she didn’t just pick up a journal, fill its pages with her story and then put it in a box

in the closet. Instead, she’s sharing her work with others. After leaving for Nevada, she’s back in town to celebrate the release of her book at Stella’s Fish Café in Minneapolis.

Although there are a lot of things that can be learned from her situation, the article goes on to say that her main message that she wants to convey to others is “to want to change is one thing, but to make it happen you have to do something different.”

I’d say her message holds a lot of truth and power. It can be so easy to just want something and only hope that it happens, but Shetka is proof that you have to get off of your ass and strive no matter what happens along the way.

With all of this in mind, as I previously mentioned, sometimes it can be really difficult to move on from a hard situation. It sounds silly when you’re not actually in the moment dealing with the stresses, but when you are actually going through the motions it can be a lot easier to just throw in the towel instead of rising from the ashes.

With that being said, I’m really going to try and keep Shetka’s story in my mind from here on out. Granted, sometimes I may find it inevitable to succumb to defeat, but I am going to try my absolute hardest to start pinpointing silver linings in as many situations as I can.

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

UWRF campus brings eerie feelings

Bethany Lovejoy	Living in Grimm Hall as a freshman was, for me, an experience that reaffirmed a fear that I have long held.
Columnist	Often times, I would be sleeping in the bed across from my roommate and awake to noises in the middle of the night that differed from the usual yells of “Wake up River Falls” that one hears in the early morning hours. These were creaks, shuffles and slams that occurred for no apparent reason. If I had lived in a normal residence hall at the time, I would account these sounds to the people above me. However, at this point in time, I lived on the third floor of Grimm Hall and the fourth floor remained unoccupied.

Many people have similar experiences: unexplained sounds and flashes of light out of the corner of their eyes. This campus, like many others, is no stranger to the occasional ghost story. Whether it’s the Davee Library, one of the many theaters or Prucha Hall, there are many strange occurrences.

While some of these can be explained by squatters (apparently), many of these are without explanation. People report hearing noises above them on the fourth floor South Fork Suites, noises coming from an otherwise empty room or the feeling of being watched through the one inch gap between the shower curtain and the wall.

With a majority of the buildings existing for a majority of the school’s existence, it wouldn’t be surprising to hear that they may be haunted. The walk from Kleinpell Fine Arts in the middle of the night is far too concerning, and to wander around the basement past 5 p.m. will make you feel truly watched.

The Agricultural Science Building also emits a strange feeling when walking through empty halls, made worse by the window view into the processing facility. The higher you go in the building, the more viewed you feel. Then there’s

Hagestad Hall, home of Textbook Services and also former home of a cafeteria (Rodli holding the other side of campus’s cafeteria).

If there was anywhere bound to be haunted, however, it would be North Hall. Looking like a child’s drawing of a haunted schoolhouse, North Hall is one of the oldest buildings on campus and on top of the wasps mentioned in one of my former columns, holds a rather strange layout.

The basement of North Hall is like a maze arranged with no real rhyme or reason, made specifically to make you pace the halls repeatedly, holding a former pool of which fell out of use with the student body and fell into use as a basketball court and later a photo studio.

Going up a floor, you see the Registrar’s Office and the most clear display of the elevator. If you’ve ridden in the elevator, you’ve borderline ridden on the Tower of Terror, as the elevator often overshoots and goes back down to hit its goal floor. This elevator will take you to the lecture hall in North Hall, which is created to operate as a theater but is hardly used for that purpose. Often times, you may think you see a person up in the top portion of the hall, but be sadly mistaken as nary a student risks a trip to the boxes.

On the third floor of North Hall, you run into the Student Voice office, which is perhaps the most frightening portion of the building. While normally holding the smiling faces of the Student Voice staff, many have found it rather disturbing after hours. Maybe it’s the spirit of editors long gone trying to lead us to deadline, or former student politicians looking for vengeance for a particularly nasty headline. Whatever the case, the room never feels empty.

Neither does the rest of campus.

Bethany Lovejoy is a sophomore majoring in creative writing and literature. She enjoys theater, snacking and sewing. In her free time she works at the Student Voice and collects fox-themed items.

The long history of immigration has shaped America

Lauren A. Simenson

Columnist

Like almost all of the people living in the United States today, the only reason I exist is because of immigrants who came to our country and were allowed to stay.

With all of the talking, fighting and deportation of immigrants, it is apparent to me that many Americans have forgotten that they too are here because of immigrants. An immigrant is anyone who comes to live permanently in a foreign country, which means that in the United States, if you are not Native American, you are not originally from here.

On my father’s side I am a fourth generation Norwegian American. My great, great grandfather was originally from Norway. He was given the name Peter Simenson after the man who was checking him in at Ellis Island could not pronounce his Norwegian name and shorted his last name into Simenson, or the son of Simen.

Peter came to Ellis Island for many of the same reasons people are immigrating to the United States today: famine, war and a lack of opportunity. Norway was experiencing a population boom yet had an economy that could not support it. There was an impending military draft due to conflicts between Sweden and Norway and a massive potato famine that killed thousands and thousands of Norwegians.

My great, great grandfather left his family farm in Folldal, Norway in the late 1800s, and because he was sponsored by an uncle already living in Wisconsin, he was able to afford the \$15 ticket in steerage.

In the United States, Peter went to live and work on his uncle’s 40 acre farm in Stanley, Wisconsin. In Stanley, he was

able to thrive among the large population of Norwegian immigrants who spoke the same language and were all trying to create a new life in the United States.

Peter met and married another Norwegian immigrant and had 16 children and expanded the family farm into 160 acres. My great grandfather Harry was the oldest of those children.

Harry would eventually marry another Norwegian American girl and have my grandfather, Roderick Earl Simenson. My grandpa fought in North Korea and helped to install and program one of the first computers for Honeywell. My grandfather also went on to raise two sons who would both become teachers. My dad, the eldest of the two sons, is a first generation college student who would eventually become a college professor. My father exists and is successful today because his immigrant ancestors were able to find better opportunities in the United States.

On my mother’s side, I am a third generation Sicilian American. My great grandmother Genevieve Passalacqua immigrated from Marsala, Sicily at the age of 17 in January of 1912. She came through Ellis Island as part of the allotted quota of people from southern Italy, and just months before the Titanic would set sail on its first and last voyage.

There is no record, official or otherwise, of my great grandfather immigrating to the United States. Both of my great grandparents immigrated because of the lack of opportunity in rural Sicily and an impending draft into the war. Once in the United States, Brooklyn, New York, became their new home and there Pasquale Agate would marry Genevieve Passalacqua.

Pasquale and Genevieve would have nine children, including my grandmother Antoinette, who was the seventh child. Antoinette would meet and marry second generation German American and Korean War veteran William Denzer. They would eventually settle on an 80 acre farm in Ellsworth, Wisconsin.

Nettie and Bill would have six children, with my mother being the second eldest. My mother is a first-generation college student with a long and successful technology career in the financial industry. My mother exists and is successful today because her immigrant ancestors were able to find better opportunities in the United States.

Just in my family alone, there are innumerable examples of how immigrating to the United States enabled all generations of my family to find a better life and future. And I am sure there are many more stories similar to these in the United States.


As difficult as these times must have been for my ancestors, what immigrants and refugees are facing today is so much worse. The fact of the matter is that to send people back to a place they are trying to escape from is sometimes, plain and simply, a death sentence.

Immigrants seeking a safer and better life are doing so because it is necessary. Imagine if you had to abandon your home, your family, your country just to survive. How can we keep out those who are seeking to one day have a life similar to the one you and I get to live everyday?

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.


STUDENT voices

Compiled by Samantha Decker



Qiuyu Chen
Junior

“Being able to go to class everyday.”




Emma Gehring
Sophomore

“Being able to do anything I want! There are so many open doors and opportunities.”



Sarah Couch
Junior

“Family and friends. Life can be random with the ups and downs. It’s very unexpected but it’s all what you make it!”



Emma Johnson
Junior

“Family and friends, without them, what is life? Life is beautiful and the good times and hard times make it worth it.”

Do you have something to say?
Write a letter to the editor.
Email your thoughts to 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

Sisters back on ice together as UW-River Falls hockey players

Ace Sauerwein
Falcon News Service

For the first season in over three years, UW-River Falls women’s hockey players and sisters, senior Defenseman Lydia Wagner and freshman Forward Bella Wagner, are able to wear the same jerseys on the ice.

Lydia started her collegiate career at Gustavus Adolphus College, where she played two seasons, while Bella was still finishing her high school hockey career for the Dodge County Wildcats in Minnesota. The decision for Bella of where to continue her hockey career was looming.

“I really pushed for her to be (at Gustavus Adolphus) with me,” said Lydia. However, after reflecting on it, Bella decided she would enroll at UWRF, and soon after, older sister Lydia followed.

“Since we’re 45 minutes away, that was a big factor to transfer here. The hockey program’s great, and with her already being here I really wanted to end my hockey season with my sister,” said Lydia.

Due to the age difference, Lydia and Bella had only played on the same team once prior to UWRF. The two sisters, originally from Zumbrota, Minnesota, played for a couple of seasons together for the Dodge County Wildcats (a co-op team made up of girls from surrounding high schools). Both were all-conference players, as well.

However, the season wouldn’t go off without a hitch. In a contest at Stevens Point in late November, Bella left the game with a knee injury and would later find out there was a partial tear in her MCL.

“I was very sad about it, because I was, like, I’m not going to be on the ice to finish out her senior year,” said Bella. “But in the back of my mind, I knew that I would only be out for eight weeks, so I just had to work hard to get back on the ice and to play with her the last few games.”

Bella missed the next 10 games, which included the team’s only loss up to that point. Before the injury, Bella had started the year on a tear. In her first three games as a collegiate player, she found the back of the net three times and tallied her first multi-goal game in just her second outing. The injury didn’t slow her down, either. After coming back, Bella scored four goals and added three assists over her last eight games, according to UWRF statistics.

As the 2016-2017 campaign inches closer to the end, the red hot Falcons are hoping for a bid to the NCAA National Tournament. The Falcons grabbed the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference women’s hockey regular season title on Feb. 11 with a victory over UW-Eau Claire.

The Falcons finished as runners-up in last year’s NCAA tournament. The loss in the national championship still resides in Lydia’s mind.

“It’s hard to talk about,” she said. “We played really hard, but we just have not seen a team like that as often as we wish we could,” said Lydia on last year’s National Championship game against Plattsburgh State.

Though the thoughts are there, Lydia is not consumed by a national title run.

“My goal is just to live in the moment and do the best that I can for my team, my coach and my sister,” said Lydia.

Bella, who was not on last year’s team, had to watch the national tournament as a spectator, and it has shown up on her radar as well.

“It just kind of gives me the chills thinking I could be there this year... with my sister,” said Bella.

While Bella and Lydia are the skaters in the family, there are also two younger sisters who excel in sports of their own. Sophia, third youngest, is big into jiu-jitsu and Lola, youngest, is into softball, basketball and volleyball.

Lydia, Bella and the rest of the Falcon skaters begin WIAC tournament play Feb. 24.

Falcon Athlete of the Week: Alex Herink



Zach Dwyer
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Alex Herink, a junior forward from Hudson, Wisconsin, helped lead the No. 4 ranked Falcons men’s basketball team to a regular season WIAC championship with two wins over UW-Stout and UW-Whitewater this past week.

In the 92-51 Falcon win over UW-Stout, Herink scored 17 points and shot 6-11 from the floor while going 4-4 from the free throw line. In the win over UW-Whitewater, he battled with foul trouble all night, but still scored 13 points and was 4-9 from the floor. He continued his all-around play by hauling in six rebounds and dishing out four assists to help improve the Falcons to 21-2 on the season.

Herink sits near the top of the WIAC in a variety of categories, including points (fourth, 16 per game), field goal percentage (fourth, 56 percent), free throw percentage (third, 86 percent) and blocks (second, 0.96 per game).

The Student Voice sat down with Herink to discuss his role with the Falcons and the impact of a conference title for the team moving forward.

Q: What kind of style of play does this team rely on?

A: Coach really works inside-out, so we start by trying to get the ball in the post. Once we start doing that, teams start closing in and we can get shots outside. Our team’s pretty good at doing both so it’s hard for teams to know exactly where we’re going to be scoring.

Q: What is your role on this team and what’s expected of you?

A: I’m expected to play solid defensively and handle my man. Contributing offensively is also a little bit of my role, but it’s not the main thing to score. To be effective and efficient when they need me to be and shutting down the post [with Garret Pearson] is what we should be doing.

Q: What part of your game has the biggest impact on the team?

A: My size playing inside helps. Being able to shoot right-handed and left-handed helps in the post because the defenders don’t know which way you’re going. Shooting outside the arc is something else that has been worked into my game and that helps in having big guys stretching the floor compared to being stuck in the post or just a shooter.

Q: Did the loss to Oshkosh on Feb. 4 inspire this team to keep growing down the stretch?

A: Obviously losing like that hurts, and it kind of snapped us all back into reality. We lost that one, but we have to keep a streak going, so we came back the next game fired up and ready to go. It kind of lit a fire underneath us.

Q: How hard was it against Whitewater to play aggressive but still have four fouls?

A: Once you get four fouls, it’s harder because you can’t do the things you normally would. It’s really hard in a game like that, when it’s close and you know what you’re playing for. It wasn’t too much time sitting out but obviously you don’t want to be sitting out in a game like that.

Q: What about Whitewater gave the team trouble? How important was it to get that win on your home court before playoffs?

A: Overall they’re a very large team size-wise, but we [also] have some size. Our guards could get posted up, and it wasn’t a great fit for the size of our guards. But to win that game was huge and to have it be senior night and alumni night was great.

Q: What did it mean to the team to be able to cut down the nets in Karges for the team’s final regular season game in the gym?

A: Being that we won it at home and closed out the conference, it’s probably the best experience we could have asked for our seniors to go out on that note at Karges.

Q: What kind of home-court advantage will you have in the WIAC playoffs by playing in Karges?

A: It will be good because we will have the hometown crowd and won’t have to worry about traveling and being on the road. You’re feeling good and shooting [at Karges] all the time, and you have a student section that you don’t have on the road.

Q: What can this team still accomplish this season?

A: I think the roof’s the limit with this team. It’s what we put our minds to and I think we’re all ready for the next level. We had a nice accomplishment the other night, but we’re not satisfied with that. Hopefully we can keep going and end up playing for the national championship.



Samantha Decker/Student Voice
Lydia (left) and Bella (right) Wagner have been key players in the Falcons 23-2 season.

Women’s hockey wins fourth consecutive WIAC regular season championship

Zach Dwyer
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The Falcons managed to bring home their fourth consecutive WIAC regular season championship on Saturday, bouncing back to defeat UW-Eau Claire 3-2 after losing to the Blugolds 3-1 on the road on Friday.

UW-River Falls entered the weekend at 21-1 with its only loss on the season at Eau Claire in November. The No. 2 ranked Falcons came into Eau Claire on Friday with a two-game lead over the Blugolds with the conference title on the line.

The weekend started off differently than most would have expected, with Eau Claire dominating a must-win game to take down UWRF 3-1 on the Blugolds’ home ice.

“They matched our speed on Friday, and they’re really the first team to do that this year. That first game on Friday was to set a record for the most wins in their women’s hockey program, so I think they just wanted it more than we did that first night,” Head Coach Joe Cranston said.

UWEC ran out to a 3-0 lead early in the third period, with three different scorers for the Blugolds. UWRF freshman Hailey Herdine provided a late power play goal in the middle of the final period, but ultimately the Falcons couldn’t find the back of the net enough to contend.

There wasn’t much time to consider the loss, with the Blugolds returning for a 7 p.m. puck drop the following night. Cranston added an extra practice Saturday morning to sure up the special teams for a game that would now decide the WIAC title.

“[Eau Claire] puts on a lot of pressure when they were killing the penalty and we just couldn’t generate the power play. We also weren’t winning the draw on faceoffs, but our special teams made a big difference in Saturday’s game,” Cranston said.

The bigger test on Saturday was coming prepared to play a team the Falcons had already lost to twice this season. Senior Dani Sibley said she knew the team needed to stay positive to have a chance at knocking off the Blugolds.

“It’s always a challenge to pick ourselves up on Saturday. I could tell we were down in the locker room, but the seniors and upperclassmen said we can’t worry about Friday night. We’re capable of beating anyone, so we need to believe in ourselves and look back at success to keep our heads up,” Sibley said.

It looked to be more of the same on Saturday night, with Eau Claire scoring the first goal midway through the first on a power play goal that snuck into the UWRF defensive zone. At the end of the first period, UWRF was only two periods away from either making a dramatic comeback or dropping the WIAC championship.

“We needed to play disciplined and keep up our speed. If we stopped playing our game, they would take it to us, so we needed to focus on what we could control and not what Eau Claire could control,” Sibley said.

That all changed in the second period after a Hailey Herdine goal assisted by Carly Moran and Sibley. The goal seemed to give life back to UWRF, in contrast to the way the Blugolds ran away with both previous meetings on the road.

“I think we just tried to get everything to the net on Saturday. In the other games, we kind of got down on each other, but we stayed positive and loud on the bench and that really helped the team,” Herdine said.

Moran added her 17th goal of the season on the power play in the closing seconds of the second period, while Herdine found the back of the net on the power play in the third for her third goal of the weekend to go up 3-1. Eau Claire managed to fight back to 3-2 and even fire an open shot at goalie Angie Hall after a defensive breakdown with only three seconds left. But in the end, the Falcons found their special teams at the proper time to claim another WIAC title.

“Players have to know when to step up as the games get more important, and very few stepped up on Friday. But it was nice to see the resiliency once our backs were against the wall down 1-0 on Saturday. We will need more of that as we close out the year,” Cranston said.

Continued on Page 7

‘John Wick: Chapter 2’ measures up as successful sequel

Nicholas Weninger

Reviewer

All John Wick wants to do is retire and live in peace with his dog. However, circumstances from his past won’t allow this and once again, the Baba Yaga, the man you call to kill the Boogeyman, the world’s best assassin, is forced to come out.

I’m not going to lie, I am a huge fan of the first “John Wick” film. I had big expectations for this sequel because it had so much potential and if it followed suit to the same values and feeling that the first movie had, I knew this could be a great film. I was not disappointed. “John Wick: Chapter 2” is what sequels should strive to be.

What made the first film so successful was how it took something so simple, a man pissed off at some thugs for killing his dog (which was a last parting gift from his deceased wife) and wanting revenge, and made it into a brilliant film. The story was simple but it was the way that the story was told and the background stories of who John Wick was in the past that made this film stand out. The film that had great emotional appeal, brilliantly directed and choreographed action sequences, an awesome soundtrack and so much more. “Chapter 2” follows up in equal or greater value.

I was hoping that this film would stay true to who John Wick was, which was a man wanting to live in peace and trying to escape his dark past. I am so happy to say that, yes, they still make this the main theme of the film. While I wouldn’t say the emotional appeal is quite as strong as in the first film, I do think that it is still very much there.

This poor man just wants to grieve and live out a peaceful life, and yet his past just won’t let him. I’m glad they still chose to make this a central focus because it makes John Wick relatable and makes us really feel for the guy. While none of us are trained killers like Wick, we still are able to connect and relate to the guy.

Now let’s talk about this trained killer side of Wick, specifically the action scenes. Since “Chapter 2” is about 30 minutes longer than the first film, you know they pack in more action sequences and, man oh man, were they fantastic!



What makes the action sequences so good in these films are that, even though the action is constant, it always feels different.

The choreography, set design, soundtrack, light and dark aspects and more are always changing to make the action feel new and exciting. On top of these qualities, it feels realistic because John Wick is constantly reloading his weapons! Finally, we have an action film that realizes there are limits to how many bullets weapons can hold! Not nearly enough action films take this into consideration and when they don’t, the film feels fake.

“John Wick” has always kept this in mind, and it really does make the film that much more special and also intense because sometimes he does run out of ammo and needs to use other resources or hand-to-hand combat to get out of a situation. So once again, the action is phenomenal.

Now, being a non-stop action film, there really isn’t a whole lot of dialogue. That’s not necessarily a bad thing, though! In this case, and like the first film, when there is

dialogue it is very well written and important to the story. The dialogue is actually some of the best parts of the movie. Like I said, the action is non-stop and the dialogue and break scenes are a breath of fresh air, a nice change of pace, that offer some great humor as well.

This being said, the only thing that I really don’t care for in this film is one of the interactions at the end of the film. While being good, it is slightly unbelievable. I don’t want to spoil anything, so I’ll just leave it at that. It, however, does not take anything away from the film.

“John Wick” brought John out of hiding. “John Wick: Chapter 2” brings the Baba Yaga back in full force. I love this film, and I can’t wait to see what they bring in “Chapter 3.”

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.

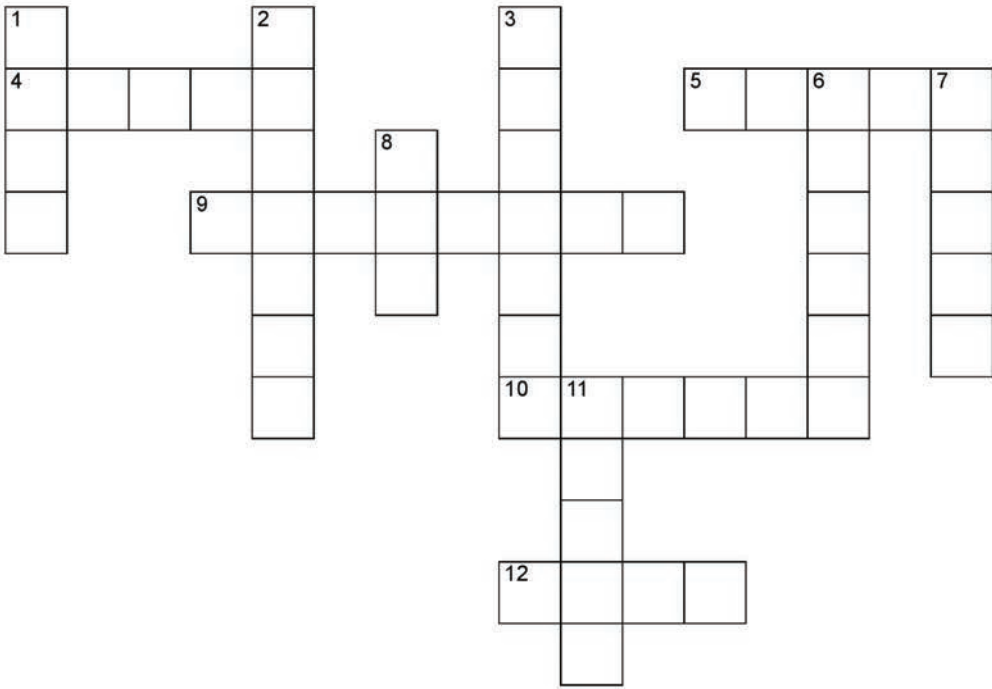
Last Week’s Answers

Valentine's Day



Puzzle of the Week

Iconic Movie Quotes



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- ACROSS
- 4 "I'm going to make him an _____ he can't refuse."
- 5 "Where we're going, we don't need _____."
- 9 "To _____ and beyond!"
- 10 "You're killing me, _____!"
- 12 "I see _____ people."

- DOWN
- 1 "You're gonna need a bigger _____."
- 2 "_____, my dear, I don't give a damn."
- 3 "Why so _____?"
- 6 "The Dude _____."
- 7 "You is kind. You is _____. You is important."
- 8 "That'll do, _____, that'll do."
- 11 "Show me the _____!"

Puzzle created at puzzle-maker.com

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