

STUDENT VOICE

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UWRF hosts the 55th annual Rodeo

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University of Wisconsin-River Falls hosted the 55th annual rodeo during the weekend of Friday Sep. 6 and Saturday Sep. 7 2019. There were about 3000 attendees this year and over eight colleges within the great plains region participated in the competitions. Some of these colleges include: UWRF, Iowa State University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, South Dakota State University and several others. The university's Rodeo Club hosts a rodeo each year and also travels to several others across the great plains region.

The Rodeo Club team members seek out sponsorships for the funding of the rodeo each year. President of Rodeo Club, Hannah Bergstrom talked about how they raise the money for the annual rodeo. "Each of the team members are required to get over \$800 in sponsorships from local businesses, so there is a lot of money that goes into this," said Bergstrom.

The team members present sponsorship packages to local businesses and that is how they achieve their \$800 goal. This is the only way that the rodeo is funded and there are currently about 23 team members.

Among the team members, each contributes something different. There are several

different competitions and events that the team competes in. "The events consist of barrels, break away roping, tie-down calf roping and more," said Bergstrom.

The Rodeo Club is not classified as a sports team quite yet but Bergstrom said that there are hopes that this may change. "We're working on changing this because we did just hire two new coaches," said Bergstrom.

The Rodeo Club is considered a student organization and there is a differentiation between the club members and the team members because not everyone involved in the club competes. The entire club however, does participate in other events and activities as a whole.

Competing in events at the rodeo is a large time commitment in the fall. The Rodeo Club team members travel to several schools in the great plains region to compete in events at rodeos similar to the annual UWRF rodeo.

"We're gone Thursdays to Sundays almost all of September and October traveling to other rodeos in our region" explained Bergstrom.

There are many events that take place at the annual rodeo. A crowd favorite is called



Bree Ann Moderow, the rodeo queen, is assisted by Molly Kelly to her left and Laura Holt on the right. Photo by Pat Deninger.



On the left is a student from Iowa Central College, and on the right is team member Collin Gartner. In the background is a judge for the tie down roping event. Photo by Pat Deninger.

Mutton Busting, in which children ride sheep. Bergstrom explained in more detail what this event is and why there are usually a lot of participants. "People love it, we get sheep and their parents sign waivers, then basically the sheep are put in the shoot where a bucking horse or a bull would be and then they put the kid down and open the shoot and the sheep runs around and the kids have to stay on for a certain amount of time," explained Bergstrom.

Bergstrom also talked about how they really try to engage the audience and make the experience fun for everyone. There are other events, such as musical chairs on horses for college night and they also organize a boot scramble, where everyone throws their shoes to the other end of the rodeo arena. To get the audience more involved in these events, the club gives out prizes like gift cards or t-shirts. "This year for one of the kid's awards we gave away two brand new bikes," said Bergstrom.

Some of the main events that take place during the rodeo include bareback riding, team roping, barrel racing, goat tying and breakaway roping along with several other events. According to Bergstrom, some of

the more popular events are barrel racing and bareback riding "People enjoy barrel racing because it is fast and exciting and there's upbeat music usually playing," said Bergstrom.

Bergstrom also talked about some of the biggest challenges she faces during the annual rodeo. "My Vice President Eric and I were running around all weekend, it is hard to find time to sit down and relax for a minute but there aren't many challenges. It can just be a lot at once and just making sure everything runs smoothly," said Bergstrom.

Along with challenges there are also rewards that come with the competition. "I'm very happy I was elected for the presidency and being with everyone is fun and rewarding and also doing well with your horse is great," said Bergstrom.

The rodeo has reached its 55th year of performances and will continue to take place annually as a part of the Falcon Frontier Days. The Rodeo Club is still traveling and competing as well until their season ends in mid-October.

What are you looking forward to this semester?
By Hallie Diekoff

Marie Ange Kivi

“I’m looking forward to start learning aboutmy major in marketing and communcia-tions.”



Ashley Burton

“I’m ready to pass chemistry.”



Dallie Sim

“I’m exited for my art classes because they’ll help me with my major.”



Conner Sharp

“I can’t wait to meet new people.”

Haley Palmer

“I’m excited for all my new classes and to make new friends.”



Vlenine Nkowa

“I’m looking forward to getting better grades.”



Kaitlynn Mroczenski

“I’m excited to meet a bunch of new people.”



Mekial Keleekai

“I’m eager to learn in all my new classes this semester.”

New Chief Information Security Officer position introduced

Melissa Thorud

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The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is welcoming a new Campus Chief Information Security Officer, Ken Ries. Ken Ries has held this position at UWRF for about five weeks, however he has extensive experience within the field of information security. Ken Ries has a Bachelor of Science in technical education and a Masters in leadership and most recently completed a certificate in Cybersecurity and Privacy Law from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, MN.

Ries splits his new position between here and University of Wisconsin-Stout doing similar work for both campuses. He is typically on the UWRF campus on Mondays and Wednesdays and works in the Department of Technology services (DoTS). Ries talked about some of the differences and similarities between UWRF and UW-Stout. He said “there is a bit of a cultural difference between the institutions, but as far as systems and services, students are the same. There is a tremendous amount of overlap.” Ries also has experience doing similar work at several other academic institutions.

Before starting this new position at UWRF, Ken Ries worked at many establishments throughout Minnesota. He has worked within the Midwestern Higher Education Compact, doing information security related practice. Ries also worked within the Minnesota State colleges and universities system for around 20 years as the chief information security officer at Pine Technical and Community college.

Ries talked about how all of his positions have focused mainly on the aspect of information security, he said “information security has always been a passion of mine.” Ries also served on the state of Minnesota information security council and studied information security policy for the state of Minnesota. With his extensive background knowledge, he hopes to bring the passion he has into his work here at UWRF.

Ries talked about some of the challenges that this new position imposes such as the learning curve between the Wisconsin uni-

With his extensive background knowledge, he hopes to bring the passion he has into his work here at UWRF.

versity systems compared to Minnesota university systems, Ries said, “There’s differences in state law and differences in state policy.” He also said that “every day is looking fairly different, but I came in at a very busy time and I think I came in at a very good time, right at the beginning of a new semester.” There has been a lot of action developing in preparation for this fall the past few weeks for Ken Ries and for DoTS.

Joseph Kmiec, the Chief Information Officer for UWRF also explained some aspects of Ries’ job. He said, “Ken’s role is about the strategy surrounding information security which includes the question of ‘what are we

doing with information security and are we doing the appropriate thing?” Kmiec also talked about a recent assessment that had taken place which examined the university’s overall information security. This assessment relates to the work that Ken Ries does here at UWRF in his new position. Kmiec said, “A third party vendor, funded through the UW system came in to evaluate, they ask questions such as ‘How do you handle certain situations?’ And ‘What’s your incident response plan?’” He mentioned that the initial assessment is that the university is doing a great job and that the official score from the assessment will be coming soon.

Ries explained overall what he does in this position, he said, “Part of my job is working with students and protecting their data and the other part is demonstrating to the board of regents, parents, and other stakeholders that we are doing everything we can to make sure that our data is secure and that we are protecting our students safety.” Ken Ries will continue to work on information security and improve the overall protection within DoTS. If any students would like to contact Ken Ries with any questions he is lo-



Ken Ries, UWRF Chief Information Security Officer

cated within the Department of Technology Services in 160 Davee Library and can be contacted via email: kenneth.ries@uwrf.edu

Experts say distrust of federal government tied to abuses, long terms

By Owen Elle

Falcon News Service

Americans’ trust in the federal government has generally been decreasing since 2001, according to recent reports from the Pew Research Center, and the United States trails most developed nations in voter turnout, too.

Christopher Simer, a UW-River Falls political science lecturer, said he believes distrust in government might stem from abuses of power.

“Private institutions have increasingly been viewed as operating under the agenda that does not necessarily improve the lives of the average person,” Simer said. “We’ve seen a steady erosion in a lot of our institutions.”

State Rep. Shannon Zimmerman (R-River Falls) said that a major contributing factor to overall distrust in the government is elected representatives focusing too heavily on polling.

“Too often our elected leaders are more interested in making sure they get elected in the next cycle than necessarily doing the right things,” Zimmerman said.

Government distrust at a national level for all generations of Americans is currently below 20 percent, with millennials (those born from 1981-1996) having the most trust with 19 percent and baby boomers (those born from 1946-1964) hovering at 16 percent.

It has been nearly a decade since millennials have eclipsed 40 percent trust in the government in Washington D.C., and Generation X and boomers have not gone over that same mark since October 2004.

“It’s hard to trust Congress and such when you look around and there is example after example where sometimes government is doing something really stupid,” Zimmerman said.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the levels of distrust in

government, roughly 56 percent of Americans voted in the 2016 presidential elections. While this only represents a slight decrease from the percentage of voters who cast ballots in the 2008 presidential elections, it puts the United States behind other developed nations in voter turnout. The U.S. ranks behind countries such as Germany, France, Mexico and Estonia.

Simer said that the 2016 election was “kind of an anomaly” and that voter turnout can be affected by the different thresholds for voting and political engagement.

“In some cases, people are just disinterested or disengaged, for example some countries make it mandatory to vote,” he said. “In the United States it’s an interesting question. How can you force somebody to care?”

Zimmerman said voter turnout is the “result of ultra-polarization.” While America has low voter turnout relative to other developed nations, Zimmerman contends that the ultra-polarization and “pushing of the envelope” helps boost voting turnout.

“It’s a good thing if your only objective is turning out greater voting numbers,” Zimmerman said. “I don’t think it’s a good thing or a healthy thing for us as a nation because I think ultra-polarization only further divides us and that’s not good or helpful.”

Simer said turnout in the U.S. boils down to individual choices of voters.

“It’s sort of legendary that oddly enough young people tend to have other interests than going to the polls, and disproportionately people who are retired pay much more attention and have the leisure time to participate,” Simer said.

Despite low voter turnout and an overall distrust in national government, the numbers look noticeably different at the state and local levels. According to a 2016 Gallup Poll, 62 percent of Americans trust state government to solve their problems, with 71 percent expecting the same of their local

government. Since 1998, Republicans have typically had the most trust in state government with Democrats and Independents following in that order.

For the November 2018 general elections, Wisconsin had the fourth highest voter turnout of any state with 61.7 percent, according to University of Florida Professor Michael McDonald.

Even for the 2012 and 2016 presidential elections there was disparity in voter turnout in parts of western Wisconsin, with Pierce County having a 66 percent voter turnout, 10 percentage points higher than the national average. However, the City of River Falls during this time span saw a voter turnout of 53.9 percent.

Regarding trust in government, Zimmerman said, “Trust is earned, and I think those elected have to realize that. They have to start to make better decisions.”

Trust can be broken quickly and takes time to rebuild, Zimmerman added. He said he thinks that one way to improve trust is to have members of Congress serve shorter terms.

“You’ve got people in there that have been serving in there for 30-plus years. No. 1, they are disconnected from reality. There is no way they understand at a tactical level what’s happening in their economy and in their communities,” Zimmerman said.

Simer said that the burden of regaining the trust of the citizens is on the government entities, not on the citizens. He added that it’s hard to overly generalize trust in the government when it comes to certain institutions.

He cited the military as an example of a government sector that has traditionally high approval ratings.

Simer also mentioned trust in the IRS, saying, “I have complete confidence that the Internal Revenue Service will know whether or not I have paid my taxes, so I have complete confidence in that.”

Vaping concerns UWRF officials and local business

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More than two dozen Wisconsin residence that found their breathing patterns interrupted by illness linked to ingredients in their e-cigarette, according to health officials.

At the UW-River Falls campus, about 10% of students vaped either nicotine or THC in the past 30 days, according to the latest statistics from the National College Health Assessment. The campus has policies in place to prevent vaping.

“Our tobacco free campus policy covers e-cigarette use as well. We changed the language and just updated the policy so on the newer signage it says vaping instead,” said Keven Syverson, director of Health Promotions.

The main increase has been seen at the High School level. According to the state Department of Health Services, in Wisconsin, e-cigarette use among high school students increased by 154% between 2014 and 2018.

Action has been taken at the federal level. According to the New York Times, the Food and Drug Administration plans to create a plan in the coming weeks for “removing flavored e-cigarettes and nicotine pods from the market, excluding tobacco flavors. The ban would include mint and menthol, popular varieties that manufacturers have argued should not be considered flavors.”

“There’s some regulations coming down the pike as we’re starting to see the effects of vaping,” said Syverson.

Donald Golightly, co-owner of Puff Puff Glass and Big Top Vape in downtown River Falls, is concerned by these new regulations. “I quit smoking using flavored e-cigarettes. I quit smoking over six years ago and right now I hardly even vape anymore. I know the worry is about targeting minors, but we have a perfect record here with the county as far as checking ID’s.”

Golightly continued, “They regularly send young people in who are underage, and we’ve never had an issue since our employees are diligent about checking. I would hate to see them take the flavored options out of the hands of people who are adults.”

Though there has been public health concerns, Golightly hasn’t seen a slow in business. He believes that the illnesses are related to people purchasing products from untrusted sources.

“From what I understand, and we’ve read an awful lot about it, most of what they’re talking about is people using illicit THC concentrate vape cartridges that they’re getting on the black market. Some cases have been with simply vape products, but we haven’t had anyone get sick here. We sell nothing but premium products that come from FDA approved manufacturers,” Golightly continued, “Personally, I think if your kids are using illicit substances, that is a problem that starts in the home.”

If the flavors e-juice is banned, Golightly believes the store will focus its energy on their glass and CBD products. “We do tell our customers you’re not suppose to breathe anything but oxygen. We like to offer people a variety of products if they’re so inclined. We do try to promote a safe environment and safe products.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, those who fell ill presented symptoms of cough and shortness of breath. Symptoms worsened with time, and some patients experienced fever, anorexia, diarrhea, nausea, and other complications.

Health investigators are still working to pinpoint what has entered into the supply of vaping products. “Hopefully that myth out there that it’s safer than cigarettes is going to be debunked a little bit through some of these things,” said Syverson.

For students who are looking to quit vap-



Sales representative at Big Top Vape, Michael Medini, blows a vape cloud. Photo by Brooke Shepherd

ing, there are many resources available. Syverson recommends going to TruthInitive.org. Students can also text “Ditch Juul” to 88709 to get methods on how to quit. “It helps with cravings, stress, and slips. It’s a

resource that we haven’t had before,” said Syverson. Health Services plans to put more emphasis on these resources for students.

‘Free speech ball’ leads to debate about campus policy

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During the first week of UW-River Falls fall semester, a freshman student felt her free speech was infringed upon by a campus official.

On Sept. 6, Sofie Salmon, a student majoring in Meat Animal Science, took to campus with a “free speech” beach ball, encouraging students to write a message and exercise their right of free speech. Salmon, accompanied by a Turning Point USA representative and a woman named Bekka Beeton from the Leadership Institute, hoped to inform students about Turning Point USA, and their aspirations for it to become a student organization in the future.

According to Salmon, “Turning point USA is a non partisan group that promotes conservative and libertarian ideas. There’s been a few of these events across the country where there’s been a free speech ball, just encouraging students to write whatever and encourage them to use their first amendment rights.”

Shortly after starting, Salmon was approached by Kristin Barstad, the University Center’s conference and contract services manager. “She basically told us that because we hadn’t reserved the space we needed to move,” said Salmon.

When Salmon asked which policy had been violated, “She didn’t really have a name for it,” said Salmon.

If they didn’t move, Salmon said they were informed they would be removed by campus security. “Which is a violation

of our first amendment right to be able to have free speech on a college campus.”

“We did comply and we did move but I was very bummed that she wasn’t allowing that because that’s the right we have and as the public who’s funding the university,” Salmon continued.

The policy Salmon was violating connects back to three different documents. “There are a few different layers of policy here that apply. First would be the state statute chapter 21 regarding use of university facilities. This describes that any on campus or off campus entity needs to have some sort of affiliation or sponsorship or some sort of designated reason to be able to access facilities,” explained Beth Schommer, the executive assistant to the chancellor.

“Then it also delegates to campuses the procedures for how we go about that. That brings us to our campus administrative policy which is administrative policy 01103 called use of university facilities. That describes in more detail some of our procedures and different responsibilities. This then references additional documents. The most detailed is the university centers policy and procedures manual where it clearly spells out if you are a non university group or if you are a university group and what is the procedure that you need to go to,” said Schommer.

Earlier in the day, another member of Turning Point U.S.A had set up a table to pass out information in front of the University Center. They were also asked to leave.

“Here what we are talking about, the policy in question

had nothing to do with free speech whatsoever, it was a question of reservable space. And the individuals were occupying a reservable space that had not been reserved according to the procedures,” said Schommer.

“They were informed of the proper procedures and of the non-reservable publicly accessible space, which is the sidewalk along Cascade, where they could’ve moved to and had their presence,” Schommer continued.

Salmon expressed that she wanted to give students who had interest in Turning Point USA, “a place to talk and a community to be in and promote those values.”

If Turning Point USA does become a student organization, Salmon plans to table, hold events, have respectful debates.

“We’re just trying to promote free speech for everybody, it’s not just for one side. I think it’s important for universities and students to know that this is a public funded university and they do have that right so they should be pushing that right. That’s something as taxpayers are paying for as well as students who are involved,” said Salmon.

“Once they have registered student organization status they can access the same reservable spaces with the same procedures as any organization,” said Schommer. She also commented that it is more than welcomed for Turning Point USA to become a student organization

UWRF alumnus goes on to embalm in Japan

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"Often death is more welcomed than life," said Kevin G. Pavek, a 1999 UW-River Falls graduate. The son of two dairy farmers, Pavek chose a different route. He now has funeral service experience in Minnesota, Wisconsin, as well as four years that Pavek taught embalming in Osaka, Japan.

In his time at UWRF, Pavek majored in Sociology with a minor in Biology and Pre-Mortuary Science. "During my Freshman year, I chose Sociology because I had a strong interest in it. Jean Hector-Faley was a professor that I respected a lot," said Pavek.

After graduating from the University of Minnesota's Program of Mortuary Science in 2000, Pavek became a specialist in embalming. "I've embalmed just about every kind of body you can imagine; burn victims, babies, severely decomposed bodies," said Pavek.

Before attending UWRF, Pavek already knew he had an interest in the funeral business. On a class field trip in the fourth grade, Pavek was introduced to a local funeral home in New Prague, Minnesota, where he toured the embalming room.

"Seeing the unusual instruments and equipment, it was obviously a room for conducting some very specific work. The room was well-lit and clean," Pavek continued, "I remember seeing a radio on the countertop and imagining that he would listen to the radio while he works in here. I wasn't leary of the funeral home at all. The tour made a good impression on me, and that was when I first came to consider the profession as possibly something that I could do."

While attending UWRF in 1996, Pavek applied for a program called National Student Exchange, allowing him to spend his junior year at the University of South Carolina.

"At that time, I thought it was a rare opportunity to experience something beyond what I was used to, which was the upper midwest to that point," Pavek continued, "When the opportunity to work in Japan came, I'm sure that I looked back on my NSE experience as an indication that good things would come from expanding my horizons," said Pavek.

Pavek did not originally plan on going to Japan. In 2001, he was finishing his 10 month Minnesota Funeral Director's internship, where he had the option to continue as a fully licensed funeral director. However, one day while waiting to meet with the head of the Mortuary Science program at the U of M, he picked up a magazine.

"In it, I noticed an ad in the employment section, 'Embalm in Japan,'" Pavek continued, "I applied. I had an interview by phone, an interview in person at a hotel in St. Paul. It took a long time, so long in fact that I assumed that I must not have gotten the job, but finally after Christmas toward the very end of 2001, I received a phone call asking me if I wanted the job."

The largest funeral company in Osaka, Japan was adding the capability of embalming to their services. "In the 1990's, embalming was in it's absolute infancy in Japan, mostly [just] in Tokyo. Around 2000, the Koekisha funeral company in Osaka had the vision to begin offering embalming. There was an American man from New York who had worked in Tokyo for nearly 10 years. He had decided to retire and return home. Koekisha



Kevin Pavek relaxes with a book. Photo courtesy of Kevin Pavek.

hired him and asked him to find two more funeral director/embalmers from the U.S." explained Pavek.

He was selected with another woman from Maryland. The two began work in April of 2002. In Japan, embalming became more prevalent in late 2004, allowing the company to help start the Osaka Funeral Science College where Pavek became an embalming instructor.

Pavek explained that in Japan, the embalming process refers to not only to the process of chemical preservation by replacing blood with formaldehyde-based embalming solutions, but also to the sub-surface cosmetic treatments and topical cosmetic applications, clothing the body and often casketing. The entire visual preparation of the body is included, which differs from the U.S., where embalming only encompasses the chemical process of preservation.

Embalming is a relatively new thing in Japan. "Preparing bodies in Japan gives me a little more satisfaction because I often feel a genuine appreciation for results. I believe in Japanese embalming and I'm really helping it to grow one embalming case at a time," said Pavek.

"In the U.S., funeral customs are moving away from traditional viewing practices. I've embalmed bodies in the U.S., gotten what I believe are excellent results, and the family, without seeing the body, changes their mind to cremation. Of course, in that situation a funeral director can't say anything," said Pavek.

Regardless of whether the body was embalmed or not, Pavek said most families in Japan will cremate the body after the funeral. According to Pavek, Japanese embalming costs about twice as much as the services in the U.S., with prices around \$1,100 per body. Pavek said only about 5% of people in Japan

utilize embalming services.

Pavek has found many challenges while working in the funeral business. Pavek re-

Embalming is a relatively new thing in Japan. "Preparing bodies in Japan gives me a little more satisfaction."

flected on his experience back in 2010, "I was on call that night for our funeral home and around 11 p.m. I took a call from the coroner's office that four autopsies were complete and we had four removals."

Making two trips, Pavek brought the bodies of four young men back to the funeral home. "Three were brothers and they were exceptionally large men. They had the bodies of college football linemen. They were autopsied, like I said, which adds to the embalmers work. They were also cranially autopsied which adds further to the work. And the size of the bodies made the work tiring. I worked all night on these four and into the morning. At some point during the night, our mortuary science student who lived in the funeral home, we all lived there, came downstairs to the prep room. From that point he helped me by sewing bodies and helping me move bodies," said Pavek.

Without the assistance, Pavek would not of been able to complete the embalmings by morning. "In funeral service, when that phone rings you never know what's waiting for you on the other end."

Another layer of the funeral business that Pavek finds challenging is dealing with flowers. Outside of difficult transport, "Thousands of dollars are often spent on flowers for one funeral and after a certain point the

flowers, in my opinion, don't add to the funeral unless the deceased was especially into flowers. They get your suit dirty and I really don't like setting them up. Setting them up includes having flower stands for them, which are often moved place to place with the flowers. Other funeral directors never like the way I set the flowers up around the casket," Pavek said.

Pavek has gathered many stories over the years in the business. "In 2005 I embalmed bodies that had died in the Amagasaki train derailment," said Pavek.

A train conductor in Osaka was running late, and rushed to the next stop. "Where the tracks curved the train derailed and almost all of the people in the first two train cars died. Our funeral home began getting these calls, and for three days straight I embalmed 7 accident cases. It was tough duty. Everybody had damage to the left sides of their bodies," Pavek continued, "They were just people who happened to be using that train station at that time. I was so busy working I didn't know the details until much later. Then on the third afternoon of working on these cases the funeral home drivers put an ordinary peaceful looking elderly man on my embalming table. The office secretary told me, 'They wanted to give you a break.'"

While he was still working in Minnesota, Pavek also had an experience where he picked up the wrong body. "When I got back to our funeral home the directors asked me, 'Who did you pick up?' So, I told them the name. They told me to go back, that they gave me the wrong body," said Pavek.

Pavek continues his work today at a funeral home in Kyoto, Japan. He is currently a funeral director and embalmer, and hopes to continue expanding embalming in Japan.

Multi-factor authentication becomes available to all UWRF students during fall semester

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This semester, UW-River Falls has introduced a new two-factor authentication option to students called DUO. This form of multi-factor authentication was available and required last year for all staff, faculty and student employees. It is now an option that is open to everyone on campus.

Two-factor authentication is especially advised by DoTS and it provides extra security for users when using their UW related accounts such as Canvas or Outlook.

One of the largest security concerns for DoTS regarding student data on campus is the compromise of student accounts and the result of accounts being used for scams.

"When you look at the focus that we have surrounding multi-factor authentication and getting people engaged with it this fall, it's really a push to minimize a lot of these risks," explained Ken Ries, Campus Chief Information Security Officer.

This form of security has been shown to be very secure for users. According to a Microsoft report, two-factor authentication is 99% effective and blocks several compromise attacks.

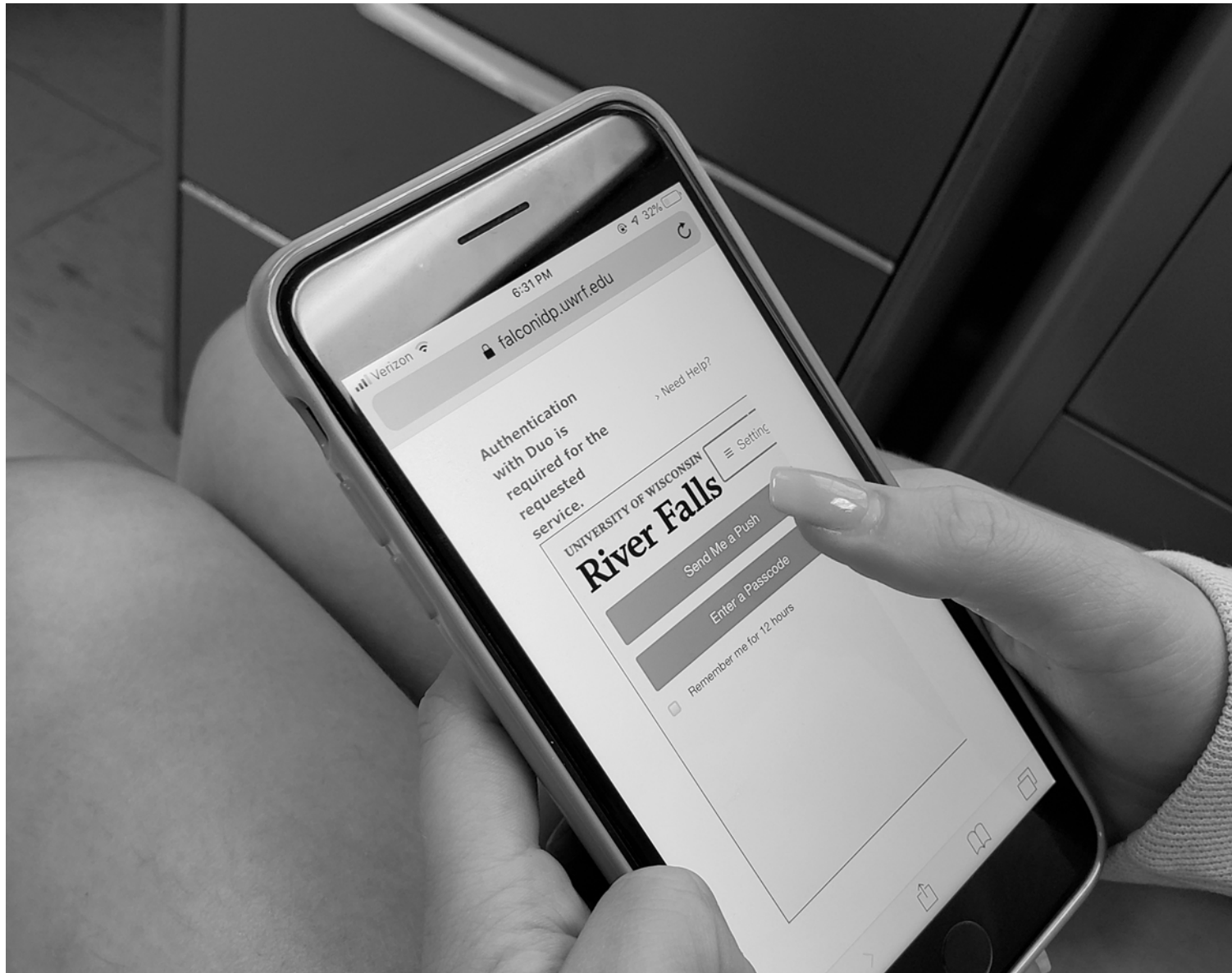
The Department of Technology Services is advising students to use DUO to protect their accounts in order to protect themselves from the dangers of hacking and falling victim to scams.

"We would really like students to secure their own data," said Reis.

Currently, the UW system does not require all students to use the two-factor authentication, but DoTS assumes that this could eventually become a requirement for all students to establish absolute safety for personal data. Joe Kmiec, UWRF's Chief Information Officer, also talked about the protection that DUO provides. Two-factor authentication can help protect against security breaches and the compromise of larger databases as well.

One of the most common forms of scams that DoTS sees on campus is called a "fishing attempt," this can occur when a UW member on campus becomes compromised and a scammer may pose as them. It could be a student, staff member, or faculty member and their name and account is being used to send out spam emails that are scam attempts. These emails are usually asking for money in some form,

Two-factor authentication is 99% effective and blocks several compromise attacks.



Student uses duo verification to log in. Photo by Brooke Shepherd.

such as gift cards.

Both Ries and Kmiec explained that money is usually the overall motive behind these hacking attempts and having a multi-factor authentication system on accounts can help prevent the majority of these attacks.

Although DoTS has not seen any extreme scams at UWRF, it is still a principle concern and DUO is something that can prevent almost all of these instances. The way the two-factor authentication works is by having a second step after logging into an account. Once the login information is entered, another page is presented and this is where a code is typed in or a confirmation action is required through another device. These spe-

cific codes and actions are unique to each person using DUO and according to Kmiec, this makes the two-factor authentication very secure. The main idea surrounding DUO, is to require multiple actions before being able to actually enter any given account.

This is a process being adopted across many platforms. It can be used with social media accounts such as Instagram and Facebook and can also be added to personal banking accounts. "I would encourage everybody to use multi-factor authentication wherever they could," said Ries.

According to Ries, the need for more advanced information security on campus is due to both a rise in issues surrounding the concept of information security as well as a rise in concern. Ries said, "there are more bad actors out there trying to get through our

firewalls and through our email systems, they are getting more clever and smarter, which results in us using more advanced tools."

Because of the potential dangers that come with security breaches, there is a need for more advanced measures. "It's a race, and we need to keep up," said Ries.

To enroll a device with DUO, students can go to DoTS, located in the basement of Davee Chalmer Library. Both Ries and Kmiec talked about enrolling a device easy and quick and having the two-factor authentication can go a long way when it comes to protecting data. Another way to enroll a device is online through the UWRF technology website: technology.uwrf.edu.

UWRF career fair turns into a two-day event

Isabella Forliti and Anna Gunderson

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Previously a one-day event, this year's Career Fair has expanded to two days in the University Center's Riverview Ballroom. On Oct. 8 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., students will be exposed to over 130 organizations that are seeking to potentially employ them before they graduate.

"The career fair is an event that gives students more exposure to a number of different companies," Jenna Phelps, the UW-River Falls Career Fair Coordinator expressed, "... it is an opportunity for students to discover new potential areas of interest that they can use post graduation." Remember to dress accordingly and take a resume, for same-day interviews will be available for those who attend.

These companies not only offer internships but present vol-

unteer opportunities and careers to last a lifetime. Potential organizations visiting our campus include Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, Thomson Reuters, L3 Harris Technologies and Rainbow Tree Care to name a few.

For more information or to get in contact with Jenna Phelps, she is located at Career Services in Hagestad or via email at jenna.phelps@uwrf.edu.

Lab at UWRF approaches 20 years of studying cancer

By Owen Elle
Falcon News Service

Nestled away in the corner of the fourth floor of the Agricultural Science Building at UW-River Falls is the office of Professor Timothy Lyden. Lyden, who teaches anatomy in the Biology Department, first started teaching at UWRF in 2001 after spending time at Ohio State University and Wright University.

In 2001, he created the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center. Now, 18 years later, Lyden’s lab is still going strong.

“What we do in the lab is apply tissue engineering techniques on a very small scale in order to model different kinds of tissue, normal tissue in some cases and cancerous tissue in other cases,” Lyden said.

The Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center has some physical space dedicated to itself within the Agriculture Science building. It has a microscope suite on the second floor, joint facilities on the fourth floor, and Lyden’s personal lab on the fifth floor. Spaces used by center are also used by other faculty and for other teaching purposes.

“Because we are a small school, obviously we have some shared resources,” Lyden said.

The lab is run by Lyden but he has several undergraduate students who contribute to projects.

“During a given year we have between five and 10 students pass through the lab in a variety of different ways,” Lyden said. “There’s a wide variety of types of people that work.”

Activities in the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center have included research on melanoma, harvesting tissue from the fetuses of chicken eggs, and work with the stem cells in cow milk.

“Our purpose and our focus in our lab is looking at the cellular level of how cells put themselves together and coordinate their interactions to go from being individual cells to building a tissue and then those tissues building whole organs,” Lyden said.

The Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center is constantly running several simultaneous projects in specific bioengineering research. Cancer research is currently the main focus of the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center. Lyden and his students have worked with other labs in the past relating to cancer research. The lab also worked on the development of stromal, or fat tissue.

“We became interested in the stromal tissue because it’s a target for cancer cells. When they spread in the body one of the places they spread is into or through fat tissue,” Lyden said. This led Lyden to a specific focus lately on breast cancer and its relationship with stromal tissue.

Through his worked at the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center and experience in the world of anatomy and bioengineering, Lyden said he believes that cancer is beatable. However, he notes, “It’s very important to understand that cancer is not actually a disease. It’s actually over 200 different sub-diseases.”

Lyden goes on to say that there are hundreds of different cells that all respond differently to cancer, and that looking into a specific cancerous sub-disease may be the way to fight the disease instead of an overall overview of cancer.

“It’s very doubtful that drugs, chemicals, radiation, or surgery, which are the standards today, that those in the long run will be the big answer to the cancer problem,” Lyden said. “I think in the shorter run, say 15 to 20 years, it’s very likely that a better understanding of cancer biology through studies like what we’re doing is allowing people to better understand not

how to cure it necessarily, but how to control it.”

He added, “I think it’s very possible in the next 15 years that we may reach a point where cancer becomes a chronic disease rather than a mortal disease.”

Lyden said he believes the disease may transition away from a death sentence or a near death experience in some cases, to something that with proper treatment may prevent cancer from metastasizing and killing individuals. Lyden likens the potential future of cancer to HIV, which has a high mortality rate when untreated, but when treated correctly and in a timely manner may become a chronic issue for the patient.

While Lyden and his team have stayed active with their cancer research, the lab’s work at UW-River Falls doesn’t come without its challenges.

“There are hurdles that we face doing this kind of research here at River Falls,” Lyden said. “We are funded reasonably by the institution, but we’ve had budget crises for years and years now, so there are always challenges like that. There are very common hurdles, there are never enough equipment, funding is always tough to come by and there’s never enough of it, and usually there is not enough trained personal.”

Lyden said the biggest hurdle at UW-River Falls is that “students come here and get trained and leave.” He mentioned that it is hard for this school to match the output of big research institutions, saying, “We have to settle for smaller contributions, but we have been successful on that front.”

Despite the hurdles, the Tissue and Cellular Innovation Center inches ever closer to its twentieth year on campus. As the lab continues to function, Lyden and his team will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of metastasis regarding breast cancer.

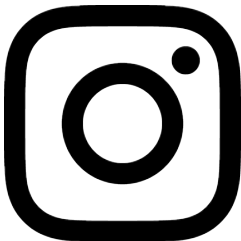
Student dies of cardiac arrest

Brooke Shepherd
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A University of Wisconsin-River Falls student, Yaw Shot Shwe, died of cardiac arrest on Aug. 24, according to Falcon Daily. Shwe was expected to return to UW-River Falls this fall for his second year. He planned to major in art. Shwe lived in St. Paul, Minnesota.

His visitation took place on Aug. 26, at Anderson Funeral Home in St. Paul, Minnesota. Shwe’s funeral and burial followed on Aug. 27, at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chicago City, Minnesota.

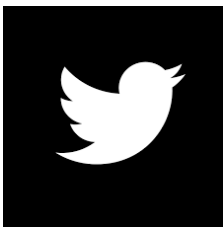
According to the funeral home, no other obituary information is available.



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What's going on around campus?

By: Brooke Shepherd

Updates to dorms

According to Alan Symicek, the director of facilities, McMillan and May Hall have undergone construction during the summer months. May Hall will be closed during the Spring semester of 2020 for extended construction work to become disability and handicap accessible. The Nelson Center has been demolished as of August.

"When Nelson came down that allowed us on the west end to make the building ADA accessible. We're also adding an elevator. We want to provide options to students who may have disabilities. We also updated the heating system, the basement is getting some remodeling." Symicek continued, "McMillan was all remodeled with new bathrooms."

Grimm Hall is expected to receive renovations next summer.

New electrical distribution

Facilities is currently working on redoing the whole electrical distribution of campus, which is about five million dollar project.

"The utility brings power in at one location and then we are responsible for putting underground wires and cables throughout all the buildings and maintaining power to that." Symicek continued, "What this project is really doing is replacing 35 year old equipment which is beyond its life. It's also increasing the reliability of the power on campus because we're going to have two power lines coming in that we can feed off of."

If campus were to lose one source of power during a storm, there would now be a backup. "Most people kind of like their electricity, including me," said Symicek.



Workers digging to re-do electrical wiring. Photo by Brooke Shepherd



Inside the Rodli building. Photo courtesy of Alan Symicek.

According to Symicek, Rodli is on schedule, with plans to re-open in December. There will be 14 departments going into Rodli including; admissions, veterans services, career services and student health and counseling. The building will be called the Student Success Center. According to Elizabeth Frueh, the assistant chancellor for business and finances, the Rodli remodel cost \$15.9 million.

When the University Center opened, all the food was there instead of Rodli. "The building got used for miscellaneous things. The campus started looking at how can we best utilize that building for campus," said Symicek.

The university eventually came up with a compilation of departments related to student success.

Former Falcons track star returns to coach team

Reagan Hoverman

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When Colleen Sowa was a student at UW-River Falls, she participated in track and field and competed not only on a conference level, but also on a national level. Now, she is returning to UWRP as the new head coach of the track and field team for the 2019-2020 season.

Since the time that Sowa was in eighth grade, she was recognized as a gifted athlete. Initially, Sowa was interested in basketball and softball growing up. She had never planned on doing track and field until a coach reached out to her.

"I was planning to play softball all spring, but in Minnesota, they have the exceptional athlete rule," Sowa said. "Meaning, if you're in middle school you can join the varsity team. A track coach reached out to me and said, as an eighth-grader, we would like you to come up, we believe you can do track."

Right around that same time, Sowa discovered what she wanted to do with her life.

"I knew from the very beginning since eighth grade, there was a guy named Andy Olson, he was the high school track coach and I was in his class," Sowa said. "he told me I should consider track. I knew that since then, that was the job I wanted."

Once Sowa joined track and field, she had immediate success which continued for all five years that she was on the team. Following her senior year of high school, Sowa decided that she wanted to continue her track and field career and compete at a collegiate level.

Although Sowa toured many schools, ultimately, she decided that UWRP was going to be her home.

"I have lived here for 13 years; I absolutely love this town. I was able to get a great degree here, I was able to participate in track and field, I had

success here, I also met my husband here," Sowa said.

During her time as a track and field competitor at UWRP Sowa began as a participant in the multi event, specifically, as a heptathlete; a competition that is comprised of seven different events. During her first significant meet as a freshman, Sowa placed in the WIAC multi event. From there she knew that she needed to continue her hard work and make a run at winning the WIAC the next year.

"My sophomore year I battled some injuries," Sowa said. "I came back for my sophomore year of eligibility and was able to win the multi in the WIAC, and that was the turning point for me, realizing what I had worked so hard for."

From there Sowa went on to compete at the national meet and compete. The bright lights and the high stakes were something that she wasn't used to.

"The first time seeing that stage I was a little overwhelmed, but once I finished that meet, I knew that I could do more," Sowa said.

As a junior, her goal was straightforward, to be an All-American. This was the year where she could accomplish that. After all, she had gained the experience that she had previously lacked when going into larger meets in the WIAC championship and also on a national level.

That is until one moment changed everything.

"Our conference meet of that year was at home and I was going back and forth with a Whitewater girl on the second day to win the multi again," Sowa said. "I was in the best shape of my life, was having a fantastic meet, went off on my second long-jump and I tore everything out of my knee. It was a career-ending knee injury."

Following her devastating knee injury, her running career was essentially over. Sowa went on to compete in other events that didn't require running such as the javelin throw. However, her focus shifted from com-

peting to teaching and coaching.

After she graduated from UWRP in 2011, Sowa was hired as a teacher at River Falls high school where she took over as head coach of the girl's track and field team. While she was coaching at River Falls high school, she managed to win three straight conference championships from 2013-2015. Following the 2015 track and field season, she was voted Girls Coach of the Year by the Wisconsin Track Coaches Association.

From there Sowa was looking to continue to grow as a coach. She was able to get an interview for a volunteer position as a track and field coach at the University of Minnesota. During her time working with Division I athletes, Sowa gained invaluable experience. However, some of her most important experience came off of the field.

"The biggest thing that has helped me in the coaching world is being a teacher and understanding how to build relationships with students and student-athletes," Sowa said. "We have to coach them not only technique-wise, but we have to coach them on that mental side too which is so much of that health component as well."

Building relationships is one way that Sowa plans to create a winning tradition at UWRP. She has lofty goals that, if achieved, would have Falcon track and field cementing themselves as a powerhouse in the WIAC for years to come.

"I always say that I want to be competitive. In the WIAC, especially in track and field, the other Wisconsin schools have built and created programs that are phenomenal," Sowa said. "That's what I want to see here. Again, I've been here for 13 years, this is what I consider my dream job. I get to go back to my alma mater, and I get to be a part of a program that meant so much to me. I want to make this program competitive in the WIAC, and when you're competitive in the WIAC, you're competitive nationally."

This spring, Sowa will have the opportunity to have an impact on the team in a different way, as head coach. She will begin her first full season as a coach this coming spring.

River Falls alumnus hired as cross-country head coach

Reagan Hoverman

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As the new head coach of the men's and women's cross-country team, and assistant coach for track and field, Jason Phillippi is trying to rebuild the program that brought him happiness during his time as an undergraduate at UW-River Falls.

Running has been a passion for Phillippi throughout his life. Growing up in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, he competed in track and field in high school all four years. Following graduation, Phillippi toured several schools, all of which he was planning to participate in track and field and cross-country. However, one school stood out to him.

"When I toured here, I knew I would come in and make an impact right away," Phillippi said. "I set goals of wanting to be an All-American, wanting to set school records, and I did those things."

During his time at UWRP, Phillippi became one of the most prolific runners that this institution has ever seen. From 2004-2008, he set four schools records, three of which have since been broken. The only remaining record Phillippi holds is in the 1,000-meter event; a record that he set during his senior season of 2008.

The success that Phillippi and his teammates had during his time at UWRP affected new runners who came to this campus, along with the numbers and times that they were able to

post while here.

"It's been cool to see the trickle-down effect that it's had," Phillippi said. "We've had studs come in and produce and run fast. I want to bring that back and showcase the success that we've had over the last ten years."

According to the UWRP sports website, 15 of the top 28 indoor track records have been set in the last 10 years. Phillippi wants to continue the trend of breaking school records and improving personal running times in his time as the new head coach of the cross-country team.

To achieve his goal of making his athletes the best runners that they can be, he first has to rebuild a cross-country program that has been struggling over the past couple of seasons. At one time, there were approximately 40 cross-country runners for the combined men's and women's team. However, last year that number was essentially cut in half, with the total amount of runners being 21.

Phillippi has an eye for recruiting and for great runners, in part because of his experience working with runners, students, and anybody who took an interest in getting better.

After graduating from college, Phillippi spent time working at five different schools throughout the state of Minnesota coaching and working with runners on improving their craft. Following that experience, he spent five years coaching adults on their running.

His experience working with a variety of people helped him develop a philosophy of running that he plans to imple-



Jason Phillippi

ment in his time coaching at UWRP.

"I want to focus on individualized training and building culture. Not every kid can show up and do mile repeats. Some are going to need longer work, some are going to get burnt out or injured, so you have to train everyone slightly different," Phillippi said.

Coaching at a college level will always come down to wins and losses, results in races, and overall success of the program in the time that the coach is here. However, Phillippi wants his

runners to learn more than just how to train and win at a collegiate level.

"I want kids to set themselves up to be a lifelong runner if that's the path they choose," Phillippi continued, "Running doesn't end when they graduate like a lot of sports, there are so many opportunities to run road races, train for marathons, there are running clubs, there is so much to do and ways to challenge and push themselves. All of these habits we develop as runners can also transfer into their personal life."

The next meet for the men's and women's cross-country team is at the Roy Griak Invitational in Minneapolis, MN, on Sept. 28. Events for the day are scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m.

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STUDENT VOICE
www.uwrfvoice.com

The Student Voice is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and is published monthly 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

554022 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 be able to be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon during the week of publishing. Information on publishing schedule can be obtained by contacting the editor.

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 via email. Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

Thank you for choosing the Student Voice.

Both sides in free speech debate have merit

Editorial
editor@my.uwrfvoice.com

Free speech on campus is at times limited by campus policies. During the first week of the 2019 fall semester, freshman Sofie Salmon, a meat animal science major, took to campus to deliver her message of free speech, while also informing students about a club she hopes to turn into a student organization. Salmon used a beach ball to have students sign, and spoke to them about their first amendment rights.

Salmon was asked to leave by a member of campus administrator, however Salmon expressed disappointment that she couldn't practice free speech on campus without following a lengthy laid out policy that exists under a state statute, an administrative policy and in the University Centers' Policy and Procedures Manual. It seems freedom of speech is permitted within specific guidelines laid out by the university. One could argue that the second a policy is put in place to tell someone where they can practice free speech, they have potentially violated the first amendment.

However, universities are in place for students to come and receive an education. If students could gather wherever they want at any time and have unorganized events on campus, it may detract from students who want to reserve the space and have an organized event. The Student Voice understands both sides of the argument. Salmon is correct that she has the right to practice her free speech on public property, and the university is correct that there needs to be some organization in place for those wishing to have a presence on campus.

Letter to the editor

September 15, 2019
Dear Editor,
Fifty years ago youth spoke out in one voice for peace against the Vietnam War at the Woodstock music festival in upstate New York. Some credit their massive outcry with increasing pressure to end America's involvement in that destructive conflict. Flash forward to today's youth, preparing to speak in far larger numbers than Woodstock's half-million, in an international strike for climate action this coming Friday, September 20. Students all over the world will go on strike that day to impress on political and civic leaders how seriously young people take our climate crisis and the need for effective action to preserve livable climate conditions on our planet for future generations. One of the architects of this movement is a 16-year-old Swedish hero named Greta Thunberg, who has almost single-handedly galvanized leaders in her own country into action on the climate crisis. Last November Ms. Thunberg addressed a United Nations climate change conference in Poland, reproaching the assembled adults, "You are not mature enough to tell it like it is. Even that burden, you leave to us children." I urge adults to seek out actions being tak-

en by students locally and to stand with them. We all need to do more to prevent the climate crisis from becoming more dire than it already is, and it would be cowardly to leave it to the young to confront the existential threat of climate change by themselves. One local gathering will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, September 20 at the corner of Second and Walnut Streets in downtown Hudson. For those outside of Hudson, it's likely there are actions in your own town. Find and support them. Youth need to know they're not fighting this battle alone. Fellow adults, we're needed.

Thomas R. Smith
River Falls

Keep up with
articles on
our website:
uwrfvoice.com

#BACK2SCHOOL: AN OPEN LETTER TO MY STUDENTS

Dear Student,
I never thought I would write this epistle to you, but I miss you. Walking down the tranquil but deserted hallways in the summer, finally made me realize that I needed you more than I thought I did. Nobody slipped a late assignment under my door or gave me an incredulous excuse for why he missed the 8 AM test. I know this may be hard for you to believe but I missed that. As we prepare to meet again next week, here are a few things to keep in mind for the new school year:
Read the Syllabus
I distribute hardcopies of the syllabus and spend 20 minutes of class time on the first day of class reviewing it for a reason. Please spend 5 minutes of your precious time to look it over (I know this is a big task). I didn't appreciate your email last year asking about office hours when that was bolded and bulleted on the second line of the first page of the syllabus.
Watch the news or at least read a newspaper
You are fortunate to live in an information age, make it count! You have access to free news apps, newspapers, farm journals, and over two million news articles that flood the internet daily. Harnessing some of these resources will enrich your learning experience and teach you the skills you may never learn in the classroom. I know you are busy, but how about spending 15 minutes of Netflix time each day to read/listen to the news? Who knows, the shift in the demand curve from changes in income that caused you so much grief last term would make more sense to you? Remember that, it is never too late to cultivate a reading life. It will be a useful addition to your already amazing social, work and academic lives.
Email messages are not text messages
I know the distinction between texts and emails is almost blurred but the two are not the same. The fact that you can send an email from your phone doesn't make the email a text message. Address your emails properly, read them over and signed off. Your future employers

may misinterpret your lack of proper communication ethic as a lack tact. As a favor to you, I plan to not respond to your text/instant message type emails this academic year.
Your many virtual friends are not enough
I know you have 500 Facebook friends, 200 Instagramers, 150 LinkedIn connections, 85 pInteresters and 250 Twitter following and followers. Isn't it amazing that from your dormitory on South Main Street, River falls, your network of friends extends from Villa Las Estrellas, Antarctica to Lulonga, Uganda? The reality is that half of those "friends" are only close enough to like your posts, your paths may never actually cross, unfortunately. Make real tangible human friends! Learn the art of sharing spaces with other real tangible human beings. This will make you a better person. As a microcosm of the real-world, the university offers you the opportunity to develop your social skills. A potential lifelong friend may be a desk and a hello away.
Stuff happens
Your university life is only a small part of your whole life and sometimes things, irrespective of how well-intended, may not go as planned. Your high school sweetheart might finally decide to throw in the towel, or your dearly beloved cat might run away preferring a life of solitude in the wild then living with you. You may even spill coffee (Always backup your work!) on your laptop the night before the term project is due or fail the test you prepared so well for. In the unlikely event that any of these ominous incidents occur in your life this year, remember to situate the part in the context of the whole. If this makes you feel any better, I will insert the "stuff happens" clause in my syllabus to provide a modicum of relief. Again, read the syllabus. See you next week.

With lots of affection,
Albert Boaitey



Reagan Responds

Reagan Hoverman
reagan.hoverman@my.uwrf.edu

Q: How to cope with stress while jumping into fall semester?

As the leaves begin to change colors and the fall semester begins to roll around, other things arrive at the same time – stress. For some students, it may be their first semester on campus. For others, it could be their final semester as a Falcon at UW-River Falls. No matter how far along students are in their college career, they are more than likely being impacted by stress.

When the fall semester comes around there are a couple of ways that I deal with stress to help me cope with the assignments, projects and exams. First, I make sure to make time for friends and family. When spending time with friends I try to make sure that we aren't solely doing homework or working on projects; It's supposed to be a fun time. When it comes to family, I try to pick at least one weekend a month to travel home during the fall semester and spend quality time with my family. Being taken out of the college environment, even for a day, can be beneficial for reducing the stress that the fall semester can bring.

If going home isn't an option – and it may not be for some students – then there are always events to go to on campus. Fall and winter sports will be in full effect a couple of months into the semester and they allow for a couple of hours of relaxation while still staying on campus. A good basketball or football game can be a great way to relax and reduce stress from the non-stop studying that the fall semester so often brings.

Family, friends and events on campus are a couple of great ways that I relax and reduce stress on campus during the fall semester. The key to staying relaxed for me is setting aside time throughout the week to have time for myself.

Q: Expectations for Falcons football?

As football season, and football weather, roll around with the beginning of the school year, expectations are often discussed for some of River Falls' most prominent sports teams.

For the 2019 football season, the Falcons are currently 1-1 through their first two games. The only loss of the season came against Bethel University, a team that came into that match-up ranked as the No. 10 team in the country for Division III college football. In that game, the Flacons managed to have a lead at halftime of that game, 13-10. However, Bethel scored 21 points in the third quarter which propelled them to a 38-20 victory over the Falcons.

With that being said, there are still fairly loft expectations for this football team. It's the senior year for quarterback Ben Beckman. He has set school records for passing and has continued to grow as a player every season that he has played quarterback. One of Beckman's favorite targets is a wide receiver, Alex Herink. Last season he set the single-season record for touchdown receptions in his first year playing football.

The Falcons have several dynamic players on their offense that should allow them to be one of the better offenses in the WIAC this season. If all goes according to plan, the Falcons should be setting that goal at a season record of 6-4 this season. It would be the first winning season of Head Coach Matt Walker's career. There's never been a better time than this year with the players that he has on the offensive side of the ball. Not to mention the defensive play-calling that Rocky Larson has been showing this season. Aside from some errant blown coverages, he has been calling plays better than any season I can remember.

Considering all of those factors, I don't think it's unreasonable to have expectations set at a winning season and making some noise in the WIAC, even if it doesn't result in a playoff berth.

Have any sports related questions
or just need life advice?

Contact Reagan @
reagan.hoverman@my.uwrf.edu

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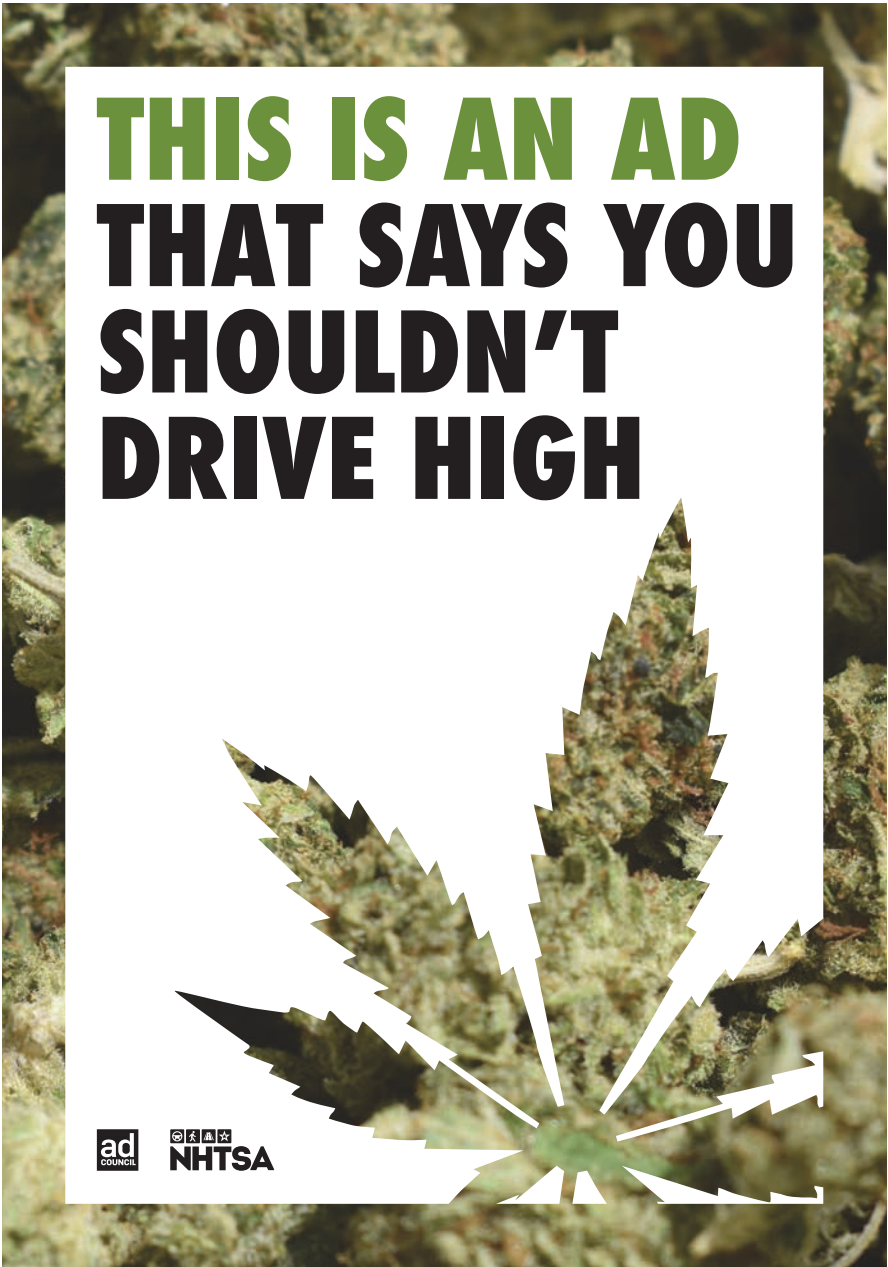


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**THIS IS AN AD
THAT SAYS YOU
SHOULDN'T
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Seventh annual Bacon Bash takes place in downtown River Falls

By Brooke Shepherd

What started out as a brainstorm in a saloon transformed into the largest free bacon festival in the nation, according to organizers of the event. The River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau hosted the seventh annual Bacon Bash festival. Located in Heritage Park, the festival took place on Saturday, Sept. 14, and Sunday, Sept. 15.

Some sponsors of different events included, Our Town Has It and the Minnesota Blues Society.

Bacon Bash had over 35 different bacon dishes from local and regional restaurants, vendors and food trucks. Last summer, the festival saw over 10,000 attendees.



Jon Roslansky won the hot dog eating contest by eating 10 bacon wrapped hot dogs first. Photo Courtesy of Micha Bennet



Pig Costume worn to Bacon Bash Photo Courtesy of Micha Bennet



Live music by the Everett Smithson Band. Photo Courtesy of Micha Bennet



Above: Pigs provided by River Falls FFA alumni



Left: Everett Smithson gives harmonica lessons on the main stage

Photo Courtesy of Micha Bennet