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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



UW-Platteville Communications photo

Name: Caelyn Steffens
Hometown: Normal, IL
Year: Freshman
Major: Biology
Sport: Soccer
How old were you when you started playing soccer?

I started playing soccer around the age of 6.

Who inspired you to compete in soccer?

My older brother inspired me because he was playing soccer at the time, too. He was really good. I would always watch his games so I could learn more about the game. I would also practice with him whenever I got the chance because I wanted to be just like him when I grew up.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

In 5 years, I am hoping to be getting a job as a physicians assistant for dermatology. I would like to get this job in my hometown or close to it because I would like to live in Normal again after college.

What do you do outside of soccer and school?

Outside of school and soccer, I like to hang out with my friends and we go shopping and out to eat a lot.

Do you have any advice for players that aspire to join the team?

Some advice for incoming freshman is to work hard trying to improve your skills and strength leading up to the season, and when the season does begin, don't be nervous, just prove what you can do.

Campus clash for tug-of-war

Jacob "Vinny" Klang
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One of Homecoming's many activities is the annual Tug-of-War. Student Organizations gather in teams of eight to pull opposing teams across a marked line. As teams climb the winner's bracket they earn points towards their overall Homecoming score.

"Tug-of-War is a competition of strength and stamina," senior physical education major Jake Horman said.

This year's tug-of-war took place in The Circle's volleyball courts instead of the flooded fields of Memorial Park. This decision was made a few days prior, when the recent rainfall flooded Memorial Park leaving the grounds untillable.

"It [the tracker and tiller] was gonna get stuck. We made the call earlier in the week. Not just the tug-area but the whole park was flooded," director of campus activities David Nevins said.

Despite the change in venue there was still live music provided by the campus radio, WSUP 90.5fm, and a number of organizations came out to compete.

"I hope to see fierce competition and people that love good music!" senior psychology major and assistant manager of WSUP 90.5fm Michaela Marceau-Zielinski said.

One pair of organizations, Alpha Gamma Rho with Sigma Alpha, came prepared with a strategy.

"If we don't get a good start then we'll hold 'em. It could be promising," senior mechanical engineering major Casey Clark said.

"We're gonna yell loud and work as a team," senior agriculture and technology education major Jess Nehs said.

Another organization with a winning strategy was Rountree Commons, who went 3-2 in the tug-of-war bracket.

"Our strategy is to have fun and pull as hard as we can," junior forensic investigation major Jordan Groove said.

The crowds cheered on each team that pulled. Some teams had unique chants and others wore matching colors to further show their team spirit.

"It was interesting to hear all of the chants and see that the spirit level was high," senior business administration major and event coordinator Tyler Cota said.

"It's a cool event and it's a good team building exercise. It was fun to see the team's strategy," Nevins said.

The first-place team was Alpha Gamma Rho with Sigma Alpha, the second-place team was Gamma Phi Beta with Sigma Tau Gamma and the third-place team was Tau Kappa Epsilon with Kappa Alpha Sigma.

This year's homecoming tug-of-war event was a success.

Spectators and participants even commented on the lack of mud. However, CPR still plans to return the event to Memorial Park next year, so long as weather permits.



Students battle to win points Jacob "Vinny" Klang photo

Campus Read

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ANGIE THOMAS

Elizabeth Kaiser graphic

Campus Climate looks to involve the University of Wisconsin-Platteville through a campus-wide book club this semester. The chosen novel is *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas; Campus Climate held a kickoff event on Tuesday, Oct. 2, where students, faculty and staff were invited to pick up a copy of the text along with additional reading materials. Members of UW-Platteville are welcome to a free copy of the novel by visiting www.uwplatt.edu/diversity/campus-climate-book-club-2018. Campus Climate has given out 150 copies so far.

"The novel is the first fiction selection that we have had over the past three years. Our hope is that this will be an empathy-building text," advisor in the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs T.J. Aiyash said. "No one can fully understand what a person is going through or how another person's experiences affect them, but we use the Campus Climate Book Club as an opportunity to build our ability to empathize with others."

In the novel, the narrator is Starr, a young black girl who witnesses the murder of her childhood friend, Khalil, who is killed by a white police officer. The novel portrays how Starr and her community respond to his death. It has been adapted into a film that was released on Oct. 5, but will arrive to theaters in Southwest Wisconsin by Oct. 19. This novel was selected for the book club to encourage students, faculty and staff to come together to discuss the thought-provoking content as a community.

For those interested in participating in any of the discussion sessions, the October dates can be found at www.uwplatt.edu/event/campus-climate-book-club-kick-event. These events will be led by Aiyash and participants are encouraged to use these discussions as an extra resource to learn about the text. Participants can come to one session or all and the discussions will revolve around the sections of the novel that the participants are all familiar with.

At the kickoff event, Campus Climate publicized the upcoming Literary Festival to be held on Oct. 29 by the Department of Humanities. The festival will also be about *The Hate U Give* and other related topics concerning violence, community and voice.

For more information about the Campus Climate Book Club, contact T.J. Aiyash at aiyasht@uwplatt.edu.