



The ADVANCE-TITAN

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH

Opinion

Censorship

The Advance-Titan weighs in on First Amendments rights of high school journalists. Read more on Page 6.

35 consecutive years of winning



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UWO MODEL UNITED NATIONS

ABOVE: UWO Model UN students debate with other college students during the N.Y. conference.
BOTTOM LEFT: Argentina debates issues. BOTTOM RIGHT: UWO MUN team celebrates their wins.



UWO Model United Nations team takes home the gold during the National competition in N.Y.

by Megan Behnke

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At the National Model United Nations competition in New York from April 14-18, the UW Oshkosh Model UN team competed and won for their 35th consecutive year.

Model UN President and UWO Senior Matt Clowney said MUN allows students to represent a country in the setting of the United Nations.

"Students are given a country and are meant to represent that country's views," Clowney said. "At competitions students are split up across the entire conference and are discussing a large range of issues."

MUN vice president and UWO junior Zoe Dahse said a team of 26 students went to the competition.

"However, aside from the current team members, Oshkosh MUN is known for its wonderful 300 and more alumni which are still dedicated to the team as much as they were when they were on it," Dahse said. "Due to the large network of MUN, students and alumni are able to share experiences, furthering the depth of knowledge of current team members."

MUN member and UWO sophomore Matt Dinse said as a transfer student, he wanted to get more involved on campus in order to meet new friends.

"I saw a sign for Model UN outside of my art class, and since I have always been in-

terested in national and international politics, I decided it might be fun to see what Model UN was all about," Dinse said.

MUN faculty adviser Tracy Slagter said she encourages other students to join Model UN as it is open to all majors and is stronger when there are multiple perspectives.

"We have a lot of political science and international studies majors, of course, but also education majors, an engineering tech major, economics, etc.," Slagter said. "The skills students build in MUN are transferable to every single major, and the network you develop through this organization is unparalleled. I always tell students that if you make a commitment to this team, the team will make a commitment to you that will last long after you graduate."

Clowney said a lot of the credit of why the team has won for so many years in a row is given to their late adviser, Kenneth Grieb.

"He was the backbone of this team for the past 34 years," Clowney said. "His passion for Model UN permeated to all of his students. He taught us how to be diplomatic, professional, confident and how to be the most knowledgeable at the conference. This year the hard work of the returning members enabled the team to pass on the years of institutional and topic knowledge, which led us to

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Student journalism policy to change in high schools

by Christina Basken

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The Oshkosh Area School Board is reviewing its policy on school-sponsored publications after the Oshkosh North High School newspaper posted an article on its website regarding an assistant principal who suddenly disappeared without any word.

The Policy and Governance Committee met last Thursday to review the policy with advisers from both the Oshkosh North

and Oshkosh West student newspapers and others and agreed to meet again on May 21 before proposing any recommendations to the Board of Education.

The story was published on March 4, and less than an hour later, North Star adviser Jason Cummings took it down at the recommendation of his English department chair for fear of potential legal backlash.

Written by Oshkosh North students Brock Doemel and Tess

Fitzhenry, the story included observations about the assistant principal having a potential connection to his decision on how to combat vandalism in the boys' bathrooms.

"As of now, the boy's bathroom on the first floor by door 1 is closed indefinitely until further notice, along with a few others around the school," The North Star reported Feb. 15. "Currently, the administration has not disclosed when exactly

the bathrooms will reopen..."

Later that same day, Principal Jacquelyn Kiffmeyer sent an email to parents saying the bathrooms were closed due to a "custodial miscommunication" and were reopened once the issue was realized.

Cummings said he and his students had talked about the assistant principal's absence for a while, so when he noticed the office was cleaned out and painted on March 4, he told his writers to

get the story.

Cummings said Doemel took the initiative to start calling around for answers, and found an administrator, who would speak on background only and said that the assistant principal resigned because of the bathroom incident.

Confusion over the school policy really led to the article being removed, Cummings said.

"I was under the assumption that this is an open forum, mean-

ing I can't really prevent my students from writing anything, but apparently the policy is different and that says that we are a non-public forum, and the district has the right to censor whatever they want," he said.

The policy, implemented in November 2015, dubs student publications "nonpublic forums" in which their right to speech can be restricted and reviewed to fit educational standards.

OSHKOSH NORTH, PAGE 4

Polk Library budget cuts

by Calvin Skalet

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Cuts to Polk Library's budget over the last decade have left UW Oshkosh "far behind" its peer institutions in both staffing and collections, Polk Library Director Sarah Neises said.

"The chancellor has been transparent about the financial recovery process the campus is experiencing," Neises said, adding that the provost works with them to establish the percentage they need to reduce from their budget.

Polk Library's spring newsletter, published earlier this month, detailed the most recent list of cuts to its digital subscriptions. Since the library's base budget has been cut every year for the last decade, directors and staff are forced into the position of deciding how to degrade their collections.

Neises said in today's digital era, subscription-based

resources are increasingly harder for the library to afford when they receive these collection cuts.

"What is shocking is how our library vendors increase their prices 4-5% every year, which is way beyond inflation," she said.

Cuts to the library's materials budget are now felt immediately due to the access model of today's electronic resources, Neises said.

"At one time, of course, when we purchased books, journals and media, we owned them and could access them until they wore out," Neises said. "Now, like other online subscription services — Spotify, Netflix, etc. — when we no longer can afford to renew, we lose access to everything we enjoyed before. This model is by far responsible for most of our resources."

Neises said the electronic resources help gather data about how often library resources are used.

"The data tells us that users value our full text articles, streaming videos and e-books," she said. "Subject specific background sources are valued by users who need unique content that is not duplicated elsewhere."

Associate professor of music Julia Chybowski said when she found out about these cuts, she contacted Neises in hopes she would consider resubscribing to Oxford Music online, an important reference for her teaching and the music department at UWO.

"Ms. Neises explained that they were forced into the difficult position of degrading library collections because of continual cuts to the library's base budget — every year for a decade our University administration has cut the library's budget," Chybowski said. "This, combined with rising subscription costs charged by

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Tammy Baldwin helps reduce student debt relief scams

by Amber Brockman

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TAMMY BALDWIN

U.S. Senators introduced the bipartisan Stop Student Debt Relief Scams Act, legislation that would enhance efforts to identify and shut down student debt relief scams.

The press release was delivered by U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin, Mike Braun, Jeanne Shaheen and Deb Fischer on April 11.

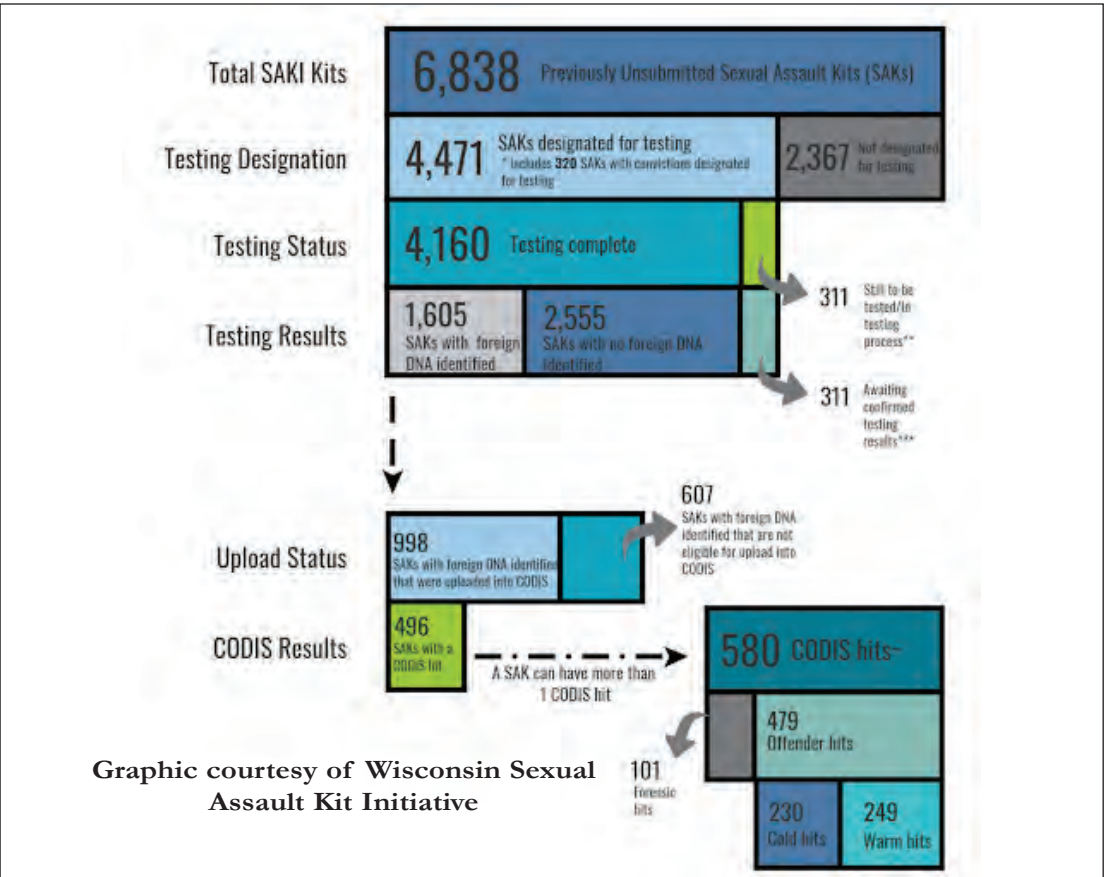
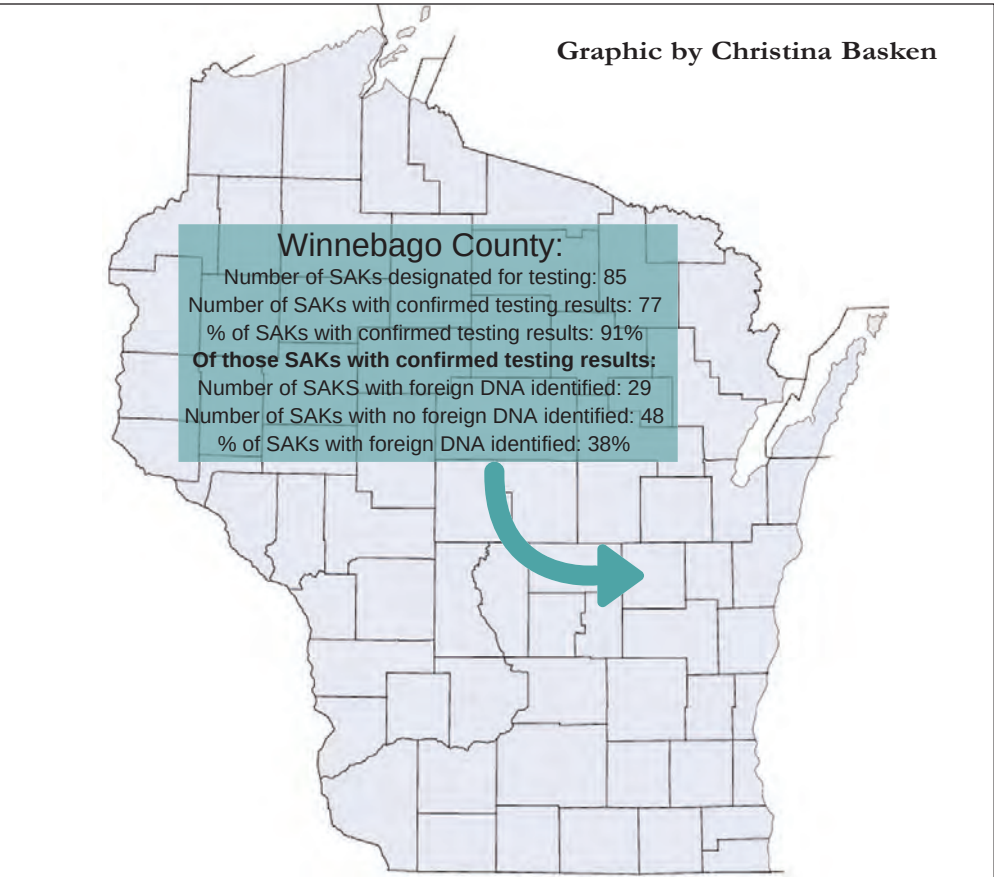
"Far too many students are already struggling with student loan debt, and they deserve to be protected from scammers and bad actors who are preying on their financial security," Baldwin said in the release. "I'm leading this bipartisan reform because it is just common sense to stop these student loan debt relief scams that harm American students and prevent them from getting ahead."

"Debt relief scams falsely promise borrowers a quick fix with little hassle," the press release states. "These scams robcall student loan borrowers until they agree to pay thousands of dollars in unnecessary fees for services that are available for free, claiming to reduce or forgive borrowers' student debt."

In a March 2018 report, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General recommended that Congress strengthen federal law to help stop scam artists that fraudulently obtain access to borrower's online login credentials, primarily by imposing meaningful financial penalties and prosecuting individuals and entities perpetrating these scams. The Stop Student Debt Relief Scams Act would accelerate the end to this rampant misconduct.

In the release Fischer said that she is proud to co-sponsor this solution to better protect students who rely on loans to pay for higher education.

SCAMS, PAGE 3



Ending the backlog of sexual assault kits

by Nikki Brahm

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According to an April 12 press release by the Wisconsin Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, Attorney General Josh Kaul announced new data that detailed progress in ending the backlog of untested sexual assault kits in Wisconsin through the funding of a federal grant.

According to the press release, “Of more than 6,000 previously unsubmitted and untested sexual assault kits inventoried in Wisconsin, some kits were originally not designated for testing because the kits were associated with a case involving a conviction. To meet grant requirements, Department Of Justice will now test 320 kits, including a random sample of conviction-related sexual assault kits. This testing will be funded through grant awards.”

As of April 12, there were 1,605 SAKs with foreign DNA identified out of 4,160 tested SAKs. 998 kits with foreign DNA identified have been added to a national database of DNA profiles.

Along with these kits being tested, the DOJ has reviewed over 600 cases and continues to review cases with new information. A case review does not necessarily result in a prosecution or conviction; however, charges have been filed in five cases, one of those cases in Winnebago County.

In Winnebago County alone, as of April 12 there were 85 SAKs designated for testing and 77 SAKs with confirmed results. Of those SAKs, 29 identified foreign DNA.

Case reviewing includes examining police reports, identifying potential safety risks to

the public and the victims, identifying legal impediments to a renewed investigation or prosecution such as statute of limitations concerns or plea agreements and whether additional samples are needed from the suspects or consensual partners.

Assistant director of health promotion at UW Oshkosh Juliana Kahrs said the immense backlog highlighted a major issue related to resources and how we prioritize them.

“The backlog of untested rape kits is complicated and happens for many reasons, but there are two main issues that lead to this backlog,” Kahrs said. “First, the evidence is not being sent to crime labs, and second, the evidence arrives at the lab but is never tested.”

Kahrs said she believes it’s important to test SAKs for many reasons.

“Results can identify unknown perpetrators, confirm a survivor’s account of an assault, help solve other cases that may not always involve sexual violence, and they can exonerate innocent people,” Kahrs said.

Kahrs said many of the kits are labeled “anonymous,” so they may not be tied with an ongoing criminal investigation.

“This could be in cases when the survivors decided not to move forward with criminal cases,” Kahrs said. “Although they probably should be tested for the reasons mentioned above, the crime labs don’t have the resources to keep up with the demand.”

Assistant clinical professor in the College of Nursing Laura Smolinski said she attended a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner conference Tuesday where they gave an update on the backlog

of sexual assault kits. Smolinski takes calls as a SANE nurse at ThedaCare for about 36 hours a month.

“All of the kits that police departments have asked to be tested have been tested,” Smolinski said. “There are many reasons that kits are not tested. The majority of untested crime labs are from survivors who report anonymously. They have nine-and-a-half years to decide to report. If they choose to report, it will be tested at that time. There is a 10-year statute of limitations. I understand that there are reasons to just test everything because of the possibility of cold-hits and improving our database; however, survivors report a loss of control — whether to report or not is something that we want survivors to have control over.”

Junior Brianna Costello said

sexual assault shouldn’t be blamed on the victim for their appearance or what they choose to wear.

“I think [sexual assault is] a disgusting thing that needs to stop and people need to be punished for their actions for it,” Costello said. “It’s really sad that a lot of men and women don’t get punished for it, they just get parole or house arrest, or they even have five years in jail, but they only serve a few months.”

Costello said she thinks it’s good more kits have now been tested.

“But it depends on how long it’s been because people don’t want to relive that day,” Costello said. “I think it’s something that should be done right after if they are comfortable with coming out and getting help with it.”

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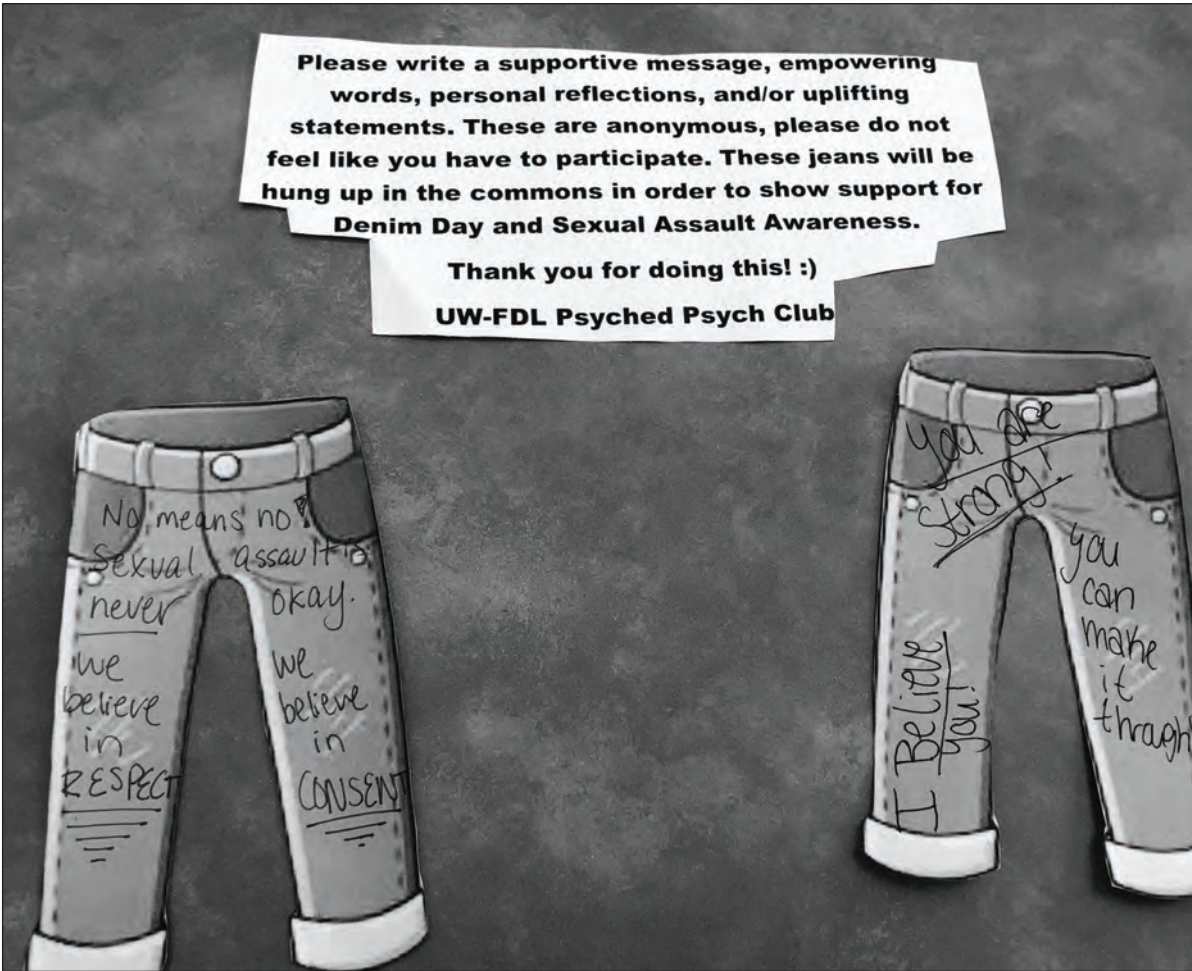
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LEFT: Maddie Nolan and Savanna Peterson write supportive messages for sexual assault awareness. RIGHT: Denim jeans show supportive messages for display.

UW-FDL shows support for SAAM with denim

by Joseph Schulz
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Sexual Assault Awareness Month is in full swing at UW-Fond du Lac. On Monday, assistant director of health promotion at UW Oshkosh Juliana Kahrs gave a speech about the definition of consent. Monday through Wednesday, students wrote experiences and supportive messages on cut-out paper jeans, and Wednesday, students participated in Denim Day activities.

Denim Day originated as a way to show support for victims of sexual assault after a 1998 Italian Supreme Court decision overturned a rape conviction because the victim wore tight jeans.

The UWFDL Psyched for Psych club has taken an integral role in promoting sexual assault awareness on campus. They are running the paper jeans activity, all of the Denim Day activities and will be stringing the paper jeans up in the commons Thursday.

Club president Maddie Nolan said the paper

jeans activity is designed to provide support for victims of sexual assault and let them know that they aren't alone.

"This does happen, sadly, on college campuses," Nolan said.

Vice president Savanna Peterson said they chose the commons on campus to hang the paper jeans because it's a high-traffic area.

"We figured by showing just how many people are affected, and want to support them, and have been involved in horrible situations, that it would kind of make people come together and realize they aren't alone," Peterson said.

Club member Luke Tacke said Peterson has taken a hands-on role in planning events around sexual assault awareness.

"Maddie and I served as a helpful committee to bounce ideas off one another, plan and organize meetings, gather materials and ensure projects went as smoothly as possible," Tacke said.

Peterson said sexual assault is an issue that's extremely important to her because one of her

family members was a victim of sexual assault.

"She is married and happy now, but there are days where I go up to her and she is crying about that situation and that event in her life," Peterson said.

Peterson said she feels like victims of sexual assault are put into a box where they are forced to hide their experience and be ashamed of it.

"By putting them in boxes and not wanting to talk about the problem, we aren't doing people justice who have been emotionally hurt," Peterson said.

Nolan said Peterson has been raising awareness for victims of sexual assault since high school, which they attended together in Marke-san.

"She started running a Denim Day thing at our high school with ribbons, bracelets and presentations," Nolan said.

Peterson said she pitched events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month at a Psyched for Psych club meeting, and Nolan ran with it.

"We felt like it tied into Psych Club because it's such a psychological issue," Peterson said.

"We felt we would be able to tie into the logistics of how people deal with being victims of sexual assault."

On Wednesday they ran a Denim Day contest to see who could wear the best denim, and they also partook in a myth fact sheet activity debunking common misconceptions surrounding sexual assault, Peterson said.

"[Denim Day] always falls on a Wednesday because they like to have it in the middle of the week because people are more likely to be at work or at school," Peterson said.

Nolan said she hopes the events and activities will help put an end to the misconceptions surrounding sexual assault.

"The cause of sexual assault is always 100% the perpetrator's fault, not the victim's fault," Nolan said. "I wish people would recognize that."

SCAMS

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"Hard-working students and their families deserve protections from debt relief scams," Fischer said. "With this bipartisan legislation, Congress would clarify that it is a federal crime to access the Department of Education's [Information Technology] systems for fraudulent purposes."

UW Oshkosh Financial Aid Assistant Director Karen Kennedy said there has been many different types of scams with student financial aid.

"Obviously, the Financial Aid Office is concerned with any scams taking advantage of students who are seeking to manage their student loan debt," Kennedy said. "The Financial Aid Office seeks to educate students and parents about being alert to possible scams such as helping to file the FAFSA for a fee or paying to apply for a scholarship."

Kennedy said students need to be proactive in knowing who their servicer is and what type of

payment options are available to best fit their individual needs.

"You can find all of your loan information and servicer information on the National Student Loan Data System for students," Kennedy said. "Also, the Financial Aid Office can help students with all types of issues related to student loans and financial aid."

Kennedy said these scams try to create a sense of urgency that students need help with loan repayment.

"In all likelihood, they will charge you a high fee and then suggest you do exactly what you could have done for free, without charge," Kennedy said. "Students don't need to pay exorbitant fees to manage loan repayment."

Kennedy said it is best to contact the servicer with any issues.

"If you have challenges meeting your loan repayment obligation, talk with your servicer who is there to be your advocate," Kennedy said. "The servicer will be able to explain all of your options and how best to proceed."

MUN

FROM PAGE 1

our win in New York."

MUN member and UWO junior Natalie Britt said being on Model UN requires a lot of hard work and dedication.

"It also means that you are surrounded by a group of people who genuinely care as much as you do about the world," Britt said. "Model UN is unique because it is a group that can have spontaneous intelligent conversation on highly technical issues, such as trade or development; and then, in the same conversation, argue about pop culture."

Dinse said Model UN has helped him in his field of study by giving him new, international perspectives along with sharpening his communication and writing abilities immensely.

"These skills are worked towards all year long in MUN, and you honestly can't learn them just sitting in a classroom," Dinse said. "This is why MUN is so unique."

Dahse said through her college career, she's learned the most through her experiences with Model UN.

"It has given me my closest family away from home, as well as a skillset which has shaped me to become the person that I am today and develop the aspirations that I have," Dahse said. "No matter what major you are, Model UN is for you. It teaches you research, public speaking, writing and negotiation skills that you will use on an everyday basis."

Those interested in joining the Oshkosh MUN team can email modelun@uwosh.edu or stop by the MUN offices in Sage Hall 3444 or 3446.

Training on campus provides insight for active threats

by Joseph Schulz
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UW Oshkosh held active threat information sessions in Reeve Union 209 on April 12 and 22, where University Police Capt. Chris Tarmann and geology professor Joseph Peterson outlined how to intervene before someone creates an active threat and how to respond during an active shooter situation.

College of Education and Human Services Budget Director Julie Neubert attended the event and said the session was important because it teaches students to be more aware of their surroundings and to be more proactive in looking out for one another.

"I think having an awareness might be a lifelong blessing," Neubert said, "because it might not happen here at school but maybe out other places in the community."

The presentation defined an active assailant as an "individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area."

Tarmann said the training emphasizes bystander intervention and gives people struggling with everyday life the resources they need before they become

an active assailant.

"What we can do as a small community is care about our people," Tarmann said. "We can't ignore people who aren't functioning in our community."

Peterson said Tarmann brings the law enforcement perspective to the training while he brings the survivor perspective.

"I was in graduate school at Northern Illinois University in 2008, I was teaching a class and we actually had a mass shooting in my classroom," Peterson said.

Peterson said he was teaching in a pit lecture when the gunman came in through a door behind him and started firing at the crowd of students. The gunman was carrying a sawed-off shotgun and wore all black with a shirt that had an AK-47 on it and the word "terrorist" across the top.

"My initial thought was, 'This can't be real, this has to be some kind of drill,'" Peterson said. "My brain didn't want to acknowledge what was happening, and then he reloaded."

Peterson said as students were running out, he jumped off of the stage of the lecture hall, realized he needed to get out of there, waited for the gunman to reload and then made a run for it.

"I kept my eye on him the entire time, and we made eye contact," Peterson said. "He dropped the shotgun, he reached back behind himself and he pulled out a GLOCK 9 mm and shot me in the shoulder."

Peterson said after realizing he wasn't dead, he kept running out of the building and reported the incident immediately. The gunman took his own life minutes later.

"I later found out that it was just my classroom," Peterson said.

The shooter, who was a former NIU student battling mental illness, had previously taught a class in the exact same lecture hall at the exact same time, Peterson said.

"He chose my classroom because he knew on this day there [would] be about 200 people in that room," Peterson said.

He said he lost five students that day. Exactly 10 years after the attack, his former students gathered for a memorial service when, during the moment of silence, their phones started buzzing with news alerts that the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting was happening.

"That kind of stuff does get frustrating, and it motivates me



Geology professor Joseph Peterson and UP Capt. Chris Tarmann explain how to respond to active threat situations, like having an active shooter on campus.

to do more of these kinds of presentations," Peterson said.

Peterson said he doesn't want anyone to be hypervigilant or paranoid, but if they see something out of place they should report it.

"Maybe it's a person that just needs a cup of coffee and someone to talk to," Peterson said. "Bringing back this human connection element, I think, would make a big difference."

The presentation also emphasized being conscientious of where the entrances and exits are when going to a gathering, Peterson said.

"If you go to a movie theater, how often do we actually notice the exits?" Peterson asked. "You should; it takes two seconds."

Peterson said humans are creatures of habit that get stuck in routines, making it difficult for us to see things out of the ordinary.

"Every now and then to just kind of look around and if something's making the spider sense tingle, think about it, do something with that," Peterson said.

Tarmann and Peterson will be holding another active threat informational training session on April 26 from 3-4 p.m. in Reeve Union 209.

A’viands says ‘employees will be in good hands’

With Sodexo changing to a new food services provider in July, A’viands promises to make the transition as smooth as possible for the 84 employees affected.

by Christina Basken
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Beginning July 11, 2019, UW Oshkosh campuses will welcome a new dining services provider, A’viands, and say goodbye to Sodexo. Sodexo has been UWO’s dining services provider since 2001. A’viands corporate communications director Debbie Albert said students can expect their voices to be heard and their needs to be met. “Whenever we start with a new account, we listen to what the community wants and do our best to exceed expectations,” Albert said. “We make every effort to be responsive and to provide a tailored solution for each campus we serve.”

“I’m actually excited for the change because Sodexo has been here for so long. I’ve been researching the company a little bit, and it seems like they have really good different food options and ideas.”

— Tina Furmam
Sodexo General Service Employee

With the new transition, approximately 84 UWO workers employed through Sodexo will be affected. Sodexo general service employee Tina Furmam said she has been with Sodexo since they first came to UWO and has been here for four food service provider transitions. “The transition is typically smooth; we’re really not affected too much,” Furmam said. “I’m actually excited for the change because Sodexo has been here for so

long. I’ve been researching the company a little bit, and it seems like they have really good different food options and ideas. They are going to change Sage back to an Einsteins Bros. Bagels which, when I first came here, this was an Einsteins. I’m excited. It’s a good change.” Albert also said that A’viands will work to ensure that the transition process for employees is as easy as they can make it. “We look forward to retaining those who want to join our amazing company, and we’ll do our best to ensure a seamless transition for them,” Albert said. “As an employee-focused company, we know there’s no greater asset than great employees.” Furmam also serves as a satellite steward for Local Union 414. Furmam said the Union will meet with A’viands for the first time on June 18 and 19 to discuss the terms of their contract. “They will sit down and look at our contract and go over things that we expect them to honor, and they might come back with things that they want to change,” Furmam said. “They may change health insurance companies, sick leave, vacation, stuff like that. I’m not really concerned about anything, I just can’t wait to sit down with them and get everything figured out.” Furmam said the reason why she is not concerned about the transition is because she has talked with someone who currently works at A’viands to hear about their experiences. “We [the union] talked to somebody who moved from here to there, and she said that A’viands is a great company,” Furmam said. “They honor their unions no problem, and everything was a smooth transition.” Furmam said she has en-



Above is Missouri University’s Einstein Bros. Bagels. This is what the UWO Sage Cafe could look like when the transition to Einstein Bros. Bagels and Caribou Coffee occurs over the 2019 summer break.

joyed her time working for Sodexo, despite the rocky start. “When Sodexo came in, they let go several of our union employees, some of them who had been here for 20-plus years or more, really kind of for no reason,” Furmam said. “But the union stood together even though we almost went on strike, we had signs made and everything, but at the very last minute they decided that they were going to rehire everyone back. After that it was smooth sailing. I’ve enjoyed

the company; I’ve enjoyed the management. I think they have good food options, but I’m ready for a change.” Furmam said she hopes to keep the same contract they already have. “We’ve been trying to get [the food service providers] to pay for our parking for years and years, but that never happens,” Furmam said. “We’re not asking for much, just to honor what we already have.” University of Wisconsin-Whitewater switched from Chartwells to A’viands

on June 1 2017. UW-W Junior Amanda Perez said she is not impressed with A’viands. “Personally, I don’t think they are that great,” Perez said. “My friends don’t think A’viands is good either, we only eat on campus when we have no other options really. Some of the food was just unappetizing, and usually unflavored” Albert said A’viands’ passion is to serve great food by great people. “Look for new menu items, additional points of service

and a proactive approach to responding to student requests related to dietary restrictions and to adding variety in menu options,” Albert said. “We’ll work with the university on a number of options with different franchises, our own A’viands internal concepts, and then consider additional improvements to the current service. We are excited to bring our culinary-driven, customer service-focused programs to everyone at the University.”

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academic publishers, puts the library staff in a terrible position.” Neises said every part of the campus is experiencing cuts, and all UWO students will be affected in some fashion. With tuition being frozen for so many years, programs will experience significant inflation and suffer. “The average student will see less full-

text article availability, so they may need to allow more time to place interlibrary loan requests,” Neises said. “Upper-level students will not be able to rely on resources they have used in the past. If students are writing papers the night before they are due, they will have fewer options to satisfy their immediate research needs.” Neises said the frustrating part of this is the effect it has on library hours. With the decision to decrease staff members, it makes it much harder to keep Polk open for longer hours that students might be seeking.

“What frustrates me most is that by cutting collections, faculty and student research opportunities are diminishing,” Neises said. “It is frustrating that we are at a 40-year low in staffing. This makes it more difficult to maintain the library hours students want and to provide the research assistance they need.” Chybowski said at the end of the day, these cuts affect staff morale and put a damper on academic creativity on campus going forward. “The broader context here is that faculty

morale is low because we are continually being asked to do more with less,” Chybowski said. “The latest cuts to library resources feels akin to the cuts to travel funding for conference presentations and the increase of teaching load for faculty in the College of Letters and Science. Practically speaking, these measures all make it harder to accomplish quality, peer-reviewed research and creative work, even though these are essential activities for professional academics and integral to the UWO mission.”

OSHKOSH NORTH FROM PAGE 1

UW Oshkosh operates under a different policy, where the Advance-Titan is an independent student newspaper whose policy is that it “is written and edited by students at UWO who are solely responsible for its content and editorial policy.” Before Cummings published the article, Doemel reassured him that he was sure of his source. Cummings said he agreed to post the story with the understanding that there would be a follow-up article with an official statement from human resources. “Commonly, with breaking news online you get the story,” Cummings said, “and then you build it as you go, so that was the plan.” But he also said he decided to publish the article because people had the right to know what was happening, particularly since the assistant principal was a main source for parents who wanted to know about their children’s attendance or discipline issues. The following day, Kiffmeyer released a statement: “This message is to notify readers of an inaccurate article posted on the Oshkosh North Star online student newspaper. The article did not include credible information or sources and was not approved by the Oshkosh Area School District.” Doemel said that he stands by what he wrote and that everything he reported on was indeed factual. “I’m angry that the school district, while keeping staff, students

and the community out of the loop on the matter, would call a well-researched article inaccurate without providing any alternate explanation,” Doemel said. According to Cummings, the district did not offer the North Star a chance to edit their article or to have a conversation about it before they came in and started “intimidating” students. “They just started coming in and taking pictures of kids’ Chromebooks, and my phone interactions with students, which was all pretty intense,” he said. Meanwhile, Doemel continued to push for more information. Fitzhenry’s father, who is vice president of news of USA Today Network Wisconsin, suggested the students connect with the Student Press Law Center for guidance. They did, and on March 6, the students requested public records related to the assistant principal’s departure. The district responded on March 12 that it would cost the students \$138.83 for the records; however, they also required the students’ reporting notes. Oshkosh superintendent Vickie Cartwright informed the students on two occasions that they would need to provide the district with their records. The second came a month later after Fitzhenry reached out to ask where they should send their check. On April 10, a listening session on the district’s media policy was held before the regular Board of Education meeting. UWO journalism professor and Student Press Law Center steering committee member, Vincent Filak was there to

show support for the students and the concept of free press. Filak said that it looked like a student journalist reported on an accurate and important story, only to face administrative overreach and concerning responses to his work. He said it is illegal to put caveats such as requiring reporting notes like this on an open-records request. “A lot of administrators I’ve run into seem to think they can bully kids or back them into a corner to prevent important stories from being told,” Filak said. “In those institutions, the administration is the king, and no one in the fiefdom can touch them. However, as an outside individual, representing outside organizations, we free press folks can shine a light onto this kind of stuff and let the outside world see what’s going on.” Five days later, an Oshkosh Area School District press release stated they would not be pursuing disciplinary action for the students, staff or adviser involved, but would be reviewing its policy to ensure it “supports the needs of both students and school communities, as well as journalistic growth and responsibility within the law regarding school newspapers. “Additionally, District and school leaders regret the student’s perception of intimidation when questioned,” the release said. “The intent was to gain factual information to protect all parties involved.” On April 16, Doemel responded with his own press release: “The Oshkosh Area School District’s statement indicates a step in the right direction for the future of stu-

dent journalism within the district, and hopefully the Board of Education will make meaningful policy changes to prevent this situation from happening to future generations of student writers.” There is also movement to get legislation passed in Wisconsin that would set the stage for the future of high school-level journalism. Matt Smith, a teacher and newspaper adviser at Fond du Lac High School, who also serves on UWO’s Northeastern Wisconsin Scholastic Press Association board, has been pushing to get the legislation passed. “The goal of New Voices is to have a state law that makes it very clear with what students are allowed to put in their publications,” Smith said. “Ultimately, ... the goal is to follow a Tinker Standard, meaning that unless the speech is illegal already, or would significantly disrupt the school learning environment, that it should be allowed.” Smith said he started working on getting this legislation passed about three years ago after students at his school faced similar problems in 2014 when publishing a story on rape culture and rape jokes. Smith said that if this legislation were passed, situations like the one at Oshkosh North would be avoided. “Stuff that’s illegal or harmful to the school still wouldn’t be published,” he said. “It doesn’t say anything goes, but a school district can’t just not like something and tell students not to publish it.” The next step in getting the legislation passed is bringing it forward to a committee to begin discussions

about bringing it for a vote. However, finding legislators who are not only supportive of it, but are also passionate enough to put in the manpower to push the legislation into law, is the difficult part. “That’s kind of where we’re stuck,” Smith said. “It takes a lot of work to get anything all the way in to becoming a law, and we haven’t found someone to take it up as their cause.” Doemel said he feels as though the district only backed down from their threats after the story received significant media attention. “I feel strongly that the district initially handled this case as poorly as it possibly could, threatening our staff adviser with disciplinary action and planning to implement administrative review for all future articles,” Doemel said. “My story was important to publish because if a school suddenly makes a high-profile figure in our building disappear, the members of that school community and the taxpayers who pay his salary deserve the truth.” Filak said although the beginning of the investigation could have been handled better, the district made the right call to move forward fixing it. “The Oshkosh school district handled this situation both faster and better than any other district I’ve ever seen,” Filak said. “Obviously, it would have been better if it hadn’t happened in the first place, but once it did, the district took a look around and made the right call to move toward fixing it. That speaks volumes about the administration and the board.”



LYDIA SANCHEZ/AVANCE-TITAN

UW Oshkosh alumnus and U.S. Regional Field Director of the ONE Campaign Shawn Phetteplace held a training session last Thursday to end extreme poverty.

ONE Campaign shares agenda to end extreme poverty

by Zack Dion
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In celebration of Social Justice Week, the ONE Campaign held a training session last Thursday at UW Oshkosh, sharing its 2019 agenda to end extreme poverty and encouraging students to contact lawmakers.

ONE is a global campaigning and advocacy organization co-founded by Bono of U2 in 2004, which works to end “poverty that kills.”

U.S. Regional Field Director of the ONE Campaign Shawn Phetteplace said there’s a lot of meanings to ONE, and he doesn’t know if there’s a legitimate reason for it being called that.

“But the one I like best is, ‘If there’s one thing we can all agree on, it’s that a child shouldn’t die of a preventable disease,’” Phetteplace said.

The training, held in Reeve Union, was a two-hour session informing students about HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, preventable diseases that

are leading causes of death in many third-world countries.

In 2017 globally, about one million people died from HIV/AIDS, with about 1.8 million infected; about 1.6 million died from TB, with about 10 million infected; and about 435,000 died of malaria, with about 200 million infected.

According to Phetteplace, there has been a 65% drop in extreme poverty over the last 20 years.

Director of UWO’s social justice minor program Courtney Bauder said the presentation went beyond what students learn in the classroom by encouraging them to act.

“It was valuable because we’re tempted to encourage students not only to think critically about issues but also to take actions about issues they care about,” Bauder said. “This is an opportunity for them to not just learn, but to act.”

The ONE conference concluded by offering students a template to follow when handwriting letters to Sen. Ron Johnson and Rep. Glenn Groth-

man, urging them to support maintaining America’s one-third commitment to the Global Fund — meaning that for every \$2 other countries and private institutions donate to the Global Fund, U.S. taxpayers will donate \$1.

The Global Fund is an international organization separate from the ONE Campaign that works on the ground in developing countries to provide medical supplies to those in need.

Since 2002, Wisconsin taxpayers are responsible for saving about 143,000 lives by supporting the Global Fund. These donations have provided about 89,000 HIV/AIDS patients with antiretroviral therapy, distributed over one million malaria nets and treated about 25,000 people with TB, according to ONE.

Instead of asking for monetary donations, ONE encourages people to lobby political leaders to increase spending on foreign aid.

UWO supply chain management major Sam Debauche said the event was eye-opening.

“I learned a lot of stuff I wouldn’t [have] already known,” Debauche said. “Stuff that I would say I’m comfortable backing because it was something that is helpful in the world.”

Currently, 0.6% of the U.S. federal budget goes to foreign aid, about \$40 billion per year, according to Phetteplace.

Phetteplace said people have a lot more power than they think when it comes to influencing politicians.

“There’s something called the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization that we worked on a couple years back, and we were working to get the Obama Administration to add an extra billion dollars to GAVI,” Phetteplace said. “We made 5,000 phone calls to the White House switch boards and they made the decision to do so; one billion divided by 5,000 calls is about \$200,000 per call.”

For more information about ONE, visit one.org.

SAFER combats sexual violence after re-evaluation of CASA

by Kaitlyn Scoville
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Last Monday, Students Active For Ending Rape issued a press release applauding the United States Congress for re-evaluating the Campus Accountability and Safety Act.

SAFER is a nonprofit national organization that focuses on raising awareness and bringing justice to interpersonal violence on college campuses.

According to SAFER’s website, interpersonal violence is considered an umbrella term.

“[It] refers to sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, as well as other acts of aggression and violence motivated by prejudice and hate,” the website said.

The CASA bill, section 856, states that college campuses must work hand-in-hand with local authorities about interpersonal violence as well as make information public about how the campus handles those situations.

“Each institution must establish a campus security policy with respect to: (1) assisting survivors; (2) training individuals who are involved in implementing the student grievance procedures or who are responsible for interviewing survivors; and (3) establishing a uniform process for student disciplinary proceedings relating to any claims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking or a sexual misconduct policy violation against a student,” s. 856 stated.

S. 856 also notes that the Department of Education results be required to release results of a biannual campus-wide survey about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and

stalking.

The Campus Accountability and Safety Act was reintroduced to Congress by Senators Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, Chuck Grassley of Iowa and Jack Reed of Rhode Island.

SAFER policy director Danielle Christenson said it is important to note bipartisan efforts in the passing of CASA.

“[They] have joined forces to introduce and pass vital legislation that will strengthen sexual assault policies on our nation’s campuses,” Christenson said in the press release.

CASA addresses acts of interpersonal violence and was introduced to the Senate on April 5, 2017.

“The Campus Accountability and Safety Act would (1) Establish New Campus Resources and Support Services for Student Survivors, (2) Ensure Minimum Training Standards for On-Campus Personnel, (3) Create New and Historical Transparency Requirements, (4) Increase Campus Accountability and Coordination with Law Enforcement and (5) Establish Enforceable Title IX Penalties and Stiffer Penalties for Clery Act Violations,” the press release stated.

UW Oshkosh associate vice chancellor, Title IX coordinator and director of Equal Opportunity, Equity & Affirmative Action Shawna Kuether said the University handles interpersonal violence issues in more ways than just taking legal action.

“We see how we can better address sexual violence from more of a proactive and caring standpoint,” Kuether said. “A lot of it is about communication, how much stems from getting out there, getting leadership involved and making sure people

understand and know our policies because it’s such a sensitive topic.”

Kuether also said if the bill passes and UWO integrates it, the University will enforce what they already do to inform the campus community about what they do for sexual violence.

“We come from a standpoint of education around this, whereas police might not come from that standpoint,” Kuether said. “Police will look at it very differently.”

UWO Interim Dean of Students Buzz Bares said that when there is a report of sexual violence on campus, the investigation remains unbiased.

“As soon as a report comes forward, we will do an immediate no-contact, and that’s a mutual no-contact,” Bares said. “Part of what is required by law is both the respondent and the complainant should have the same rights and protections until there is a finding.”

Bares also said there is a strong relationship between the University Police and the Oshkosh city police.

“I think that relationship has improved significantly over the years,” Bares said. “If there is a student involved in an incident, they do inform us.”

Kuether said it is important to emphasize the advocacy and action the campus takes for victims of interpersonal violence.

“Right now we’re doing an assessment of our policies, our practices,” Kuether said. “Just taking a look at all the things we do around sexual violence and any sort of sexual misconduct on campus to see how we can better address sexual violence from more of a proactive and caring standpoint.”

Q&A with Dan and Colleen on the 2019 Innovation Challenge

by Amber Brockman
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DAN BROSMAN

Dan Brosman
UWO Director of Alta Resources Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Q. What is the Innovation Challenge?

A. A 24-hour event in which students, representing all disciplines on campus, will come together to tackle a challenge and improve the lives of the aging community. The event is in collaboration with Direct Supply and Evergreen Retirement Community, a modernized and innovative retirement community based in Oshkosh. Students will form teams at the Friday evening kickoff, determine which idea to explore and then spend Saturday diving deeper into what it would take to make the idea possible.

Q. Why should students get involved?

A. This event also provides an awesome opportunity for students to connect with others from the different colleges. You might meet a new friend, find a business partner, start a business or just become more open to entrepreneurship and its opportunities. Anyone can be an entrepreneur! Lastly, students may walk away with a really great idea for a business and decide to pursue it further — in which Direct Supply has the resources, funding and know-how to assist in making it a success.

Q. What kind of impact can

this challenge make?

A. You could honestly make a difference in the lives of your family, friends, neighbors or whomever! Who knows what ideas will surface? If your idea shows potential, you could take it and turn it into something that is possibly life-changing. The aging community is growing and needs to be innovated. Why can’t a new breakthrough come from a student at UW Oshkosh?



COLLEEN MERRILL

Colleen Merrill
UWO Executive Director of Alta Resources Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Q. Has this happened in prior years?

A. This is our first time doing this, so we are in uncharted territory. We weren’t really sure how many students would be interested. I think at last count we were over 70 students that have signed up. We were hoping for 10 teams of five, so we exceeded what we wanted. ... So far we’ve heard from kinesiology, nursing, engineering, education and I think we have someone from the arts, so we have a variety of students who are coming together for this. It’s really exciting.

Q. Why do you think students should get involved in this?

A. Our world is changing so rapidly, and it’s really important for students to be lifelong learners and to be open to new ideas, to be able to identify solutions to problems. That’s what entrepreneurial activities help you do is

actually change your perspective, see things differently and be open to trying new ideas. So that, and it’s just plain fun just being around a bunch of excited students and people that are really engaged in this whole chaotic process of entrepreneurship.

Q. When do you decide on a winner?

A. 3 p.m. Saturday. ... They spend the day Saturday narrowing down an idea that they want to explore, then they can reach out to some elderly people and come talk to us to start getting some validation on what they’re building. Then they put together a pitch deck and they’ll all have like four minutes to pitch their idea in front of judges. Then we’ll announce the top three winners.

Q. What kind of prizes will there be?

A. So there’s earbuds, gift cards and food. We were trying to think of things that would entice students and things they want. Gift cards seem to be the big thing though. Anything that has to do with money and food without giving out hundred dollar bills, so we’re giving out gift cards. We have \$2,000 to spend on prizes and we’re spending about \$2,500 on food, so we will feed everybody well throughout the event.

Q. Anything else you’d like people to know?

A. I teach entrepreneurship, and we have a study abroad coming up in January to Belize for any student on campus as an entrepreneurship class. We also have a certificate in entrepreneurship and innovation which is new to campus which again is open to any student on campus. It requires three courses, one of which is that entrepreneurship course. We’re hoping to create some awareness about that program as well so we get some students hopping on the trip to Belize and completing the certificate because it adds really nicely to any degree that you’re seeking.

Correction

On Feb. 19, 2018, after receiving a final case report, UW Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt decided to take Willis Hagen, a professor in the department of finance and business law in the College of Business, off administrative leave and welcome him back to his prior duties.

An incorrect year was printed in the April 18 article that appeared on Page 1 about Hagen. The Advance-Titan regrets the error.

From the issue on 4/18

High school journalism censorship under fire

by The Advance-Titan Staff
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The American press has been under attack in recent years with claims of fake news, biased stories and attempts at censorship.

Student journalists have not been immune to these attacks and face even more challenges because they lack many of the First Amendment privileges that professional journalists receive.

Repeated attempts to block and censor student journalists both locally and nationally have brought up concerns regarding the free speech rights of student journalists.

Last month, an Oshkosh North senior and student journalist said administrators violated his free speech rights by removing his article from the newspaper website and demanding he reveal his sources.

About five years earlier, Fond du Lac High School administrators attempted to enact a student publication censorship policy after a student published a story that discussed rape culture and included interviews from three sexual assault survivors at the high school.

It's not only a problem in Wisconsin.

Just last week, high school journalists in Kentucky said they were blocked from attending a speaking event featuring Department of Education secretary Betsy DeVos held at a public college campus and listed as "open press."

And on Monday, student journalists in California said their school superintendent is attempting to censor a story they wrote regarding an 18-year-old student who works in the adult entertainment industry.

Administrators say they are trying to look out for the best interests of all students and staff members, but these incidents illustrate the necessity in addressing whether student journalists lose their First Amendment rights when they enter the school doors.

Local censorship

In 2014, the Fond du Lac High School Cardinal Columns student publication made news when the principal tried to enact a prior review policy that would allow him to review and ban any student publication he felt didn't fit certain criteria.

Backlash regarding the policy led to administrators reconsidering and eventually putting control of the Cardinal Columns back into the hands of the student journalists.

Although this incident occurred five years ago, the censorship of student press at Wisconsin high schools was again brought into question just this month when school administrators in Oshkosh held a listening session on April 10 after an article by student reporters was removed from The North Star website less than an hour after it was posted.

Oshkosh North senior Brock Doemel said administrators pulled him out of class on multiple occasions and pressured him to reveal the confidential source he used in the article. The article was about a missing assistant principal and tied his absence to an incident at school in which bathrooms were locked in response to vandalism.

When Doemel and another student journalist filed an open records request regarding the missing assistant principal, Doemel said the superintendent would only provide those documents if he turned over his reporting notes, account passwords and a \$138 processing fee.

A letter written by superintendent Vickie Cartwright said in part "it is necessary that you supply to the District any records you have related to the newspaper and the recent article printed by The North Star so that the District can be fully responsive to your request."

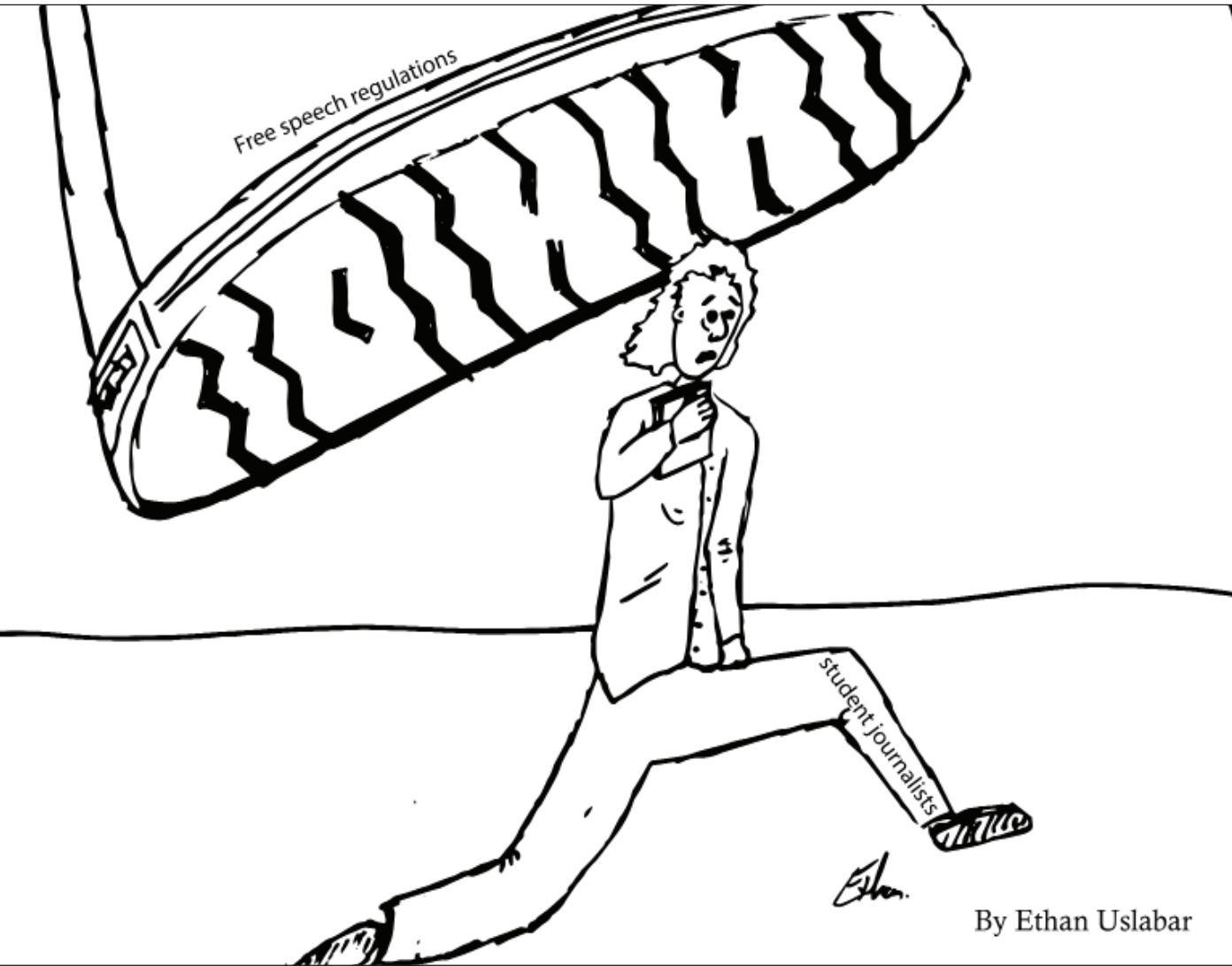
However, records pertaining to the assistant principal are covered under the Freedom of Information Act, and requiring a reporter to provide their reporting notes and passwords as a bargaining chip to receive documents they have a legal right to see is not only unethical, but also illegal.

UW Oshkosh journalism professor Vincent Filak attended the April 10 listening session and said censorship of student media has been an ongoing problem both locally and nationally.

"There are tons of cases like this where people are being censored," Filak said. "People are having their ability to conduct business as student journalists taken away from them. They've been refused rights of access to things that anybody should be able to get."

After the April listening session, the Oshkosh Area School District released a statement saying they will not pursue disciplinary action against Doemel or the newspaper adviser, they will not pursue the identification of the article's source and they are reviewing the policies in place regarding student publications.

Filak said while the abrupt change of heart of the Osh-



By Ethan Uslabar

hosh School District was the right decision, school administrators need to start thinking about journalism students' rights.

"The bigger issue is students getting bullied by their own administration over stuff that they publish that no one is saying is factually inaccurate," Filak said. "Why is it that we feel like it's OK to violate rights until we get called on it, and then we backtrack?"

The Supreme Court has ruled that student publications don't necessarily have First Amendment rights, and there are few cases where courts have decided that student journalists' First Amendment rights have been violated.

Recent nationwide cases

Even more recent is a case involving student journalists from Dunbar High School in Lexington, Kentucky, who were turned away from a DeVos' speaking event held at a public college campus because it was by invite only, and they had not RSVP'd.

"If it's an open public event, it means the public should be open to go there, not just the people you invite," Filak said.

The students, who had only found out about the event the day before, said they were attending the event in response to a comment DeVos made.

"It is easy to be nasty hiding behind screens and Twitter handles," DeVos said last fall. "It's not so easy face-to-

face."

The students wrote an editorial titled "No Seat at the Roundtable," which described their feelings about being blocked from attending the event.

"Doesn't open press imply open to ALL press including students?" they wrote in the editorial.

This pattern of discouraging and censoring student journalists was repeated Monday when students at Bear Creek High School in Stockton, California said administrators were trying to censor and block the publication of a story they wrote regarding a student who works in the adult entertain-

“My only intent as a journalist, now and at the time of the article’s publication, is to keep my school and community informed of the truth.”

— Brock Doemel
Oshkosh North Senior

ment industry.

In Bear Creek High School's case, the school superintendent sent the journalism adviser a letter demanding to read the article and claiming its publication may violate California law.

In an interview with Fox 40, the school's journalism adviser said the story is about a student who "is working legally, in a legal field," so there is no reason the story should be banned

from publication.

Students look to administrators for guidance and support. What type of message does it send to these students when administrators want to control and censor student publications?

Restoring rights to student journalists

A journalist is still a journalist regardless of age. It is time for student journalists to be treated with respect and allowed access to the same information and events professional journalists receive access to.

Filak said people don't take student journalists seriously and view student journalists as "somewhere between a little kid getting a pat on the head and a puppy that we can kick down the street."

To restore First Amendment protections to student journalists in Wisconsin, Fond du Lac High School newspaper adviser Matt Smith has been working to get legislation passed that would allow students to control student media.

The policy, called the New Voices Act, has already been adopted by 14 states and has been drafted in Wisconsin.

"The goal of New Voices is to have a state law that makes it very clear what students are allowed to print in student publications and what they're not," Smith said. "Unless speech is illegal already or significantly disrupts the school learning environment, that it should

be allowed."

In addition, the Student Press Law Center has named 2019 the Year of the Student Journalist to encourage more states to enact New Voices legislation and to highlight the importance of student journalists and the challenges they face due to censorship and prior review policies.

Not only does the censorship of student journalists deprive them of the opportunity to investigate and examine the world, it also restricts them from information they should legally be allowed access to.

If censorship of student publications is allowed to continue, it will degrade the journalistic standards of truth and accuracy by silencing student journalists.

"It's clear that when students are told they can publish as they see fit, but they are going to be responsible for that content, the students take those responsibilities seriously, and they publish important and valuable content," Filak said.

Doemel agreed.

"My only intent as a journalist, now and at the time of the article's publication, is to keep my school and community informed of the truth," he said.

It is time to end the attack on the American press and protect student journalists by enacting New Voices legislation and restoring First Amendment rights to students.

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Rugby dominate 7s at Ruck the Dub

by Ally Gwidt
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The UW Oshkosh women’s rugby team took home first and second place at the UW-Whitewater 7s Ruck the Dub tournament on Saturday in Whitewater.

The women split up into two teams of seven, Oshkosh Gold and Oshkosh Black, for the six-team tournament.

Oshkosh Gold opened the tournament on a 22-22 tie against UW-Whitewater before dominating UW-Stout in a 48-point shutout in the final match of their bracket.

Oshkosh Black’s first match-up resulted in a 17-15 win over UW-Stout.

Black went on to defeat Platteville 19-10 in their second match, paving the way for the championship round of the tournament.

Since Gold and Black both advanced out of their respective brackets, they were scheduled to go head-to-head in the championship match, but both teams decided to not play each other and just split the first- and second-place trophies instead.

The Titans have brought home trophies in back to back tournaments.

Head coach Cat Lewis said the women’s rugby team at UWO stands out due to its ability to play with balanced teams in springtime 7s play.

“I know a lot of other teams create a ‘Varsity’ and ‘JV’ or ‘A’ and ‘B’ teams for spring but

we do not,” Lewis said. “Our theory is that our rookies will only improve by learning from our veteran players and playing alongside them. This also creates leadership opportunities for our vets as they can learn more about the game and how to help their teammates when playing alongside newer players who are unfamiliar with rugby positions and strategies.”

Senior Nicole Timm backed Lewis and said the bulk of their club’s success comes from Lewis’ ability to utilize all of their team, even the ones new to the game.

“Our coach tries to get our rookies significant playing time because the best way to learn rugby is to play it,” Timm said. “I’ve already seen so much improvement from our young players over the past two tournaments.”

Last week, the Titans fell short, 25-21, in the championship matchup against UW-Platteville but rallied for a shot at redemption and swept both trophies in the Ruck the Dub tournament.

Junior Avis Mueller said it’s the team’s ability to bounce back even in times of defeat that sets them apart from the competition.

“There is a very high level of camaraderie amongst our team,” Mueller said. “We operate under high standards of respect and sportsmanship set out by both our coach and the team as a whole. Even after a loss, we keep our spirits high and have a positive attitude.”



COURTESY OF LINNEA KOENIGS

Titan forward carries the ball through UW-Whitewater defenders. UWO split their team in two and took first and second.

The Titans will look to take home yet another trophy this Saturday for a 7s tournament hosted by UW-Eau Claire.

Sophomore captain Grace Begotka said it is important for the Titans to stick to their game-plan of camaraderie and drive moving forward into the latter of the season.

“We will continue to maintain our success by keeping a positive attitude, having fun and communicating with each other,” Begotka said. “Everyone wants our team to be successful and sees spring season as great preparation for the competitive season in the fall.”

Four Titans take first in La Crosse

by Evan Moris
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The UW Oshkosh men’s and women’s track and field team competed at the UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Challenge last Friday.

The Titan men finished in second place out of 20 teams with a score of 114.50. Conference rival UW-La Crosse took first with a score of 149.50.

Senior sprinter Ryan Powers led the charge for the Titans posting the school record and nations season-best 400-meter run time at 47.30 seconds. Junior sprinter Todd Beadle followed Powers to a second place finish at 49.07 seconds.

Powers is currently fifth in the nation in the 200-meter dash and 47th in the 100-meter dash. He said his confidence when he steps on the track never waivers.

“I have an aggressive mentality when I get into the blocks, and I execute my race strategy to the best of my ability every time,” Powers said. “I know how fast I am, so I just tell myself to go out there and dominate.”

“I know how fast I am, so I just tell myself to go out there and dominate.”

— Ryan Powers

UWO senior sprinter

Oshkosh had two other winners in La Crosse. Junior Joe Vils set a personal record and Division III second-best height in the pole vault, clearing 16-9 1/4 feet. Vils beat all 29 other competitors breaking his PR three times on Saturday.

Vils said his performance in La Crosse was special but there are new heights and goals to reach.

“I want to get to 17 [feet], I think that would be a really cool accomplishment,” Vils said.

“My goal is to get the indoor and outdoor school records.”

The final winner for the men came from sophomore Jonathan Wilburn in the triple jump with a measurement of 47-2 1/4. Wilburn is currently ranked third in the nation in the triple jump with a season long of 48-6 feet.

Jared Benson, Adam Tallman and Jamyle Brantley finished fifth, sixth and seventh in the triple-jump with skips of 43-10 1/2, 43-10 1/2 and 43-4 1/2, respectively. Brantley also finished third in the long jump with a leap of 23-0 1/2.

The Titan men had three second-place finishes last weekend. Junior Justin Rivers took second in the high jump at 6-6 3/4, Robert Ogbuli in the 200-meter dash with a time of 10.82 seconds and Bailey Quinn in the hammer throw with a toss of 187-7.

The Titans had two third-place finishes from Nick Tegtmeyer and Darquise Winters. Tegtmeyer took third in the shot put with a measurement of 52-1 3/4, and Winters cleared a height of 6-2 3/4 in the high jump.

The UWO women placed eighth out of 21 teams with 36 points. UW-La Crosse won the women’s side with 168 points.

Titan standout Lauren Wrensch continued her season-long domination in the long jump with a leap of 19-2 3/4, defeating all other 37 competitors. Wrensch is ranked No.1 in D-III in the long jump with her season-high jump of 19-4. Wrensch is the only one in the nation to clear 19 feet twice this season.

In addition to her long jump victory, Wrensch won the 400-meter run with a time of 57.38 seconds, posting the 15th best time this season. Wrensch defeated

second-place finisher Mara Schroeder by over a second.

Wrensch said she’s not competing against anyone, only herself.

“Posting winning performances is never usually my main goal for these meets as I am just looking to beat my own personal bests, but it is always an added bonus,” Wrensch said.

As the events begin to ramp up with Drake Relays and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships in the next two weeks, Wrensch said she’s fine-tuning herself for the final stretch of the year.

“I am looking to start dropping time in my open running events to set myself up nicely for conference success and national qualifications as well,” Wrensch said. “For long jump, I am looking to put together some good marks as I continue to work towards the outdoor school record.”

Titan senior Taylor Pralle finished fourth out of 39 participants in the 100-meter dash with a season-best time of 12.54 seconds.

Pralle said her season-best performance on Saturday will motivate her in her final outdoor season to reach personal goals.

“My goal is to get a new lifetime PR because that just missed out at nationals last year,” Pralle said. “My goal is to get to nationals in the 100 and our four-by-four to nationals as well.”

Pralle alongside teammates Lindsay Denu, Alexandra Demco and Melissa Srnka finished sixth 1,600-meter relay with a time of 4:03.99. Sophomore Hannah Lohrenz took sixth as well in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:44.24.

Pralle said her relay team and the rest of the UWO roster has the ambition to qualify for nationals when they compete at the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa this weekend.

“Everybody that is going to be at Drake, it’s our goal to get to the next level and secure a spot at nationals,” Pralle said.

With such a young team this season, Pralle was selected as a team captain to help guide the team. Pralle said she and the other captains have taken the role seriously to help the team grow.

“Leading by example and getting everyone excited for others,” Pralle said. “When they PR, the whole team should be happy. We’re trying to bring a winning mentality where everybody wants each other to PR as much as they want themselves to.”

The UWO track and field squad will travel to the prestigious Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa April 25-27.

Event: UW Oshkosh track & Field team travels to Des Moines, Iowa to compete in the Drake Relays at Drake University.

Date: Thursday, April 25 10:30 a.m.

Fischer named as GM of Wisconsin GLO team

by Ally Gwidt
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UW Oshkosh women’s basketball head coach Brad Fischer was named general manager of the Wisconsin GLO, a professional women’s basketball team coming to Menominee Nation Arena this May.

Fischer will continue to coach the UWO women’s basketball team in addition to serving as the GLO’s general manager.

Fischer’s new role includes executing tasks like building the GLO’s brand and staff, as it is embarking on it’s inaugural season, to recruiting the very first female players to suit up in the Menominee Nation Arena — the current home of the Milwaukee Bucks’ G-League affiliate, the Wisconsin Herd.

The roster and coaching staff will be announced in the coming weeks, but Fischer said all current recruits have been pulled from playing professionally overseas.

The team will have a 12-person roster and be one of five teams that make up the Global Women’s Basketball Association, which was established in 2016.

Fischer said his 19 years of experience has helped him in the recruitment process for the GLO.

“I’m fortunate having coached women’s basketball now for a long time,” Fischer said. “I’ve seen a lot of players go through the state and have a pretty good feel for who’s still playing professionally, and those connections have helped tremendously. I’ve been able to get to know a majority of these players previously to [the GLO], so those relationships have paid off here as we get going here.”

The ultimate goal of the GLO is to become a sort of G-League affiliate to the Women’s National Basketball Association and to



BRAD FISCHER

enhance a player’s chance at a shot in the WNBA.

Fischer said that having a professional women’s team in the Fox Valley Area is highly influential for not only the programs and clubs in the surrounding cities, but in the entire state as well.

“There are a lot of talented women out there that don’t have the chance to play professionally in the state, and we want to be at the forefront of that,” Fischer said. “If Oshkosh, Wisconsin can become one of a handful of places where some of the best women’s basketball players in the country can come play, I think that is a pretty cool opportunity for the city, Fox Valley and Wisconsin in general.”

The team will play a total of 12 games — four exhibition and eight in the regular season, which will run May through August.

Season tickets, which range anywhere from \$60 to 300, went on sale March 1 and are available online at menomineenationarena.com or at the the box office at Menominee Nation Arena.

Individual game tickets are currently on sale and range anywhere from \$8 to 40.

The GLO’s first game will be May 10 at 7 p.m. against the Flint Monarchs in Menominee Nation Arena.

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Titan of the Week



Lauren Wrensch

Events: Sprints, Long Jump

Year: Senior

UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Challenge

Long Jump: 19-2 3/4

D-III Rank: No. 1

400-meter: 57.38

D-III Rank: No. 15

Baseball splits doubleheaders with Stout, defeats Pointers

Titans shake off four-game losing streak with consecutive wins against UW-Stout

by Alexis Durkee
durkea87@uwosh.edu

After a four-game losing streak, the UW Oshkosh baseball team came out on top against UW-Stout, winning both games during the doubleheader at Mauston last Friday.

UW-Stevens Point

The Titans defeated the Pointers in two close games. In their first outing, the Titans won 7-6 and the second game 3-2.

In both games, the Titans were down early and had to claw their way back into the game. In the first game the Titans were scoreless through the first two innings, scoring two runs in the third and three runs in the fourth. In the second game of the day the Titans scored three runs in the sixth and held on to win.

First baseman Kade Bohlman had two runs, two hits and three RBIs in the first game Wednesday.

In the second game second, baseman Hunter Staniske led the Titans with two hits and one RBI.

Pitcher Jared Horton said the team was primed and ready for the double header Wednesday afternoon.

“This gave us time for some extra work in before our doubleheader, which is always a good thing,” Horton said

McNabb said veteran leadership has kept the spirits high during this season

rough times. “Sometimes you just need to let the game come to you and and play your game the way you know how.” McNabb said.

UW-Stout

UW-Stout scored three times in the top of the first inning, before UWO’s Jensen Hinton tied the score at four with a solo home run in the bottom of the sixth frame. Dylan Ott drove in the game-winning run during the bottom of the seventh inning. The Titans had 24 hits.

Starting pitcher Colan Tremel and reliever Logan King held the Blue Devils scoreless over the final six innings.

Tremel is now tied for ninth in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference history with 234 career strikeouts during his four seasons.

The Blue Devils stayed alive throughout the entire game, but this was not enough for Titan’s defense.

Titan’s pitcher Chris Atwood registered 10 strikeouts allowing only five hits in a complete-game effort. Holding a no-hitter over the Blue Devils and retiring 14 out of the 15 batters he faced.

UWO took the lead for good with a seven-run third inning, with RBIs from Alex Koch, Hinton, Jonathan Selchow, Matt McNabb, Zack Radde, and Kade Bohlman.

The Titan’s capped their string of 12 unanswered runs with an RBI triple from Sean

Cummins and a squeeze bunt by Selchow in the fourth inning and a single walk-off run by Staniske. The Titans conclude the first half of the four game series against the Blue Devils up 2-0.

The Blue Devils defeated the Titans during the last stretch of the four game series.

UWO and UW-Stout are now tied for the fourth and final spot in the league tournament with six conference games remaining.

In Saturday’s first contest, the Blue Devils were up 10-0 after a six-run sixth frame.

Seven Titan’s registered hits, including Ott who tallied a run-scoring single to break the shutout during the bottom of the sixth. Bohlman added an RBI double in the seventh inning.

Starting pitcher Ryan Wilkening suffered the Titan’s loss, allowing five runs on 10 hits in five innings. Wilkening walked one batter and had one strike out.

During the second and final game of the series, the Blue Devils Defense held the Titan’s to just one run on eight hits. Titan’s Staniske hit a two-out RBI single, scoring in the bottom of the frame.

Radde and Bohlman accounted for two of the Titans scored eight singles.

The Titans fell short to the Blue Devils 6-1, concluding this series.

Moving forward, the Titans plan to work out their kinks both individually and as a team to get back their



LYDIA SANCHEZ/ ADVANCE-TITAN

Senior Pitcher Colan Tremel winds up as he delivers a pitch in the Titans’ first game of their doubleheader against UW-Stevens Point. Tremel pitched eight innings while striking out five.

winning streak. “Doubleheaders are definitely tough,” he said. “The most challenging part is keeping your head in the game and staying mentally locked in for all 18 innings for the day. And then coming back the next morning and doing the same exact thing,

it’s a grind for sure.” McNabb said if the team needs to play more loose and confident good things will come.

“Sometimes you just need to let the game come to you and and play your game the way you know how.” McNabb said

Due to the weather, Tuesday’s game was postponed to April 24, giving the Titans an extra day to prepare for UW-Stevens Point.

The Titans will be home this Saturday for senior night as they face off against Ri-pon College.

Softball stumbles through schedule going 2-4 in WIAC play

by Ally Gwidt
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The UW Oshkosh softball team went 2-4 last week in doubleheaders versus UW-Platteville, St. Norbert College and UW-Stevens Point.

UW-Stevens Point

The Titans initiated their three-game stretch with losses to UWSP on Wednesday in Stevens Point.

UWO allowed two runs-in while tacking on one of their own to come up short in game one, 2-1, to the Pointers.

The Titan offense combined for three walks and five hits, while leaving seven batters on base.

In the nightcap, UWSP piled 10 runs on to UWO’s two runs-batted-in to force a short five-inning game.

Senior Claire Petrus was the starting pitcher and also added a homerun for the Titans.

St. Norbert

UWO exchanged shutouts with St. Norbert on Tuesday after defeating the Green Knights 1-0 in the first game and losing 4-0 in the nightcap.

The Titans developed their lead after Natalie Dudek’s sacrifice fly in



COURTESY OF STEVE FROMMELT

Natalie Dudek hits a double versus UW-Stevens Point. Dudek finished with one hit and one run against UWSP.

the fifth batted-in Katie Fontanetta to score the only points of the game.

In game two, UWO was held to zero runs as St. Norbert plated four runs-in, including a home run from Alyssa Sikora in the fourth frame.

UW-Platteville

The Titans fell short to UW-Platteville in game one 1-0 but rallied for an dominant 7-2 victory over the Pioneers in game two on Friday at home.

Both teams remained scoreless until Platteville’s Rachel Martin singled to right field in the top of the fourth, advancing Riley Kelsch to home plate to score the only run of the night.

The Titans accounted for three hits the entire game while the Pioneers tallied two.

In the nightcap, the Titans opened the first inning with up two runs on Platteville before tacking on five more runs in the second frame to give UWO an early 7-0 lead.

While the Titans remained score-

less the remainder of the game, the Pioneers attempt at a comeback fell short, scoring only two runs-in — one at the top of the third and the other at the top of the fifth

First basemen Kaitlyn Krol said despite ending this week’s stretch on a back-to-back losses, experiences like these will only strengthen the team as a whole as they head into the latter of the season.

“After every game we play — either a win or a loss—we are learning and developing,” Krol said. “We have been through every situation possible in terms of being behind and getting ahead, losing a close game, winning on a walk off, etc. Our team has faced so much adversity.”

Junior pitcher Claire Petrus said that the Titans need to maintain a positive attitude to accomplish the success they want to in the coming weeks.

“We have to remember all the good things that we have done these past couple of games and use that as motivation to keep us going and winning again,” Petrus said.

The Titans will play a doubleheader against UW-Eau Claire on Friday at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Game one will be at 2 p.m. and game two will be at 4 p.m.

Priebe leads Titans in final collegiate match

by Neal Hogden
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The UW Oshkosh women’s golf team traveled to Beloit where the women took fifth at the UW-Whitewater Spring Fling last weekend.

UWO senior Kayla Priebe led the Titans with a seventh-place finish, eight shots off the lead.

Priebe finished the first day of the tournament tied for ninth place with a round of 81 and came back the next day to post the fifth-best score in the tournament with a 77.

Priebe said playing in her last collegiate meet was tough, but it allows her to look back on all the good memories she has made with the team.

“Playing in my final collegiate match was a very bittersweet moment,” Priebe said. “I have created so many good memories with this program over the last four years as a Titan, from traveling to Texas for nationals my freshman year to all the practices and tournaments since then.”

Priebe reflected on the memories that made her career so remarkable.

“The golf team has been like a second family to me since I first arrived on campus in August 2015,” Priebe said. “I am so thankful for the support and love I have received from my coaches and teammates,

both on the course and in my academic and personal life.”

Head coach Liza Ruetten said Priebe has set an extremely high standard for the golfers that follow.

“Kayla has been a leader on and off the course for her entire career,” Ruetten said. “She is the epitome of the Ruetten ‘student-athlete.’ Her steady focus and commitment to excellence shines through in practice, in tournaments and in the classroom, as she has maintained a 4.0 GPA while competing against some of the best players in the nation over the past four years.”

UWO also had junior Hannah Braun place in the top 20 as she used a 78 on the second day of the tournament to propel herself into 18th place. After a rough first round, Braun bounced back with better weather conditions on the second day of the tournament.

Other Titan finishers were freshmen Margherite Pettenuzzo in 33rd and Erika Priebe in 35th, and juniors Dianna Scheibe and Hanna Rebholz in 41st and 47th place, respectively.

The Titans will travel to Rock Island, Illinois to participate in the Augustana College Viking Invitational on Saturday and Sunday.

Ruetten said the last event of the year is a chance for golfers who didn’t participate

in all of the tournaments to get out on the course for the final time this year.

“Our last invite of the year will be a chance for some of our developing players to travel and compete as Titans,” Ruetten said. “We have a very competitive roster with 11 players, and many have not had the opportunity to travel and compete in the 2018-19 season.”



Kayla Priebe



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Jack Tierney - Campus Connections Editor

Mr. UWO awarded in partnership with Autism Speaks

by Jack Tierney

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The women of Alpha Xi Delta sorority - Delta Tau chapter crowned Mr. UW Oshkosh to junior and Beta Theta Pi member Alexander (Zander) Lomibao on April 18. A silent auction was held in addition to the competition with all proceeds going to Autism Speaks.

Alpha Xi Delta faculty adviser Lisa Goetsch, Miss Oshkosh 2019 Katrina Mazier, UWO freshman Brandon Nutt and Miss UWO 2018 Eve Jewson judged Mr. UWO candidates in four categories: pick up line, UWO spirit, talent, and Q&A and formal attire.

Lomibao performed a dance routine to the viral song “Old Town Road” for his spirit segment and answered three questions from judges during the Q&A and formal attire portion including the question, “How much does autism cost a family a year?” to which Lomibao answered correctly, “\$60,000 a year.”

“It felt nice to win, but I am super happy I was able to help support this event and Autism Speaks,” Lomibao said. “At this point, it does not even faze me that someone has autism. Those I have met with autism are some of the kindest and hardworking people I have ever met. I am glad I was given this opportunity to help out.”

Runner up to the competition was human services leadership major Tim Lange. He brought audience members to applause after he broke a wooden board over his head during the talent portion, where he showed off his martial arts technique. Lange practices martial arts and said he is proud of the work he does in combative training. He gave a speech about practicing martial arts with an individual who has autism and how it has motivated him in his life.

“What I really liked about the competition, apart from the fact that it was for a great cause, is that it was an unscripted show that gave those competing the opportunity to show who they are on stage,” Lange said. “I would like to add that it was a great group of guys to compete with. I think all of us were just there to have fun, and trust me when I say we had a great deal of that.”

Sophomore Andy Duros’ efforts were recognized after raising the most money for Autism Speaks. Duros is a member of Delta Chi and doubled his intended goal of \$50.

“As a human services leadership major, it is important for me to see a positive difference in our world. I care about people who are struggling, whether or not it is with autism or any other disability or even if it’s not a disability at all. All I want to see is a more productive, friendly and improvised community of all people, regardless of what background they come from.”

Alpha Xi Delta Philanthropy Vice President and event coordinator Kate Lidtke is a freshman who said her goal for Mr. UWO 2019 was “to make sure our reason for hosting it was obvious: Autism Speaks. As a future special educator and a cousin to three beautiful young women on the autism Spectrum, I vow to be an advocate for everyone with special needs.”

Lidtke said she chose to join Alpha Xi Delta because of autism Speaks and said she is honored to hold her position as philanthropy vice president as a new member to the sorority.

“Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions,” autismspeaks.org’s mission statement reads.



PHOTO BY JACK TIERNEY

Mr. UWO 2019 Zander Lomibao beat the field of seven contestants last Thursday to win the crown.

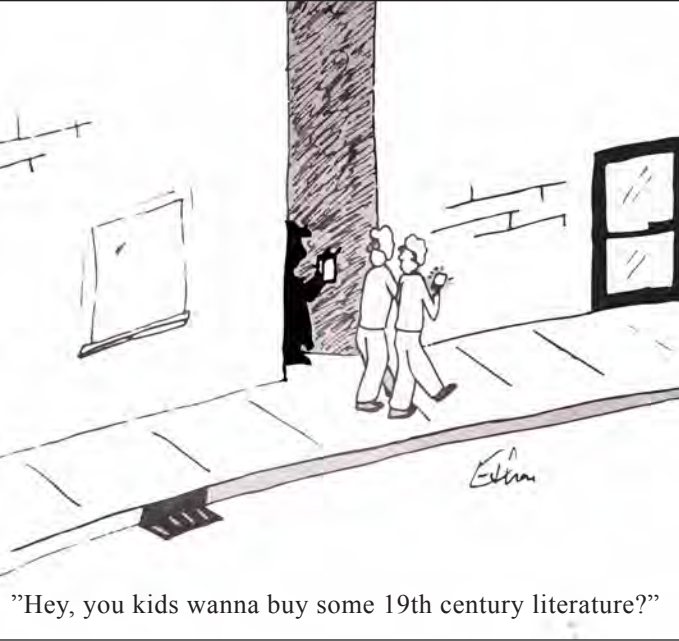


PHOTO BY JACK TIERNEY

Your CBD Store inventory manager Jacob Trone handles the day-to-day operations and welcomes all new customers to CBD products. Jacob’s knowledge of CBD products has helped people in Oshkosh find relief.

CBD products are offered to help, not to cure

by Jack Tierney

tiernj03@uwosh.edu

Those looking for a wholesome alternative to their pharmaceutical pain relievers are finding a natural fit in cannabidiol.

CBD is the active chemical in medical marijuana that helps reduce symptoms like depression and anxiety, according to WebMD. Some CBD retailers claim their products improve people’s sex drives, alleviate tumors and help cancer pains.

Your CBD Store on 300 S. Koeller St. in Oshkosh is one of many stores in Oshkosh now offering CBD products.

Your CBD Store is a national corporation headquartered in Florida. It was founded by Rachael Quinn, who suffered from Crohn’s disease.

“When prescription medications didn’t provide relief from the symptoms, a friend suggested she try CBD oil. She did, and within a few weeks, the symptoms were under control, and she had regained her quality of life,” the company website read.

“It wasn’t until June 25, 2018, that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recognized cannabidiol as a real medicine by approving Epidiolex, an almost pure pharmaceutical CBD formulation, as a treatment for two severe pediatric seizure disorders,” projectcbd.org’s website read.

CBD products must fall under the 0.3% THC threshold established by law. By forgoing the psychoactive tetrahydrocannabinol component, users will not endure the “stoned” feeling. Because there is limited to no TCH and no getting stoned, many first-time cannabis product users are finding a home in CBD products.

Walgreens told the Consumer news and Business Channel on March 27 they will offer CBD products in 1,500 stores throughout select states nationwide. The announcement came just weeks after CVS decided to start offering CBD products, including creams and topical lotions, at their stores.

CBD stores have been exposed throughout media for making false claims of guaranteed success. Mindful owners like Your CBD Store inventory manager Jacob Trone are doing their part to make sure CBD products stay in the golden light of media.

“We consider ourselves the help without the hemp,” Trone said. “We have customers who come back repeatedly because our products work, but I would never label a guarantee on any of our products.”

Trone said he has benefitted from CBD products in numerous ways.

“I used to have acid reflux eight out of every 10 meals I would eat, now I don’t,” Trone said. “I used to get pains in my shoulder, now I don’t. When I would sit down for a long period of time I would get sore, now I don’t.”

Your CBD Store offers creams, mud masks, candy gummies like peach rings and Twizzlers, vaporizing oils, pet products and more.

Trone said their selection is extensive because the people of Oshkosh want different solutions. Trone said some of their products taste like hemp because CBD derives from hemp, and there is no getting around that earthy flavor. Offering topical creams and transdermal patches is a way for customers to circumvent the distasteful hemp flavor.

“The thing with this store is we’re going to have the products,” Trone said. “We’ve changed things here in this store because we want to have the

best CBD selection we can.”

Trone said they do their best to prescribe products on an individual basis. Chemists have dosage amounts listed on the back of the corporate and FDA-approved products, but Trone said he sees peculiar cases at times and uses his knowledge as a CBD provider and a person who works closely with farmers and chemists to tailor the product in exactly the right way.

“We had a person come in and look for medicine for a horse,” Trone said. “We had never done that before. But I used what I knew to offer them the best solution, and it worked. They came back, and they were happy.”

“We have customers who come in and suggest things that work to us too. One time we had a cat owner come in and tell us how their cat was too small to eat the edible CBD products. So she bought oil and infused it into the cats food. It worked, and the customer was happy. Now we know to suggest things like that to customers who may not know.”

Your CBD Store products are made using the highest quality, organically grown hemp from Colorado that has been certified by the states Department of Agriculture, the store website said.

Trone said he would never push a customer into something they weren’t comfortable with. He also said he has numerous customers and first-time users who would testify for and support their CBD products. At any time, Trone said he would be happy to help first-time cannabis users and customers who are curious about the new and fast-growing industry.

“I’m always here, and we’re always going to be here,” Trone said. “We just want to help those who need the help.”

On this day in history

1886 - Sigmund Freud, the “Father of Psychology,” opens a psychiatric office in Vienna. Freud said “Just a cautious businessman avoids tying up all his capital in one concern, so, perhaps, worldly wisdom will advise us not to look for the whole of our satisfaction from a single aspiration.” Freud died of cancer in 1939.

1891 - 23rd U.S. President Benjamin Harrison visits San Francisco. Harrison, among other notable acts as president, facilitated the creation of National Forests through the amendment to the Land Revision Act of 1891.

1914 - Woodrow Wilson accepts mediation in the conflict with Mexico after Mexico’s Gen. Victoriano Huerta overthrows his country’s elected president. Wilson was concerned with foreign policy in his early presidency, and Mexico became one of his biggest concerns.

1945 - Soviet forces complete their attack on Berlin and cut off all access points. A famous photograph of Soviet soldiers waving a flag on the top of a broken-down building became a indelible image of World War II. The photo was then altered for propaganda purposes when wrist-watches were added to the soldier’s arms to imply they had been looting.

1980 - 39th President Jimmy Carter orders a military operation to rescue 52 American hostages held in Tehran. The operation ended in eight U.S. servicemen dead and no hostages rescued. Carter gave a press conference the next day and took full responsibility for the ill-fated effort.

2018 - Philadelphia rapper Meek Mill is released from prison. Mill’s sentencing sparked activism throughout the country including Colin Kaepernick and Jay-Z. The Philadelphia 76ers’ owner flew Mill out to the stadium immediately after his release from prison to ring bells at their playoff game.

Upcoming events

April 25 - Local bike vendors will be at Reeve Memorial Union from 10 a.m to 3 p.m. answering questions about local biking spots as well as providing opportunities opportunities to purchase biking equipment.

April 25 - Bye Gosh Fest volunteer meeting from 6-7 p.m. in Reeve Union 212. People looking to volunteer can meet Bye Gosh Fest members and learn more about getting involved.

April 26 - The 2019 Honors and Awards Ceremony will take place at the Culver Family Welcome Center from 5-7:30 p.m. The ceremony celebrates UWO students who have demonstrated academic excellence, strong character, leadership, and community service.

April 27 - Hands on Oshkosh registration is at 8:30 a.m. in Reeve Union 227 ballroom and volunteers go to their sites at 9 a.m. Hands on Oshkosh is a program bringing students, faculty and staff together while volunteering in the community and making a difference.

April 29 - Reeve Union Board Comedian: Chinedu Unaka performs from 7-9 p.m. in Reeve Union 307. The event is free. Unaka currently stars in an HBO short film The Big Chop.

May 1 - Reeve Union Board’s Local Live Music event features Brass Band Night in the Titan Underground from 7-10 p.m. The event is free, and snack will be offered.

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Ethan Uslabar - Campus Connections Editor

The Howard gives old Eagles Club new life

by Ethan Uslabar
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Once a men’s-only Eagles Club, the tudor-revival style building at 405 Washington Ave. in Oshkosh, has been given new life under the ownership of sisters Jenna Golem and Carey Sharpe.

Since purchasing the building, Sharpe and Golem have restored much of the original craftsmanship of the building and have successfully had the property listed in the National Register and State Register of Historic Places by the Secretary of the Interior.

The property has been named the Howard, after Sharpe and Golem’s grandfather and now operates many different facets, including a café, coffee bar, private event spaces, concert hall and 10-lane bowling alley.

When Sharpe, an Oshkosh native, returned to the area three years ago to start raising her family, she said starting a business wasn’t something she intended to do.

Sharpe and Golem purchased the property following the completion of the Oshkosh downtown YMCA, fearing that the building would be demolished or renovated to house offices or apartments.

“We were just looking to better our community,” Sharpe said. “We were looking at the surrounding area and just realizing that the Eagles Club was an extraordinarily beautiful building, it just needed somebody to really give it some love.”

Getting the Howard listed on the historical registries was one of the sisters’ first goals after purchasing the property.

“Putting it on the register really will make sure that it is maintained in the future,” Sharpe said.

Sharpe and Golem followed the specific guidelines to maintain the building’s historical accuracy and despite that painstaking process, hit few major roadblocks.

“A lot of little things came up,” Sharpe said. “Just overall, the walls are completely solid and it’s an old building from the 1920s, and there’s asbestos in the walls. So every time we wanted to move electrical wire or plumbing it’s just a huge logistical challenge.”

From there on, the sisters worked toward restoring the vitality of the prior Eagles Club, aiming to



PHOTO BY RYAN HAINEY COURTESY OF THE HOWARD

The Howard’s facade, designed in 1927 by architect Henry Auler, is built in the Old English/tudor revival style.

make the Howard a staple of entertainment and life in the Oshkosh downtown area.

“So we had a vision for bringing it back to its former glory and using it for a lot of the same things that it was always used for like big social gatherings such as weddings, birthday parties and concerts and all kinds of things,” Sharpe said, “so we decided to tackle the project and completely refurbish it and restore it.”

Since opening about six months ago, Sharpe and Golem have taken on roles as the Howard’s creative directors, simultaneously employing two day-to-day managers, a bar manager, an events manager, two chefs, waitstaff and baristas and according to Sharp building this team was the biggest challenge.

“When you open a business of this size, you need a pretty decent-sized number of employees

right off the bat, so we went from having no employees to having 60-something in the span of a couple weeks,” Sharpe said.

The Howard is both Sharpe and Golem’s first experience starting a business.

“Obviously this is a very new venture for all of us,” Sharpe said. “We’re running a coffee bar and café, and we’ve got the bowling alley down in the basement, and then we’re doing a lot of private events, but then we’re also doing these big public events where we’re putting on these concerts and stuff, so they’re four very different things that we had to figure out right out of the gate.”

Despite the many challenges small business owners face when starting up, Sharpe says the process with the Howard has gone almost without a hitch.

“There were little things that we had to kind

of reimagine, but overall our vision for what we wanted for the space or for the business has been going really smoothly,” Sharpe said. “It’s still a pretty new business, so everything’s not perfect perfect, and we want it to be perfect right out of the gate and it’s very hard to be, but I think overall it’s pretty unique kind of experience, and it’s a really fun place to be.”

Sharpe, who said she has a particular love for music, is excited for the future of the music venue within the Howard. Recently, the Howard has partnered with Appleton musician Cory Chisel’s Refuge Arts.

“We’re going to be doing a lot more concerts and events-based things, kind of like more of a big party,” Sharpe said. “It’s just a really fun time, and it’s something that’s different from other things you can do in Oshkosh.”

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