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UWO ex-administrator Brandon Miller says UWO discriminated against him for being a gay white male.

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LYDIA SANCHEZ/ADVANCE-TITAN

Junior Adam Fravert throws down an electric dunk against Finlandia University.

Let the madness begin

Both men's and women's basketball programs begin post-season play as No. 1 seeds

by Neal Hogden

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The UW Oshkosh men's basketball team won its final game of the 2018-19 regular season last Saturday, beating UW-Eau Claire 89-62.

After only leading by four points with 4:49 left to play in the first half, the Titans went on a 14-to-four run to close out the half with a 14-point lead.

Throughout the second half, the Titans enjoyed a comfortable lead, pushing their advance

to 31 points at its largest.

UWO held the Bluegolds to 28.6 percent shooting on 21 shots from behind the arc.

Senior guard Brett Wittchow led the Titans with 20 points

MADNESS, PAGE 8

Red Cross calls for blood emergency

by Zack Dion

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The American Red Cross issued an emergency call for blood donations ahead of its blood drive at UW Oshkosh on Tuesday.

UWO held its first blood drive of the spring 2019 semester on Tuesday, offering donors a free Red Cross T-shirt and snacks. The event was located in the Badger State Room of Gruenhagen Conference Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

According to an email report from the Red Cross, more than 70 blood drives were canceled due to severe winter weather in January, resulting in about 3,000 uncollected donations.

The email said a person needs a unit of blood every two to three seconds, and most people will need a blood transfusion in their lifetime.

Director of Gruenhagen Marc Nysten said the use of the word emergency compels people to want to donate.

"The critical factors are supply and demand," Nysten said. "The number of people who are willing to step forward generally does not meet the demand in this world, and specifically in the state of Wisconsin. Part of it is weather-related; part of it is catastrophes that take place where high blood supplies are needed."

President of the UWO American Red Cross Club Maizie Wilharm said the extreme winter weather influences accidents nationwide. This increases the demand for blood donations, and it also prevents donors from leaving their homes to give blood.

For each blood drive, the Red Cross sets a goal, which was 30 pints of blood for this drive. Last month, UWO surpassed its goal, receiving 35 pints, according to Wilharm.

Wilharm said each donor gives one pint per donation, and one pint can save three lives. Gruenhagen's The Badger State Room allows for nine donors to give blood at once.

Each UWO blood drive is put on by three different organizations: the Red Cross, UWO faculty and the UWO American Red Cross Club, a student-run organization.

UWO faculty, Nysten and Conference Coordinator Laurie Hughes reserves the space for each blood drive, markets the drive and recruits volunteers. The UWO American Red Cross Club organizes each drive by planning and coordinating the details of each event.

Nysten said the average blood donation takes about an hour, including the wait, and that many factors motivate and provide satisfaction to blood donors.

"I compare it to, if you go to a church and somebody asks you to donate \$10, you may or may not do that; if somebody says, 'Critically, we need your blood to help save lives,' there's not too many people that are going to say no to that," Nysten said. "The other factor is that they may have been the recipient of the benevolence of the American Red Cross, either individually or someone in their family."

For more information on how to get involved with donating blood, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

KKK cause of theater production changes

by Nikki Brahm

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A production by the theatre department titled "The Foreigner," which includes a scene portraying Ku Klux Klan members, was recently canceled for being too divisive. The name of the Fredric March Theatre is also up for discussion since it was recently announced that Fredric March had ties to a KKK youth group.

According to an email sent out Feb. 8 from Theatre Chair Jane Purse-Wiedenhoef, "The Foreigner" is a satirical comedy that condemns bigotry and extremism and has been well received by audiences for decades.

In the email, Purse-Wiedenhoef stated, "But, at present, we find nothing funny about the KKK and what is happening across our country. We firmly believe that artistic freedom is an important and vital aspect of what the arts have to offer. Sometimes, this

means affecting the audiences' experience so that they seriously consider an idea, event or historical time period. It also means knowing when not to do so."

UWO senior Bryan Carter said as an African American, he thinks "The Foreigner" is a fantastically hilarious production that he read and saw in anticipation for the current season.

"However, I did not see any room for actors of color in that show," Carter said. "Colorblind casting is real, but sometimes it cannot be done while maintaining the suspension of disbelief. I am very pleased that our department chair chose to switch out the show as it gives me an opportunity to audition for another great show that I see a role in for me."

The name of the Fredric March Theatre has been up for discussion since March, when it was released by a task force group in UW Madison that

THEATER, PAGE 2

Ex-admin claims UWO discriminated against him for being gay

by Jordyn Schraeder

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The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development found no probable cause to pursue the Brandon Miller case after reviewing the discriminatory complaint the former associate vice chancellor for enrollment management filed against University of Wisconsin Board of Regents last year.

On Jan. 8, 2018, UW Oshkosh fired Miller, and on March 20, 2018, Miller filed a complaint against the Board of Regents with the DWD, claiming that he had received discriminatory comments from Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and the former Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Cheryl Green for being a homosexual white male.

According to the court documents, the University "asserts that Miller was terminated because he behaved rudely toward both co-workers and su-

periors and because he failed to complete assignments in a timely or competent manner."

The court documents also state that Miller distributed pictures of his genitals to community members online. No formal report was filed by the community member who informed Leavitt, so the University did not pursue the case further.

In the complaint, Miller said that because he was a white male, Leavitt advised him against applying for the full-time vice chancellor of student affairs position while he was serving in the interim role.

Miller alleges that Leavitt told him "black women typically serve in that role."

The Advance-Titan reached out to Leavitt for comment, and Leavitt declined to comment.

According to the court documents, Leavitt denies the allegations against Miller. Prior to

DISCRIMINATION, PAGE 3

Black History Month events on campus

by Jessica Bukielski

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UW Oshkosh is celebrating Black History Month with several events in the month of February, all tailored to educate, inform and involve UWO students on what black history is and why it's important.

According to Vice President of the Black Student Union Imani Ware, black history started before everyone thinks.

"There was much more history that we should celebrate and that we should focus on the great parts of black history in addition to the things we already know about, like slavery," Ware said.

Black Thursday is one of UWO's major historical events. African American studies minor Brianna Langs said the Oshkosh 94 were tired of being uncomfortable, so they went to the chancellor's office and asked for support.

"And the chancellor said that he wasn't going to give

them support," Langs said. "Some people got really frustrated and started causing destruction, and all of them either got suspended or expelled."

Ware said the Oshkosh 94 motivates her to never give up because she knows how important the event is to her own education.

"I feel like I'm not just graduating for myself, I'm graduating for them as well because they fought to walk across the stage here, and they got expelled so they never could," Ware said. "So when I do walk across the stage, I feel like I will be walking for them."

Black Student Union President Daja Johnson said there are many events on campus to honor Black History Month.

"Coming up, we have a social justice panel with Jeffrey Pickron [Feb. 21] and a speaker, Dr. Angela Davis (Feb. 28), who is a black activist and part of the Black Panther movement."

BLACK HISTORY, PAGE 2

UWO holds 19th Annual Honors Exhibition

by Amber Brockman
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UW Oshkosh art students had the opportunity to share their work with friends, family and community members during the 19th Annual Student Honor Exhibition. The exhibition included a variety of work from sophomore through senior art majors chosen by instructors. The exhibit took place Feb. 7-14 at the Allen Priebe Art Gallery. The gallery hosts nine to 12 exhibits each school year. This year the Student Honors Exhibition displayed 30 UWO students' artwork, ranging from ceramics, graphic design, drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture and digital art.

Gallery Director Leslie Walfish said this exhibit gives students a chance to share their work. "This is a way for the campus community to see the great work that's happening in the art program here at UWO," Walfish said. "It's kind of a way of celebrating what's done in the department and honoring how talented our students are." Walfish said faculty members nominate students based on their outstanding work in class.

"Every faculty member in the art department and studio and graphic design areas get to nominate up to five students they've had in their class," Walfish said. "The students had to have created work in an upper-level class, and if there's a particular fantastic work that they've done, that student's work gets nominated."

Walfish said this exhibition is especially valuable for students for a number of reasons. "First, I think it's beneficial because students get to see their work in a professional setting," Walfish said. "Second, actual awards are granted by outside jurors." Walfish said awards are given by Chancellor Andrew Leavitt, an outside juror and a local artist. "The chancellor selects five awards every year, in which the students get money for that award, and then the artwork gets to be shown in the chancellor's office for a year," Walfish said. "The outside juror, an artist and gallery director Kendra Bulgrin gave four awards and two honorable mentions."

Walfish said the local artist, Christian Anderson, selects a couple of students each year from the body of work to put on another exhibition in May. "He has a pop-up exhibit downtown with the student body of work," Walfish said. "So, while they might have, say, one photograph in the show here in the Allen Priebe Gallery, he'll invite them to show like 10 pieces in his gallery setting." Anderson chose UWO junior Chloe Hirschberg to be represented at the exhibit in May.

"I was chosen because I finally took that step and made my art the way I wanted to without being scared of what people would say," Hirschberg said. Hirschberg's piece was a screen printed graphic of a rhino with male genitals as its horn with the caption "Will Someone Pay Attention



Seniors Rachel Blohowiak and Colleen Montevilla look at the 19th Annual Honors Exhibition pieces.

LYDIA SANCHEZ / ADVANCE-TITAN

Now?" "I chose to swap out the rhino's horn for a penis because the society we live in cannot care about something other than sex in one way or another," Hirschberg said. Hirschberg said the idea for this piece came from a lifelong interest and love for animals. "I used to be afraid of be-

ing too graphic or making too big of a point and held back a lot of my ideas," Hirschberg said. "Thanks to the support of friends and family, I finally took that extra step and have started creating pieces that actually mean something near and dear to my heart." UWO alumna Rebecca Grebe displayed some work

from a photo series she did last semester. "The idea of my work is that we are all connected, we all share something with each other and the more we share, the more connected we are," Grebe said. "We are all a reflection of each other." Walfish said these exhibits give the public an understand-

ing of the talent in the UWO art department. "I want to encourage people to come to see our galleries," Walfish said. "It's a nice chance to see art, it's free and you're always going to see something different every time you come because we have a new show every month."

THEATER

FROM PAGE 1

March was affiliated with a KKK youth group, which was pictured in the 1921 Badger Yearbook. Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Support of Inclusive Excellence Sylvia Carey-Butler said the chancellor asked her to lead an initiative to take a look at the theater and make recommendations.

Carey-Butler said she asked Purse-Wiedenhoef to co-chair a committee to address the name of the theater.

"I would like to invite students who are interested," Carey-Butler said. "We are going to set up a date for the forum, to come to the forum and if they'd be interested once they hear from us to join the work group."

Carey-Butler said she doesn't have an end in mind and she wants the process to be organic.

"I'm not saying the name must come down," Carey-Butler said. "Rather, I want to explore who he was and what the body of his work was and what was his life. Where was he at the end of his life? If we don't give room for people to be different, to grow, to learn, even after membership and the KKK, however deep it was in its earlier configuration, then we're not giving anyone any time or any room to grow."

Carey-Butler said she plans to send out more background information to students so they are prepared to talk in-depth at the forum.

"I suspect a lot of students aren't aware," Carey-Butler said. "I suspect that there are some students who are aware, but there's a lot of students from day to day who kind of go about their business and aren't even aware of it. Quite frankly, I wasn't even aware of it until it became an issue, and I said 'Wow, oh boy, we've got something here.' But I didn't want to react to it, I wanted to respond to it."

Carey-Butler said she feels differently about Fredric March than she does about the Virginia

governor, who was recently discovered to have been affiliated with the KKK.

"The reason that I do [feel differently] was because the governor of Virginia was 25 years old and at medical school, and at that point in your life you've made some decisions, you've taken on adult responsibilities, you've been exposed to communities, and this was in the '80s," Carey-Butler said.

Purse-Wiedenhoef said she is glad that it's not a knee-jerk reaction to come to a decision.

"We've been gradually checking on this and coming to things," Purse-Wiedenhoef said. "At first it was sort of waiting to hear how Madison was proceeding, but now it's like, this is out there, let's see what the decision should be."

Carter said March lived from 1897 to 1975.

"Who from the 20th century wasn't involved in the KKK?" Carter said. "Like, seriously. This false narrative that we live in a post-racial society is giving everyone amnesia about the reality of America's DNA. It is up to each of us to understand the reality of our history but also to move forward against patterns of the past."

Carter said March died in 1975, which was around when the theater was built. Carter said nobody besides a true thespian would know who March is.

"A new name honoring someone more contemporary to our current community will bring in new audience members and revenue streams," Carter said. "However, the committee should be comprised of individuals who have actively invested in the theater community of UW Oshkosh. I would hate to see a pool of random individuals sitting on a committee to name a theater that they rarely attend."

Purse-Wiedenhoef said a production of "Boeing, Boeing" will replace "The Foreigner" in early May of this year.

A production of "Moon Over Buffalo" will premiere Thursday at 7:30 p.m. To read more, see page 5.

BLACK HISTORY

FROM PAGE 1

other events that will be happening to honor Black History Month include UW Oshkosh Black Alumni Networking Symposium (Feb. 20), Navigating The Inequalities (Feb. 21) and Black Greek 101 Panel (Feb. 26).

Johnson said she is excited about these events, but she wants to make sure there is a diverse group of people attending them.

"If we celebrate Black History Month but only have black people there, then we're only hearing one side of the story," Johnson said. "I think everyone deserves to hear about this culture and its heritage."

Ware said that she wants more support from administration in planning events for Black History Month.

"It's more heartfelt for me if the school and the chancellor plan these types of events rather it just be mainly the multicultural organizations putting them on," Ware said. "I feel like when we plan the majority of these events, it's just making me feel like we are the only ones who are trying to educate other people that go here."

Langs said that she is helping to plan an event where Davis will come and speak to students about social justice.

"Dr. Davis was very involved in the civil rights movement, and she has committed her whole life to social justice," Langs said. "She's definitely going to talk about the justice for women of color."

Langs said that UWO should put on more events like this because it is beneficial to learn outside of a classroom environment.

"I think that everything that happens outside of the class is just as beneficial as what happens inside of the class because you're going to meet new people and

you're going to learn new ideas," Langs said. "Having events like this on campus gives you the opportunity to meet and learn about new people and things that you would have never explored, and that's really the college experience."

Ware said that she always celebrates Black History Month because it is a time to reflect on her roots.

"Black History Month to me means celebration in my life, and I normally celebrate my black history every day," Ware said. "Black History Month is a month to remind myself where my people came from, and even though they went through something tragic, they came out ten times harder."

Black History Month Calendar of Events:

Thursday, Feb. 21

Navigating the Inequalities: Racism and Social Justice in the 21st Century
Sage Hall, room 1210, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26

Black Greek 101 Panel: The Importance of the Divine Nine for Advocacy
Reeve Memorial Union, room 307, 6 to 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 28

Dr. Angela Davis
Reeve Union Ballroom 227, 5 p.m.

Be The Match calls students to help fight cancer

by Joseph Schulz

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Be The Match will be holding its spring "Get in the Game" drive in Reeve Union on April 11 and 12 where students can get information about how to register to donate peripheral blood stem cells or bone marrow.

Be The Match is operated by the National Marrow Donor Program, a nonprofit organization that helps people with different types of blood cancer find compatible donors.

Be The Match has partnered with the UW Oshkosh football team and the Oshkosh Convention and Visitors Bureau to raise awareness for the spring drive.

Be The Match Community Engagement Specialist Jessica Klingberg said they will no longer be adding potential donors to their registry on campus.

"The purpose of the table would be to help inform people or remind them

to register, answer questions, things like that," Klingberg said.

Klingberg said students can register online themselves at join.bethematch.org/uwo or by texting UWO to 61474.

Klingberg said once students register online, if they are eligible, they will be mailed a swab kit.

"All they have to do is swab the inside of their cheek," Klingberg said. "Then you put [the swab] in the kit and mail it back in."

Klingberg said if the swab shows that a student would be a potential match, then they receive a call from Be The Match asking if they would like to move forward.

"Once they determine they're interested, we schedule a blood test," Klingberg said. "What we're ultimately testing is their human leukocyte antigen. We're also trying to make sure there's no infectious diseases that the donor has that we can rule out early in

the process."

Klingberg said after the blood test, the donor is introduced to a patient diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma or another life-threatening disease.

"Just with the spring drive alone, we've recruited over 1,100 Oshkosh students, and I can confidently say every semester since we've started a chapter at Oshkosh, we've had one student from Oshkosh go on to save a life, every single semester," Klingberg said.

Klingberg said after the blood test, it is determined whether donors will donate stem cells or bone marrow.

"Within 72 hours of that collection, your marrow or your stem cells are being put into that patient that needs you," Klingberg said.

If students don't or cannot donate stem cells or bone marrow, they can still get involved. Klingberg said students can contact her via email at jklingberg@communityblood.org.

"We will be having a voluntary information session Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 6-7 p.m. in Reeve 209," Klingberg said.

UWO football head coach Pat Cerroni said his involvement with Be The Match began about five years ago when he responded to an email from the Be The Match Director for Community Blood Centers.

"Next thing you know Brett Kasper gets picked; he gives his bone marrow to a young girl, and a year later we invite her to a game and this thing just explodes," Cerroni said. "This year we're at four guys that have donated so far."

Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau Sales and Service Manager Jodi Jensen said the CVB got involved with Be The Match when the CVB assisted Cerroni in bringing Kasper's match, Phoenix Bridegroom, and her family to Oshkosh.

"We have been able to stay in con-

tact with Phoenix and her family and have brought them to Oshkosh a total of three times for different games and for Brett's senior banquet," Jensen said. "I have also traveled to Indiana twice to visit her, along with the Kaspers. And we will all be together next week in Philadelphia for the Be The Match gala. This experience has been life changing for me; I have made lifelong friends with the Kaspers and the Bridegrooms."

Cerroni said students should consider joining the Be The Match registry because it gives them the opportunity to save a life.

"There's probably only 75 percent of our team that's on the registry," Cerroni said. "I tell them flat-out, if you ain't gonna commit to it, don't go on. The whole thing they talk about is quality more than quantity. So you're looking for true people that genuinely want to help."



LYDIA SANCHEZ / ADVANCE-TITAN

UW-Fox Valley professor Dr. Beth A. Johnson spoke last Thursday about the misrepresentation and invisibility of women geoscientists. Johnson’s goal is to encourage more women to participate in the sciences.

Professor talks women and geoscience

by Megan Behnke
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The UW Oshkosh Geology Club invited UW-Fox Valley professor Dr. Beth A. Johnson last Thursday to talk about the invisibility and misrepresentation of women geoscientists in the public.

Johnson’s presentation was “Do You See Her? The Invisibility and Misrepresentation of Women in Geoscientists to the Public.” Johnson said she chose that topic because of the need to encourage more women to participate in the sciences in general, particularly in the geosciences.

“So often we as scientists expect our work to speak for us about why what we do is important,” Johnson said. “But in spite of that, so few people are aware of what geoscientists do and don’t consider it a possible career path.”

UWO geology professor Timothy Paulsen said the presentation helped the audience understand how women are represented in sciences specifically.

“[Johnson] has done a variety of work to look at what influences our perception,” Paulsen said. “She went through various ways that she’s looked at that problem and the problem of just the exposure, how are women portrayed in popular media

and what are people’s impressions.”

Johnson said she became interested in the topic of women and geoscience when she was reading the book “Headstrong: 52 Women Who Changed Science — and the World” by Rachel Swaby.

“I realized there were some women who were incorrectly listed in the book (e.g. chemists listed as biologists, etc.),” Johnson said. “I was able to catch this because I work in science and am familiar with different scientific fields, but your average person on the street may not know the difference.”

Paulsen said he hopes people recognize that there is an inherent bias that we have in society.

“Bias is built at an early age, and a lot of the stuff we’re exposed to, you may not be aware,” Paulsen said. “But the way people were portrayed in the media or the way they’re portrayed in children’s books have an impact on what decisions people make later on.”

Johnson said more people should be made aware of how women in science, particularly women in geoscience, are being misrepresented.

“Books and movies have a great potential to influence the public about what scientists can do and study,

so it’s important that those scientists and their jobs are portrayed correctly,” Johnson said. “Knowing how I’d received my introduction to geoscience when I was a kid, I especially wanted to focus on children’s books to see what opportunities they would have to learn about women in science.”

Paulsen said the Geology Club hosts three to four guest speakers per semester.

“Last semester we had people from Milwaukee, but we’ve also had people from the East Coast and West Coast come in,” Paulsen said. “OSA funds this activity to the Geology Club, and I think it’s the most active speaker series on campus.”

Johnson said she hopes students took away three things from the presentation.

“First, I hope they heard my message about how we need to make sure that women in the geosciences are not hidden in the background, but are being acknowledged for their work and achievements,” Johnson said. “Second, I hope all the people in the room realized the need to encourage and support students of all genders and backgrounds to participate in geosciences. Third, I hope the students in particular realized that you don’t have to wait for the perfect research project or lots of grant money in order to do science.”

Paulsen said the guest speaker series has a variety of topics surrounding the geology theme.

“People may talk about mountain building or climate history,” Paulsen said. “Last semester we had someone talk about integrating the geological and archaeological perspective, looking at what people were doing around Wisconsin and looking at what some of the geological resources they were using.”

Johnson said she recommends that students who are interested in learning more about the issues women face in the geosciences visit the webpages for the Association for Women Geoscientists and the Earth Science Women’s Network.

“Both organizations are dedicated to encouraging and supporting women in the geosciences,” Johnson said. “The Earth Science Women’s Network in particular has a wonderful online community where people can reach out to others to get advice about research, issues with the faculty, publications, etc.”

The next talk in the speaker series will be March 7 with Dr. William Jacobson’s “Examination of Magnetic Fabrics in Drumlin Landforms and Glacier Ice at Flajajokull, Iceland” at 4:10 p.m. in Harrington Hall 217.

MILLER
FROM PAGE 1

Miller serving as the interim vice chancellor of student affairs, Petra Roter, a caucasian woman, served in the full-time position for 11 years.

According to the DWD’s findings, “Regardless if Leavitt expressed a preference for hiring a black woman as Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Miller did not apply for the position. Absent Miller’s application, BR [UW System Board of Regents] could not have discriminated against him when it hired Green.”

In May 2017, Green was hired as the vice chancellor of student affairs and Miller returned to his original position of the associate vice chancellor for enrollment management.

Miller’s discriminatory complaint alleged that Green later made homophobic comments to him, saying, “You should be lucky to be this high up in light of being gay,” and “I forgot you people are able to marry these days.”

The defense denies that Green made these statements.

According to records obtained from the DWD, the University argues that Miller had issues working with women and lacked the professionalism necessary to perform his job. In a software meeting, Miller “behaved outrageously” and was verbally abusive to the three women present at the meeting.

On two separate occasions, Miller underperformed in writing reports and failed to make the formatting changes requested by Green; therefore, she was forced to properly complete them because Miller failed to fulfill his job.

The court report said Miller’s response to this allegation states: “Dr. Miller prepared the report exactly how she wanted it prepared ... Ms. Green gave Dr. Miller no feedback when he presented the completed report to her. No matter what he gave her, it would not have been good enough to meet her needs in light of her discriminatory and retaliatory acts and words and thoughts.”

Another incident took place on Jan. 31, 2017 when Miller went to Arizona for an advisory board meeting representing UWO. When he did not attend the meeting, the University contacted his emergency contact and the police gained entry to his hotel, where they found Miller’s possessions, but not Miller. Upon returning to UWO, Miller offered no explanation as to why he missed the meeting.

According to court documents, another incident took place during the Dec. 12, 2017 Chancellor’s Late Night Breakfast when Green and Miller were serving students food.

“Following the event, he told another staff member that Dr. Green was a racist, that she had only spoken to black students and had given more food to black students,” according to the report. The University responded in saying

that Green gave all students fair portions and engaged with students equally.

The tipping point for Green took place in Dec. 2017 when she asked Miller to complete a report for a meeting with an accreditation agency the next day.

The report goes on to say that Miller told Green, “I’ll see what I can get done before I leave today but it’s late and I have one hour before it’s 4:30. If it’s not done, oh well. I [am] headed to a trip out of town ... If I get it done, I will. If I don’t, I don’t.”

The report states that Miller reached out to human resources to discuss the discriminatory comments he received, but Leavitt and Green were never informed about the complaints.

Miller also scheduled a meeting with Leavitt to discuss the “discriminatory and retaliatory” treatment he received. Miller was terminated before the meeting took place.

Miller filed an appeal to the DWD’s findings of no probable cause. A telephone pre-hearing conference is scheduled for March 11 to determine whether or not there is probable cause to pursue Miller’s discriminatory complaint.

The A-T reached out to Miller’s attorney Peter Culp and did not receive a response.

Green is now serving as the interim vice chancellor at UW-Whitewater. Dr. Art Munin has stepped into the position of Interim vice chancellor of student affairs.

UWV experiences rise in enrollment with international students

by Joseph Schulz
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UW-Fox Valley has seen the number of international students increase on its campus, going from 22 students in the fall 2017 semester to 108 students in the spring 2019 semester.

UWV International Student Coordinator Sarah Christensen said the increase is due to a partnership between UWV and Kings Education, an organization that helps international students find placement in U.S. colleges and universities.

Christensen said of UWV’s 108 international students, only 16 aren’t associated with Kings Education.

“They have selected our campus to be one of their partners or collaborators in recruiting students to attend here,” Christensen said. “They have staff on campus, and they support the students in addition to what the staff at UW-Fox Valley can do.”

Christensen said most of the international students chose UWV because of the UW System’s guaranteed transfer program, which allows students to transfer from any two-year UW school to any four-year university within the UW System.

“There’s things that we help them with so they can progress to Madison, for example, and meet the requirements of guaranteed transfer and meet the requirements of their major so they aren’t behind when they get to UW Madison,” Christensen said.

Christensen said her role as the international student coordinator includes being an academic adviser and teaching a class that familiarizes international students with American culture.

“I really enjoy teaching the class because I get to know the new students a lot better; I get to see them at least once a week,” Christensen said. “I get to know them better and get to know what they’re excited about, or worried about, or unsure about.”

Kings Education Center Manager Chihae Lee said collaborating with the staff at UWV has been the highlight of the partnership between Kings and UWV.

“Sarah Christensen, she has been an immense help; she has been the focal person that we would go to when we needed help with anything,” Lee said. “She knows things like immigration, student services, academics and whatnot.”

Lee said since UWV doesn’t have residence halls, international students attending UWV live in the Fox Village Apartments, which are about a five-minute walk from campus.

“It is a third party that is not really through UWV,” Lee said.

UW Oshkosh Immigration Compliance and International Enrollment Management Coordinator and former international student Johannes Schmied said UWO currently has 54 international students enrolled, exactly half as many as UWV.

“Many students come here for the freedom to do what they want because in their home countries maybe they cannot date, maybe they cannot go out past a certain time,” Schmied said. “Every country has different rules.”

Schmied said UWO’s Office of International Education offers an intensive English program and English language tutoring for students.

“UWO and other universities in Wisconsin have a lot of services, for example the [Undergraduate Advising Resource Center] offices where advisers help students choose classes; that is at least not common in my home country (Austria),” Schmied said. “In my home country there’s not really professional advisers that help students; you have to find everything yourself.”

READ THE FULL STORY ONLINE
AT WWW.ADVANCETTAN.COM

The Miller Case Timeline of Events

JULY 1, 2016

Miller started as interim vice chancellor of student affairs when Petra Roter left to work for the UW System after over 11 years as vice chancellor of student affairs.

JAN. 31, 2017

Miller flew to Arizona for a meeting and did not attend meetings or answer phone calls from the University. Miller gave no explanation as to why he missed the meeting.

JULY 1, 2017 - JAN. 8, 2018

Miller allegedly received homophobic comments from Green, such as, "I forget you people are able to marry these days," and "you should be lucky to be this high up in light of being gay."

DEC. 12, 2017

"Miller told a staff member that Green was a racist, that she had spoken only to black students and had given more food to black students," according to court records. The University denies Miller's claim.

MARCH 20, 2018

Miller filed a discrimination complaint against the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, stating he was discriminated against for being a white, homosexual male.

DEC. 21, 2018

Dr. Cheryl Green stepped down and Dr. Art Munin took over as Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

JAN. 15, 2019

DWD received Miller's appeal. A telephone hearing is scheduled for March 11.

JULY 27, 2015

Dr. Brandon Miller was hired as UWO's first associate vice chancellor for enrollment management.

JULY 2016 - JULY 2017

Miller talked to Chancellor Leavitt about applying for full-time position of vice chancellor of student affairs and was allegedly told not to because, "black women typically serve in that role."

JULY 1, 2017

Dr. Cheryl Green was hired as the vice chancellor of student affairs and Miller returned to the position of associate vice chancellor for enrollment management.

EARLY SEPT., 2017

Shortly after Labor Day, a community member contacted Leavitt saying Miller emailed pictures of his genitals to people in the Fox Cities.

NOV. 2017

Miller was expected to compile a strategic plan report, but did minimal work and forwarded staff's emails to Green.

JULY - DEC., 2017

Miller missed meetings where he was scheduled to present reports.

JAN. 8, 2018

Miller was terminated from UWO. "because he behaved rudely toward both coworkers and superiors and because he failed to complete assignments in a timely or competent matter," according to the University.

DEC. 10, 2018

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development determined no probable cause to pursue Miller's case, as he never formally applied for the full-time vice chancellor of student affairs position.

Show support for your student-athletes

by The Advance Titan Staff
atitan@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh athletics department is handing out 500 free tickets to UWO students to attend the men’s and women’s basketball playoff games this week, which leaves no excuse for students to miss the chance to support these incredibly talented student athletes.

The UWO student body has showed a lack of attendance at games. With the success of our athletics programs this year it is more important than ever to show some school spirit.

Both UWO basketball programs are succeeding in ways that this campus has never seen before. The men’s and women’s teams are hosting playoff games this week because they were both at the top of conference standings at the end of the regular season.

The UWO men’s program won the regular season Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title after earning an impressive 23-2 overall record and a 13-1 record in conference play. The UWO women’s program also won the WIAC regular season title and had a 22-3 overall record and a 12-2 record in conference play. Both were granted the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament.

Kolf Sports Center can hold a capacity of about 5,600 for a basketball game. This year the average attendance at a UWO men’s basketball game at Kolf Sports Center was 487.

The average home attendance at a UWO women’s basketball game this season was 315. It’s important to note that tickets for UWO students at home games are free of charge for the entire season.

UWO women’s basketball coach Brad Fischer said that for the first time in UWO history, both the men’s and women’s basketball teams have won the conference championship in the same season.

“I think we both have a chance to make a run at the Final Four,” he said. “There’s over 400 Division III schools in the country and I think we have collectively one of the best basketball programs in the nation.”

Both programs have the po-

tential to advance far in post-season play this year.

Last season, the men advanced to the D-III finals after the Titans lost a close game to Nebraska Wesleyan University 78-72. This year, UWO was selected to win the championship at the beginning of the season based on a preseason poll conducted by the league’s head coaches and sports information directors.

UWO interim men’s basketball coach Matt Lewis said the program is succeeding at a level that nobody has ever seen.

“It’s probably the best year in school history,” Lewis said. “Last year we made a great run in the NCAA Tournament. We obviously haven’t done that yet, but our regular season that we have put together has been really good.”

Our student-athletes care about their work and invest a lot of time into participating in athletics at UWO and representing the University in a positive way. Lewis said his team works hard even on days when there is no practice.

“I just think our guys put a lot of time into it; they invest so much every day,” Lewis said. “Yesterday the guys had the day off, but they were in the gym shooting.”

A packed Kolf Sports Center on Thursday night would mean a lot to the coach and players and would go a

long way to increase team morale.

“Recognizing those guys and all the hard work they’ve put in,” Lewis said. “It would just be awesome to see a big crowd there.”

Last week, the Titans took on UW-Stevens Point in the final home game of the regular season. It was the largest crowd the Titans had seen all year with 1,054 in attendance.

UWO went on to defeat the Pointers on senior night by a score of 77-70. Lewis said it was a prime example of how a good crowd can help the team succeed.

“We had almost 1,100 people at senior night. It was probably the best crowd I’ve seen



LYDIA SANCHEZ/ADVANCE-TITAN

UW Oshkosh sophomore forward Connor Duax attempts a layup in front of an empty Kolf Sports Center.

since I’ve been coaching here; the place was rocking,” Lewis said. “The student involvement can get everyone excited and brings the energy up in the building. It’s crucial.”

“Please come. We really appreciate it when you come see us play. It’s an awesome experience for us and we are truly grateful.”

— Jack Flynn, UWO junior

Fischer said the crowd can provide encouragement to the team during big moments of the game.

“If you don’t directly play the game, you don’t really understand just how important it is,” Fischer said. “We have a lot of our students and student-athletes sit underneath the opposing teams basket and they create so much energy. It feeds into our huddles during

timeouts.”

Fischer said having a large crowd of spectators energizes the players.

“When our girls look up and see bodies in the crowd they think to themselves, ‘Dang, we’re representing UW Oshkosh,’ they get this sense of pride that is unmatched,” Fischer said.

Fischer said the Titans will be showcasing their best work with the season coming to a close.

“Every game can be a win-or-go-home situation,” he said. “You’re going to see the best energy, the best quality you can find because there’s a chance our season could end any time in the next two weeks.”

Fischer said that athletes don’t get special treatment, scholarships or money from the University to play basketball.

“They’re no different than any other student on this campus. They’re paying their way to attend this University,” he

said. “This is something they love to do just like the folks in the theatre department or the student newspaper.”

Lewis said that it is important to show school spirit at UWO.

“I think it’s just a pride thing,” he said. “Whether you’re a faculty member or you’re a student, we can continue to build the amount of pride we have in our University.”

Lewis said one of the ways that students can show school spirit is by going to events on campus.

“Not just sporting events, you go check out the theater events, you check out the events held at Reeve, go to all the programming events that they offer here on this campus,” he said. “That is naturally going to increase the amount of pride you have in your university.”

Lewis said that there are many good things happening on campus but if you don’t go see them you won’t have

pride.

“Get out of your office, get out of your dorm and go get involved,” he said.

UWO forward Jack Flynn said he would love to see Kolf Sports Center packed for Thursday’s game.

“Please come,” Flynn said. “We really appreciate it when you come see us play. It’s an awesome experience for us and we are truly grateful. If we can ever support you, we will do our best to make that happen.”

The UWO men’s basketball team faces UWSP at 7 p.m. on Thursday and the UWO women’s basketball team will play at 7 p.m. on Friday. UWO students that present a valid Titan card can pick up free tickets to the game at the Kolf Sports Center.

Free tickets, free entertainment and the chance to support your fellow UWO students. What more do these hard working athletes need to do to convince you to attend?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As a white male in America, I am mostly blinded by real-world issues due to the white privilege I was born with. As obvious as it sounds, we do not choose our race, religion or gender at birth. Everyone is given individual traits at birth that are unique to them.

As I grow older and start to realize how unjust people are, I feel the need to express my emotions. By having no control over who we are at birth, we have no control over how we look.

However, we do have control over how we treat others. If you are born “non-white” in the United States, you are set up to be criticized, challenged and questioned throughout life. These issues that non-white Americans face have led to corruption, hate and fear throughout America.

Diversity needs to be acknowledged and acted upon in the “land of the free” because I have

noticed that at UWO, this isn’t being done. The lack of diversity on campus resembles what our country consists of — predominantly white, straight men.

Our country thrives on that image, and we generally lean toward those individuals because that is who we know and understand as the “normal person.” As a country of equal human beings, we need to be more inclusive and aware of our lack of diversity.

Change can occur by being conscious about creating an inclusive environment to attract diversity. We need to understand that every single person in this world was born the same way. There should not be an unfair advantage due to skin color, gender or sexual orientation. Collectively, we need to do better.

Austin Lee
leea56@uwosh.edu

Dear Editor,

Robots are great, aren’t they? They clean your floors, make your coffee and take your jobs ... wait, what? Yes, you heard me right, they take our jobs. However, you shouldn’t blame them for taking our jobs because aren’t they just shifting the jobs?

Think about it. Sure, robots can do many simple tasks better than humans, but they can’t fix themselves or do many complicated tasks. It’s up to humans to fix them, and this is where the shifting of jobs comes into play.

As robots take over more of the jobs that involve labor tasks, more jobs are opened up involving the improvement and maintenance of said robots. Take a look at Amazon which has warehouse robots. Instead of having people manually go around and search for products, Amazon has an advanced logistics system using mostly robots.

If your letter is chosen for publication, we will attempt to contact you for verification via email or phone.

For more information, email us at atitan@uwosh.edu, call (920) 424-3048 or visit our website.

all letters can be published. Letters of length exceeding 300 words may be edited at the discretion of the Advance-Titan staff.

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The Advance-Titan does not publish poetry, anonymous or open letters, and letters printed elsewhere.

Each writer is generally limited to one published letter to the editor per month. We cannot acknowledge receipt of all submissions.

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Jack Tierney - Campus Connections Editor

Farce: ‘Moon Over Buffalo’ to UWO

See the comedic farce
Feb. 21-24 at Fredric
March Theatre

by Jack Tierney
tiernj03@uwosh.edu

Fredric March Theatre is set to showcase the situational comedy “Moon Over Buffalo” Feb. 21-23 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 24 at 2 p.m.

Set in 1953, the play focuses on two people who own a theater company and are struggling to make it in the acting world. They have one last chance when the renowned director Frank Capra comes to their matinee.

“Moon Over Buffalo” was written by playwright Ken Ludwig who called the play “deeply about American theatre.”

Director Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft called the show “a door slammer” that the actors took off and ran with.

Purse-Wiedenhoeft said the actors of the ‘50s had a larger-than-life presence on stage and said the actors performing the show at UW Oshkosh are comfortable with being in that character.

“They get the comedy;

they don’t try to make it too important,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said. “With comedy, it’s about timing, and that’s where they’re at.”

Purse-Wiedenhoeft expressed her joy in doing a comedy.

“Life needs humor or some irony and I haven’t done just a slapstick, crazy comedy like this in a while,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said.

UWO senior Garret Johnson will play lead George Hay, the traveling actor who is on the back half of his career.

Johnson compared training for his role to an insane asylum in that everybody has their quirks they can bring out.

“We try to bring some of that natural, bombastic energy that we have in our personalities into our performance while still staying true to our character,” Johnson said.

Johnson said the transition from the previous thriller “Sweeney Todd” to the co-



UWO senior Garret Johnson (right) plays lead George Hay, the struggling actor looking for his big break.

medic “Moon Over Buffalo” has been refreshing.

UWO senior Kaitlyn Polka will play Charlotte Hay, George Hay’s wife and accompanying actress on the road.

“It’s a fun play about theater and a misshaped family and the imperfections of play,” Polka said. “It’s all bigger than life.”

Polka said Charlotte Hay is a woman who knows what she wants and will do what-

ever it takes to get it.

“She’s a very self-actualized woman who, even in her ‘50s, is saying, ‘I’m going to make it big; I’m going to be a movie star,’” Polka said.

UWO junior Rachel Ryan will play Rosalind, George and Charlotte Hay’s daughter who leaves the group for a normal life.

“She comes back to introduce her family to her fiancé, and we find out her ex is in the theater company her

parents run, and there are a couple complications when she comes back,” Ryan said.

Ryan said she hasn’t played a humorous romantic in a while and said developing the character has been interesting.

“I feel like I can relate to this character because I have the kind of big personality like her,” Ryan said.

Ryan, Polka and Johnson all said the play is fun for anyone to come to because

it is a relief from the day-to-day hustle of life and offers a chance to relax and watch a funny show.

Purse-Wiedenhoeft said the comedy was chosen with UWO students in mind.

“It’s a fun night out at the theater for students who want to get out of the winter and the snow,” Wiedenhoeft said. “After, they can go out and get dessert,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said, laughing.



UWO student Matthew Beecher looks over his script and cues staff as he prepares to call his first show as stage manager in the upcoming ‘Moon Over Buffalo.’

Behind the curtain with production crew



UWO senior Nathaniel Wolkoff as sound designer cues music.



UWO junior Hannah Olsen sets lights for rehearsal of the show.

by Jack Tierney
tiernj03@uwosh.edu

Plays and musicals performed at UW Oshkosh are directed under the guidance of faculty members; but once the show goes live, responsibilities are taken over by students.

Stage Manager

In “Moon Over Buffalo,” the house lights dimming, the curtains rising, the telephone ringing and the props brought to place are effects of the stage manager cuing direction.

UWO senior Matthew Beecher will take on the role of stage manager for the first time in “Moon Over Buffalo.”

“I’m thankful that I’m being trusted to be involved in this way, in this production,” Beecher said. “It’s a large responsibility, and I’m glad that everyone feels they can trust me.”

In addition to giving direction and ordering cues, the stage manager acts as an assistant director.

And in order to maintain all of those responsibilities, Beecher said he uses what is called a prompt script.

“It has everything in it from contact information to the script itself — to a list of things I need to do and go

through before the show starts, and another list for once the show ends — and all of these plots, lights and scenery,” Beecher said.

The responsibilities of the stage manager and the director are bounced back and forth, but when it comes time to perform live, Beecher said it is his show to run.

“I say ‘lights up,’ and it happens.”

Fly Person

One of the most dangerous jobs in theater involves a system of ropes, pulleys and battens that brings curtains down, fixes light and locks line-sets not moving.

If the counterbalance of the pulley system were to be thrown off, heavy curtains would fall, thick ropes would swing through the air and people could get hurt.

It takes a trained person to operate the fly system, and for UWO it’s freshman Lucas Hansen.

Hansen said he has been involved in theater since he was in seventh grade and has always had a passion for it.

“When I started theater in middle school, it was something I heard of and something that sounded really cool and fun to do,” Hansen said.

Hansen communicates with Beecher through a set of cues echoed into his headset and can also be seen moving props between sets dressed in black.

Props Manager

A person who is in charge of managing props is responsible for many things, but must make sure he or she does research about the era of the

show so that the props reflect that era.

Props can be as small as a bottle of wine, but they are often handmade, painted and customized weeks before the show.

Gathering props starts with a list of what is needed and a plan for how the props will be assembled, rented or purchased.

UWO Junior Daria Chirhart manages props at UWO, and said she enjoys building props and working with the director.

Chirhart said she has been involved in theater since she was a child and said her favorite set of props she’s ever made was a collection of toy soldiers.

“I got to make 10 wooden toy soldiers all by hand, and I painted them all, and it was a lot of fun,” Chirhart said.

Sound Designer

When a sound designer does their job well, they should go unnoticed, UWO senior Nathaniel Wolkoff said.

“Good audio in a production does its job and gets out of the way,” Wolkoff said. “Your job is to sneak in unnoticed.”

Wolkoff said he most enjoys building a world for the actors to live in and creating something for other people to be a part of.

A sound designer must read the script thoroughly to know what sounds need to be produced, when and in what era.

“Once you have those basics, that’s when you can get creative,” Wolkoff said. “It doesn’t say, for example, ‘there is a certain sound here,’ but I can add it in for effect.”

Wolkoff gave an example of that freedom of sound and going off-script to street noise.

“I can put that noise in to convince everybody in attendance that [the actors] are outside and [the audience] can forget about it and be in that space,” Wolkoff said.

Wolkoff said working in sound design requires him to work closely with everybody else to make one coherent production.

“That’s what theater is, one collaborative process to put something together that makes it look like it was done by one person,” Wolkoff said.

Light Designer

UWO faculty member James Alderson directs and designs lights for the theater, and UWO junior Hannah Olsen is in charge of cues.

Olsen said the production and concept of the lights, what colors and when, are conceptualized by Alderson in early rehearsals.

“Once we have all the cues recorded and the show begins, my job is to basically hit ‘go’ when the stage manager tells me to,” Olsen said.

Olsen said that when a stage is lit with bright white, blue, red, or low orange lights, the light designer is conveying mood.

“‘Moon Over Buffalo’ is a very happy and bright show; it’s a comedy, so we have a lot more lights than our other shows, and viewers will get that when they walk in,” Olsen said.

Lights, like the rest of production staff, must work closely with the stage manager, director and everybody else on production crew.

UWO sets 10 school records at WIAC Championship

by Billy Piotrowski
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The UWO swimming and diving team is reflecting and preparing for next season. The men’s and women’s teams finished the season with a record of 1-7 and 3-5 in meets respectively. Both teams finished fifth in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship last Saturday.

It was a season of highs and lows, head coach Christopher Culp said, but the best of this year’s team was shown at the WIAC Championship, where the Titans broke 10 school records.

“It was a really interesting season,” Culp said. “Every year takes on a different character, but this year we definitely had some ups and downs. There was a lot of adversity this year. We went through a lot. I was really pleased with the way we were training by the end of the season and the way we came together at this meet (WIAC Championship).”

Not only was this a major accomplishment and meant a lot to the team, there was a reward they were looking forward to. On Tuesday the Titans got to shave Culp’s head.

The bet was originally made last season, with the goal being five school records; however, the team broke four. So, after a little thought, Culp decided to



BILLY PIOTROWSKI/ADVANCE-TITAN

UWO swim and dive head coach Christopher Culp gets his head shaved to fulfill the bet he made with his team after they set numerous school records at the WIAC Championship last weekend. Culp told his team to get five records, they set ten.

carry the bet over to this season, and the Titans more than exceeded their goal.

Culp said the performances on Saturday were a culmination of a long season filled with

hard work.

“We started off really well with our first couple relays and that really set the momentum for the meet,” Culp said. “That and I think they really wanted

to shave my head.”

Culp said success in the pool became contagious.

“I think they just fed off of each other’s success,” Culp said. “When one starts to do

well, the others believe that they can do it so it just kept growing, it just built off that. It was excellent, and I’m happy to allow them to have their fun; hair grows back.”

The WIAC Championship meet proved to be the highlight of the season for many of the athletes.

UWO junior Sydney Challoner said her favorite moment was being a part of the three records the women broke.

“When we were at Conference and were able to break the 800-yard freestyle relay record with the team as well as breaking my own 200 butterfly record and my 100 butterfly record,” Challoner said.

On the men’s side, sophomore Jarrett Lieder was involved in six of their seven broken records. Fellow sophomore David Bain broke the seventh in the 200-yard backstroke preliminary.

Only one Titan, sophomore diver Matt Wilke, qualified for the NCAA Division III Region 1 Championship, which takes place at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Ill. on Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2.

Despite not having more Titans going to regionals, there is excitement in the air for Wilke and for next season. Lieder talked about new additions to the team and how this season will help the team grow.

“I’m pretty excited to see what kind of freshmen we’re gonna get in because we are not losing any seniors this year,” Lieder said. “So I just know that our team is going to develop and grow, and I’m looking forward to that.”

Gymnastics earns highest score of the year against D-I, D-II competition

by Alexis Durkee
durkea87@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh gymnastics journeyed across the country to Seattle, WA for a quadrangular at Seattle Pacific University.

The Titans faced Division-I opponent Air Force Academy, D-II Seattle Pacific University and WIAC rival UW-Whitewater.

Air Force Academy came out victorious with a score of 194.200, Seattle Pacific placed second with 192.600, as UWO and UWW finished third and fourth at 189.100 and 185.025 respectively.

The Titans did not back down from the

higher competition Friday as the team posted its highest score of the year. In addition, UWO recorded its highest scores in each of the four events: A score of 46.225 on the uneven bars, 47.025 on the vault, 47.575 on the floor exercise and 48.275 on the balance beam.

Freshman Kaira Hammond had a career high in two events on Friday as she took second on the balance beam as she scored a 9.825 only 0.025 short of tie for first and a 9.700 on the uneven bars.

Joining Hammond, UWO had three other top-16 finishers on the balance beam. Olivia Keller placed fourth with a score of 9.775, Baylee took ninth with a 9.750 and Alyssa

Nore finished 15th at 9.500.

The Titan had four top-16 finishers on the floor exercise as well. Keller had a season-high 9.625 to place seventh, Jessica Bernardo and Rahdea Jarvis tied in 11th place at 9.575 and Bailey Finin rounded out the top-16 with a score of 9.425.

Bailee Hardy and Bernardo finished in the top-16 on the uneven bar routines. Hardy placed 14th at 9.425, and Bernardo took 16th with 9.125.

Hardy returned to the lineup this week for the first time all year. Senior Bailey Finin said depth to this years roster as allowed the team to come together to boost performances.

“This is what being a team is all about,” Finin said. “It’s great to be able to step-up for each other.”

After posting a season high in the uneven bars, Hardy said that she wants to continue to get better each time she performs.

“Every meet I try my best to improve my bar routine,” Hardy said. “I’m just hoping I can go above and beyond on my bar routine and finally get that score I’m looking for.”

In the all-around competition, Bernardo placed fifth, posting a season best 37.000.

The UWO gymnastics team will travel to UWW, Feb. 24 for a triangular between host Warhawks and UW-Eau Claire.

Upcoming Events	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Saturday-Sunday	Sunday
		Men’s & Women’s Track & Field WIAC Indoor Championship 11:30 a.m.	Men’s & Women’s Track & Field WIAC Indoor Championship 11:30 a.m.	(Sat.) Softball vs. Buena Vista University @ Rochester, Minn. 4 p.m.	Softball Gustavus Adolphus College @ Rochester, Minn. 10 a.m.
	Men’s Basketball WIAC Playoffs, 1st round vs UW-Stevens Point 7 p.m.	Women’s Basketball WIAC Playoffs, 1st round vs UW-Stout 7 p.m.	Wrestling at NCAA Division III Upper Midwest Regional 11 a.m.	(Sat.) Softball vs. University of St. Thomas as @ Rochester, Minn. 8 p.m.	Softball vs. Carroll University @ Rochester, Minn. 12 p.m.
		Wrestling at NCAA Division III Upper Midwest Regional 11 a.m.	Men’s Basketball TBA WIAC Playoffs, 2nd round 5 p.m.	(Sun.) Women’s Gymnastics at UW-Whitewater with UW-Eau Claire 2 p.m.	Women’s Basketball TBA WIAC Playoffs, 2nd round 5 p.m.

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Titans place first and fifth at 13-team home meet

The UW Oshkosh men’s track and field team takes first place as the women place fifth in the first home meet of the season on Saturday

by Evan Moris

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The UW Oshkosh track and field teams hosted 13 schools at the UW Oshkosh Titan Challenge at Kolf Sports Center last Saturday.

The men’s track and field team took home first place while the women’s team finished in fifth place.

The men’s squad had four event winners at the Titan Challenge.

UWO long jumper and national leader Jonathan Wilburn outmeasured 19 other competitors in the long jump with a length of 48-8 3/4. In addition, Wilburn, Ryan Powers, Steven Potter and Todd Beadle, forming the nation-leading 1,600-meter relay team, took first with a time of 3:17.43.

Roman Hill and Robert Ogbuli also placed first on Saturday. Hill out-leaped the field in the long jump with a measurement of 22-11 3/4. Ogbuli sprinted past the competition in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.9 seconds; teammates Benjamin Jung and Denzel Thomas placed second and third respectively.

Powers said numerous teammates have come a long way this season, but Ogbuli made the most impressive improvement.

“I’ve seen many of my teammates grow and perform much better than last year and earlier this season,” Powers said. “If I had to pick one athlete who surprised me the most from the beginning of the season, it would be Robert Ogbuli. He has come to learn the skill of sprinting and was really a non-factor in big meets until recently.”

On the women’s side, senior

Lauren Wensch continued her success in the long jump as she dominated the rest of the 41 other contestants with her leap of 19-4 3/4, breaking her own school record for the second time this season. UW-Eau Claire’s Ashley Agrimson finished second at 18-8.

In addition to winning the long jump, Wensch took first in the 200-meter dash, running a 25.32 second time, over half a second faster than second-place Hannah Mertens of UW-Stevens Point, who finished with a time of 25.96 seconds.

Wensch is nationally ranked first in the long jump and sixth in the 200-meter dash.

Head coach Justin Kineth said Wensch’s evolution from freshman year to now has been amazing and surprised everyone involved in the program.

“She never did track in high school,” Kineth said. “She literally gave all-out commitment to this team, to this program, to this sport. I think those first few years of learning and developing and growing ... she’s got it now.”

Wensch said her attention remains on the details as the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship approaches.

“I think it’s important that I stay consistent and polished in practices. When it’s time to compete so I’m able to execute everything just like I have been,” Wensch said. “Also since I’m competing in multiple events, making sure I’m focusing on each individual performance itself and staying calm as I compete.”

Other notable scorers from the UWO women’s team included, Wensch and her

1,600-meter relay team of Lindsay Denu, Alexandra Demco and Taylor Pralle. They ran a third-place finish with a time of 3:58.07. The Titan women’s 1,600-meter relay currently holds the 10th fastest time in the nation.

Nationally ranked senior sprinter Ryan Powers said he understands there are high expectations for him every time he lines up to race but expects the responsibilities.

“Being a top-ranked runner, there will always be pressure and a target on your back for other athletes to get after,” Powers said. “Over the years, I have tried to calm the nerves as much as possible, but you’ll never be able to fully get rid of those as long as you care about the race.”

Kineth said the juniors’ and seniors’ ability to lead by example has trickled down throughout the team, fastforwarding progress that surpassed Kineth’s projections for the track and field program.

“The women and the men have literally exceeded expectations,” Kineth said. “It’s a young team; it’s awesome to see how far we’ve developed within one year. A lot of that is a testament to their commitment and the upperclassman really putting their arm over their shoulder, making sure that we collectively build that team culture.”

The UWO men and women’s track teams will travel to UW-Whitewater for the WIAC Indoor Championships this Friday and Saturday.

The UWO men will be searching for their first WIAC Championship since 2001, while the women will look to add a 14th championship, their first since 2012.



ABOVE: UWO Sadie Huth sprints through the first set of hurdles in the 60-meter dash.
BELOW: From left to right, UWO sprinters Ryan Powers, Robert Ogbuli, Denzel Thomas and Benjamin Jung place sixth, first, second and third respectively in the 60-meter dash.





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Outright champs!

Women hold Blugolds to lowest-scoring performance in program history and claim 13th regular season WIAC

by Ally Gwidt
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The nationally ranked UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team held UW-Eau Claire to its lowest point total in program history in a 67-23 victory during the last game of the regular season on Saturday at Kolf Sports Center.

The 44-point win margin is the largest ever in the series between UWO and UWEC since the Titans defeated the Blugolds 82-37 in their first meeting on Feb. 27, 1975.

The Titans, who entered Saturday’s contest ranked 15th in the NCAA Division III by d3hoops.com, held the Blugolds to no more than seven points in a single quarter on their way to crystalizing their league-leading 13 regular season conference titles. This is the second time in three years the Titans served as outright Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champions.

UWO rallied for the first 13 points of the game before UWEC’s Kelsey Bakken stopped the Titan run with a three-pointer with 3:16 left in the first quarter. The Titans went on to allow only seven Blugold points while tacking on 24 more of their own to end the first half, up 37-11.

UWO closed out the game by holding a minimum of an 11-point lead the last 32 minutes of the contest while outperforming UWEC 29-12 in the third and fourth quarter.

Titan center Isabella Samuels led both squads with 12 points on 100 percent shooting from the floor. Samuels leads the WIAC in field goal percentage with .684 on the season.

Among the 12 Titan scorers, guard Jessie Rabas registered 11 points off the Titans bench while

forward Melanie Schneider and center Karsyn Rueth added on eight apiece.

UWO forward Nikki Arneson tallied a game-high four assists and four blocks while recording six points. Guards Brooklyn Bull and Leah Porath also had six points each for UWO.

With all 18 Titans receiving minutes, the UWO reserves accounted for 37 points, 13 rebounds, eight assists, five steals and four blocks.

Freshman forward Kaycee Gierczak led UWEC with 10 points off the bench as the Titans held the Blugolds starting lineup to just nine points on five-for-31 shooting from the field.

UWEC’s junior guard Hallee Hoepfner, the WIAC’s leading scorer with 19 points per game, was held to two points on 1-for-7 shooting from the floor.

Senior guard Chloe Pustina said the key to their dominating win against UWEC was defense; a component head coach Brad Fischer stresses highly.

“We play a defense that relies a lot on our teammates to be in the right spots at the right times,” Pustina said. “We all worked together to be exactly where we needed [to be]. Our defense is our winning edge.”

Fischer said the Titan’s unselfish efforts awarded them their final win of the regular season.

“Our girls this season have been super unselfish, and I think that ended up paying off for them,” Fischer said. “The key for us has always been defense. If we get the stops and convert offensively, we can accomplish the things we did against Eau Claire.”

With the win, UWO earned the top seed and a first-round bye for the WIAC Championship that begins Wednesday. The Titans will host a semifinal round game against the lowest



LYDIA SANCHEZ/ADVANCE-TITAN

ABOVE: Senior guard Ben Boots dribbles down the court against UW-Stevens Point on Feb. 9. BELOW: Junior guard Olivia Campbell looks for a teammate to pass to.



remaining seed at 7 p.m. Friday in Kolf Sports Center.

Senior center Erin Vande Zande said that hosting semifinals at home will be an advantage the Titans need headed into the postseason.

“It’s going to be very important that we bring a lot of energy

to this game,” Vande Zande said. “Being able to play on our home court with our fans will ensure that we have that energy throughout the game!”

The Titans concluded the regular season with an overall record of 22-3 and a 12-2 record in the WIAC.

Led by a core group of seniors, the men’s team will try to make it back to the national championship

MADNESS
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on an efficient 60 percent shooting night from the 3-point line in 31 minutes of action.

Junior forward Adam Fravert came away with a season-high 15 rebounds while adding eight points.

Junior center Jack Flynn filled up the stat sheet too as he tallied 17 points, six rebounds and six assists.

Senior guard Ben Boots also posted a double-digit scoring

“After we lost, we got into film and just took a look into what we were doing wrong. It kind of opened our eyes like, what do we need to be doing differently to be a better team.”

— Jack Flynn
UWO junior center

La Crosse.

“A lot of it was just going to the glass better,” Flynn said. “Against La Crosse, we were struggling, giving up too many rebounds and didn’t get enough ourselves. That was one of the main focuses going in. Going to the glass, going hard and getting as many boards as we needed to win.”

Flynn said losing to UWL forced the team to really work hard and focus in practice.

“After we lost, we got into film and just took a look into what we were doing wrong,” Flynn said. “It kind of opened our eyes like, what do we need to be doing differently to be a better team.”

The bounce-back win came after losing the team’s second game of the season. Sophomore

forward Connor Duax said the team was able to impose its will against UWEC.

“I thought we got much more aggressive both offensively and defensively,” Duax said. “We played more together. We played harder. One of our main focuses was going at them physically.”

Head coach Matt Lewis said he would have rather beat UWL but the team can take some important lessons away from the game.

“I would say it was a good thing in terms that we were

able to evaluate and get better from [the loss],” Lewis said. “You’d always rather win than lose but with a loss being a good loss; it’s only a good thing if you learn from it, and I think our guys did.”

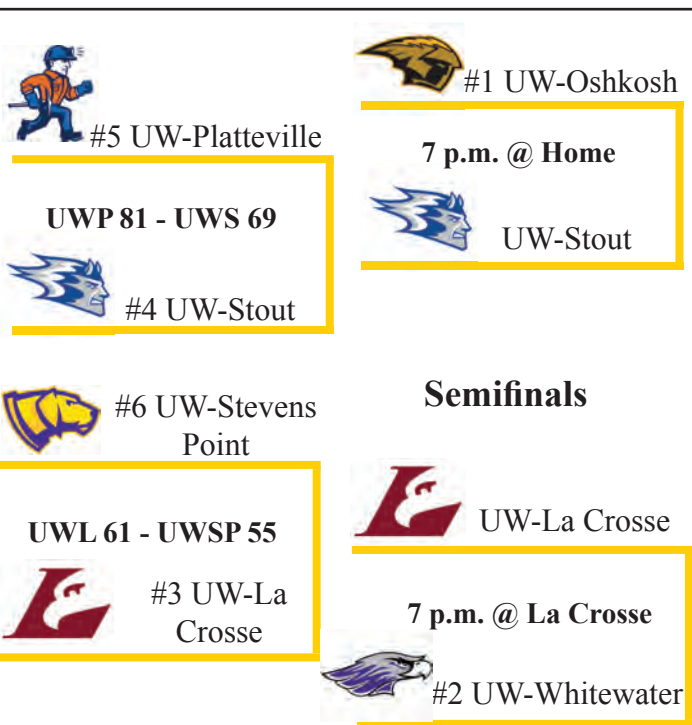
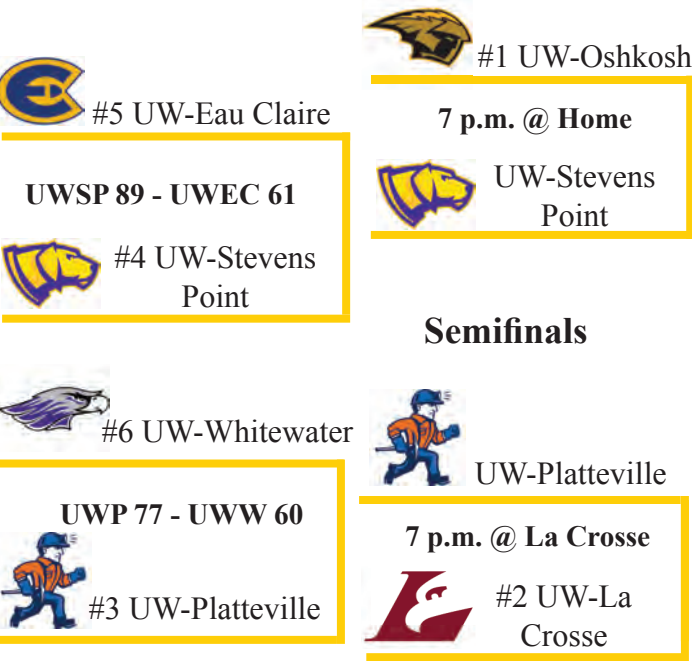
Lewis said the importance of students showing up to support the team cannot be understated.

“Our guys get jacked to play in front of big crowds,” Lewis said. “Senior night, we had 1,100 people here which is the biggest crowd that I remember in my seven years here.”

The team will host UW-Stevens Point in a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament semi-final on Thursday at 7 p.m.

UWO swept the Pointers in two meetings this season defeating UWSP on Jan. 9 by a score of 78-68 and on Feb. 9, 77-70. The Pointers advanced to the semi-final matchup in Oshkosh by beating UW-Eau Claire 89-61.

2019 WIAC Championship Tournament Bracket



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