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# DA invested in solving mass incarceration

By Bethanie Gengler  
genglb78@uwosh.edu

Wisconsin residents have the same likelihood of being arrested and charged as they do of earning a bachelor's degree. In fact, Wisconsin spends more on incarceration than it spends on the entire UW System, according to Winnebago County District Attorney Christian Gossett.

Gossett was elected to the DA

position in 2006 and oversees a staff of about 30 employees in charge of investigating and prosecuting crimes in Winnebago County.

However, the man in charge of prosecuting some of the county's most severely classified crimes does not believe that being tough on crime is the appropriate solution for many of the cases his office oversees.

Gossett is passionate about

criminal justice reform.

"At my very core, I have a very hard time living in the 'land of the free' and having an incarceration rate of 700 people per 100,000, which is the highest in the world," he said. "Our tough-on-crime mantra isn't working. We can't do any worse because we're already in last place."

Gossett compared Wisconsin's incarceration rate to that of El Salvador, a Central American country

which is known for gang violence and overcrowded, violent prisons.

Wisconsin has 35,000 individuals in jails and prisons and currently spends \$1.13 billion per year on corrections. Wisconsin has a higher homicide rate, overdose rate, suicide rate and incarceration rate than both New York and Minnesota.

In addition, many of those incarcerated in Wisconsin are young. By the age of 23, 30% of

Wisconsin residents will have been arrested.

About 78% of the offenders the DA's office evaluates are considered low risk, but after two to three days in jail, their likelihood of returning, or recidivism rate, increases by 17%. At four to seven days, offenders experience a 35% recidivism rate and at eight to 14 days of incarceration, individuals

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## System president to retire

By Jack Tierney  
tiernj03@uwosh.edu

UW System President Ray Cross announced his retirement after a 42-year career in higher education. He served as president for five years and led 39,000 employees. He was responsible for the UW System's \$6 billion annual budget.

He will continue to serve as UW System president until the UW System Board of Regents finds his replacement. They said they will conduct a nationwide search like they have in the past.

Cross, 71, began working as the UW System's seventh president in February 2014.

Prior to that, he was chancellor of the UW Colleges and UW-Extension.

Cross earned a bachelor's degree in technical education from Ferris State University and a master's degree in industrial education at Central Michigan University. He then received his doctorate in college and university administration from Michigan State University.

He said serving as the president of the UW System was the most rewarding work of his life.

"I believe there is no better investment for the state of Wisconsin than the University of Wisconsin System," he said. "From cutting-edge research on cancer, water quality and how children learn to educating Wisconsin's future

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Ethan Uslabar / Advance-Titan

Students on Algoma Blvd. take back the night and bring awareness to sexual assault and domestic violence.

## Out of the dark and into the light, students Take Back the Night

Amber Brockman  
brocka24@uwosh.edu

Take Back the Night aims to raise awareness about the problem of sexual violence as well as offer support to people who have been victimized. This year, Take Back the Night took place Oct. 29.

"Take Back the night is meant to empower communities to take a stand against sexual assault and domestic violence," UW Oshkosh Health Promotion intern Jennifer Brenner said. "It is also an event

to bring awareness and provide resources no matter what one may define their gender or sexuality."

The event begins with a resource fair, followed by a program on missing and murdered indigenous women, a march through campus and an art gallery on the third floor of Reeve Union.

Brenner said the goal of Take Back the Night is to spread awareness about sexual violence and to ultimately end sexual and domestic violence.

"This event is not only for survivors, but also allies," Brenner

said. "Sexual assault and domestic violence affects everyone regardless of race, gender or sexuality."

UWO staff counselor Leslie Wartgow said this event helps portray the reality of sexual and domestic violence.

"We want to show how difficult it is for all survivors, but especially under-represented populations and the barriers they may face," Wartgow said. "We want students to know the resources that are available to them on campus,

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## Scrambling for shelter

### Homeless just trying to get by

By Ethan Uslabar  
uslabe78@uwosh.edu

Shortly before 6 p.m. on Sunday evening, a group of people gathered across the Osceola Street from the back of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, hoping to be one of the 25 let into the Day by Day Warming Shelter.

It was a warm and sunny day, but as the sun went down the chill night air was full of premonitions of the coming volatility of Wisconsin winters.

People who are homeless face drastic dangers such as exposure, hypothermia and frostbite during the frigid winter months, especially if they're unable to find shelter out of the cold. Day by Day Warming Shelter, located at 449 High Ave. can house up to 25 people a night, according to the shelter's executive director Matt Johnson. When more than 25 people show up, the shelter is forced to turn people away.

"Some nights we're at full capacity, some nights we're not," Johnson said. "There's a lot of different reasons for those circumstances, but most of the time we are at capacity, and unfortunately we do have those occurrences."

During extreme conditions, through coordination with the police department the shelter is able to expand their capacity to accommodate more people in need of shelter and safety.

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The Advance-Titan

**Phone:** 920-424-3048  
**Email:** atitan@uwosh.edu  
**Website:** www.advancetitan.com

**Editor in Chief Jack Tierney**  
tiernj03@uwosh.edu

**Ad Manager Collin Tuchalski**  
tuchac30@uwosh.edu  
262-391-8452

**Ad Representatives:** Danielle Beck, Sam Fassl, Patrick Hebl and Gwen Nichols

**Managing Editor Joseph Schulz**  
schulj78@uwosh.edu

**News Editor Amber Brockman**  
brocka24@uwosh.edu

**Opinion Editor Leo Costello**  
costel93@uwosh.edu

**Arts & Entertainment Editor Ethan Uslabar**  
uslabe78@uwosh.edu

**Sports Editor Neal Hogden**  
hogden39@uwosh.edu

**Asst. Sports Editor Lydia Westedt**  
westel51@uwosh.edu

**Copy Desk Chief Cody Wiesner**  
wiesnc58@uwosh.edu

**Photo Editor Hannah Preissner**  
preish59@uwosh.edu

**Assistant Photo Editor Allison Russotto**  
russoa91@uwosh.edu

**Web Editor Sami Fassl**  
fassls17@uwosh.edu

**Asst. Web Editor Lauren Reidinger**  
reidil42@uwosh.edu

**Social Media Manager Gwen Nichols**  
nichog84@uwosh.edu

**Graphic Designer Susan Lorus**  
lors74@uwosh.edu

**Graphic Designer Tatum Spevacek**  
spevat40@uwosh.edu

**Distribution Mgr. A.J. Berg**  
berga@uwosh.edu

**Copy Editors:** Heidi Docter, Kate Sawyer, Honore Schmidt, Kaitlyn Scoville, Gregory Sense, Meg Wiesner and Karina Hueckman.

**News Reporters:** Bethanie Gengler, Megan Behnke, Lydia Westedt, Lexi Wojcik-Kretschmer and Sophia Voight

**Sports Reporters:** Josh Woolwine, Cory Sparks, Becca Glisczinski, Greg Sen and Dakota Zanin

**Faculty Adviser Barb Benish**  
benish@uwosh.edu

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The Advance-Titan is committed to correcting errors of fact that appear in print or online. Messages regarding errors can be emailed to atitan@uwosh.edu

# News

## Mama’s Noodle Bar, a lifelong dream

**Joseph Schulz**  
schulj78@uwosh.edu

Mama’s Noodle Bar, a family-owned self-serve restaurant offering multiple types of Asian cuisine, is opening next to Jade Dragon on Wisconsin Street.

The restaurant had a soft opening on Oct. 24, but its official grand opening is set for Nov. 1. Mama’s Noodle Bar seeks to welcome patrons with a home-like atmosphere.

The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, but on Fridays and Saturdays it will open about an hour later and on Sundays it will close about an hour earlier.

For owner Mai Vang, opening a restaurant has been a lifelong dream. Vang was born in Laos and raised in Thailand. She moved to the United States when she was 8 years old in 1979.

Vang learned to cook as a child from her father and quickly fell in love with putting her own spin on family recipes.

“I love to cook; it makes me happy,” she said.

At the age of 12, she dropped out of school to get married, and by 13, Vang gave birth to the first of her eight children.

For the last 20 years, Vang has shared her love of cooking with the community through farmers markets, but Mama’s Noodle Bar is the first time she’s been able to open a restaurant to share her cuisine.

When looking for a location, she chose Wisconsin Street because of its proximity to UW Oshkosh.

“God put me here to help the students,” Vang said, adding that all students will receive a 10% discount if they bring in their university ID.

The decision to give students a discount, Vang said, came from watching her own children grow up. When her kids were in college, they couldn’t afford to eat out.

“They ate ramen all the time,” Vang said. “I just want to help the students.”

The business is managed by Vang’s daughters. Tracy Miles and Tiffany Xiong, who both said



Joseph Schulz / Advance-Titan

ABOVE: Chuetou Vang, May Vang Her, Mai Vang, Tracy Miles, Tyla Xiong and Tiffany Xiong encourage everyone to stop into Mama’s Noodle Bar. BELOW: Alvin Vue places an order, while Tiffany and Tyla Xiong work to fulfill it.

the restaurant is called “Mama’s” because Vang is the glue that holds their family together.

Xiong told the story of living in California and quitting her job to backpack through Europe. What brought her back to the states was the opportunity to help her mother pursue a lifelong dream.

“What brought me back home was this restaurant — coming back to help my mom and to be surrounded by family again,” Xiong said. “So that’s the kind of person my mom is. She always keeps us together somehow. She’s the glue.”

Miles said helping her mom achieve her dreams has been rewarding because Vang put her life on hold to help her eight children achieve their dreams.

“I owe this lady my life; I’d do anything for her,” Miles said. “When she got approved for the [small business] loan, that was the happiest day of our lives.”

After being approved for the loan, the family faced another challenge: converting Lou’s Brew Café into a full-fledged restaurant.



“The whole kitchen had to be pretty much built from the ground up,” Miles said. “Then the electric in the walls was outdated, so that had to be renovated.”

Xiong said they aren’t worried about competing with the neighboring Jade Dragon because “there’s enough food to go around.” She described the competition between the two restaurants as a friendly one.

“We’re more of a fusion of all the best Asian dishes, so you have everything from Chinese, Thai, Hmong, Laos to Vietnamese,”

Xiong said. “So, it’s like a combination of all the beloved dishes.”

Family is at the heart of Mama’s Noodle Bar, Xiong said, and they want every customer to feel like they’re family when they walk in the door.

The restaurant will offer a lunch buffet, and eventually the family hopes to experiment with catering.

“We cannot wait to start promoting and really trying to bring people in,” Miles said. “I’m just happy that we’re here to give back to the community.”

## Meth cases up 450% statewide

**By Lydia Westedt**  
westel51@uwosh.edu

The highly addictive, illegal drug methamphetamine has been on the rise in Wisconsin, as cases have surged more than 450% from 2008 to 2018 according to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

“Meth use had been declining in the United States and Wisconsin until heroin became more of a problem over the past decade,” UW Oshkosh Counseling Center AODA Coordinator Wendy Seegers said. “When a heroin addict is in withdrawal and doesn’t have a narcotic/opiate, they will often use meth to help offset the withdrawal effects.”

Seegers said meth is cheaper and easier to make than heroin and other narcotics.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, laws were enacted throughout Wisconsin in the mid-2000s to restrict access to substances like pseudoephedrine, a common over-the-counter cold medicine.

Most meth in Wisconsin is produced in Mexico and transported illegally to Wisconsin, according to DHS.

Used as a stimulant drug, meth can be found in the form of a white, bitter powder or shiny, glass-like crystal, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. It can be snorted, smoked, swallowed or injected.

The NIDA says meth can lead to increased wakefulness, heart rate, blood pressure and itchiness. Long-term effects are severe dental problems, skin sores, hallucinations, paranoia and cognitive

problems.

Seegers said the impact meth has on the brain is more intense than alcohol and THC.

“Meth addiction is particularly difficult to recover from due to the severe brain changes that it causes,” Seegers said.

Meth releases high levels of the natural chemical dopamine into the brain, according to the NIDA. Dopamine triggers a feeling of reward in the brain, causing the user to want to repeat the experience with the drug.

Meth’s quickly fading high can lead to repeat dosing according to the NIDA.

The NIDA says in some cases, “people take methamphetamine in a form of bingeing known as a ‘run,’ giving up food and sleep while continuing to take the drug every few hours for up to several

days.”

About 15% of all drug overdose deaths involve meth, according to the NIDA. Meth overdose can lead to a stroke, heart attack or other organ problems.

The last meth incident on campus was in 2013. This is the first instance since 1991, according to University Police Department Records Custodian Nakeeta Giebel.

Juliana Kahrs, the assistant director of health promotion at UWO, said a survey done in the spring of 2018 indicated that 1.5% of students have reported using meth in the past, but not within the past 30 days.

Kahrs said in the five years she has worked at UWO, she has not heard of any meth confiscations on campus.





NEWSPA scholarship award winner Olivia Jude proudly displays her Starbucks cup.

Lydia Westedt / Advance-Titan

# NEWSPA scholarship winner flourishes

By Lydia Westedt  
westel51@uwosh.edu

At first she thought it was a joke. Was this really happening? She had been trying so hard not to get her hopes too high. Maybe that’s why she couldn’t believe her ears when she heard the Northeastern Wisconsin Scholastic Press Association president call her name from a sea of fellow high school onlookers: “Olivia Jude.”

“It was really surreal . . . I had never really won anything before,” she reflected.

Jude remembers texting her mom right after she found out she won the 2019 NEWSPA scholarship.

“She freaked out more than I did,” Jude said. “She was super excited.”

Jude and her mom have always had a very special relationship. She’s Jude’s inspiration to live her life to the fullest and make the best out of everything she does.

Now that Jude has started her freshman year at UW Oshkosh, she calls her mom to talk about classes.

“She’s super proud of me and she makes sure to tell me that, too,” Jude said.

To Jude, Hartford was the best town to grow up in. Her time at Hartford Union High School certainly didn’t go to waste. As a junior, Jude was recruited to join the Hartford Chronicle, the school’s newspaper. She’d always had an affinity for English classes, so she thought, “Let’s just give this a go.”

“I just thought it would be cool to learn about current events going on in the school and it would make me feel a lot more a part of the school just knowing everything that’s going on,” Jude said.

During her senior year at HUHS, Jude became the entertainment editor for the Hartford Chronicle. It was a fitting role as she was able to express her fun-loving creativity and her passion for music.

A big part of what got Jude interested in writing was knowing that HUHS has established a name for itself at NEWSPA by attending the conference every year and entering competitive student material into the competitions.

Although she and her friends were mostly goofing around her first year at NEWSPA, there was an element of excitement from entering some of her articles into the competitions.

At the conference, students and schools can enter in the writing, design, photography, website or publication divisions. There is also a yearbook competition every year. Awards are announced at the conference.

Seeing real professionals talking about their careers was inspirational for Jude.

She remembers thinking, “This is cool. These people are doing it for a living.” The 2020 NEWSPA conference this spring is excited to

welcome keynote speaker Catie Edmondson, a distinguished reporter for the Washington bureau of the New York Times, to talk to high school students and administrators about her work.

Jude’s second year attending the NEWSPA conference, she went in with a whole new attitude. This year she knew she would be attending college here in the fall. Jude had never been to the UWO campus before NEWSPA.

“It was actually the reason why I came here; because I just really loved the environment and the vibes here,” Jude said.

Beside being obsessed with iced lattes with almond milk, Jude describes herself as fun, eccentric and easygoing.

“I went into college being like ‘I need to figure myself out,’” Jude said. “I’m hoping that this new realm of independence here will help me with that, and so far it is.”

# UWO forms workforce development council

By Sophia Voight  
voighs33@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh Office of Human Resources, Equal Opportunity, Equity and Affirmative Action has formed the Workplace Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Council to improve inclusivity and embrace diversity.

Associate Vice Chancellor of EOEEA Shawna Kuether, who is leading the advisory council, said bringing together experts on diversity, equity and inclusion allows the council to lead the campus toward meaningful change.

“By having open [and] honest conversations and collaborating across units and employment classifications to break down any current barriers, [the council] will effectively create lasting, comprehensive and supported change,” Kuether said.

The formation of the Workplace DEI Advisory Council came as a response to students demanding the campus take action to address issues of diversity around its staff and faculty, Kuether said.

The goal of the office of EOEEA is to build an inclusive and supportive institutional environment, free of any form of discrimination. The mission of the Workplace DEI Advisory Council is to ensure those principles are maintained for UWO employees.

With students’ demand that the university addresses its diversity issues, Kuether said some of the goals of the new council will be to “acknowledge and dismantle any barriers creating inequities within our policies, programs and services, and explore and address potential assumptions that interfere with inclusivity.”

The Workplace DEI Advisory Council will also be addressing issues of recruitment and retention of a diverse staff, Kuether said.

“The council will work toward developing a system to be intentional and conscious of bias during the hiring, promotion and evaluation process,” Kuether said.

Senior Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist Patricia Schrader said that embracing individual differences is what makes

our university thrive.

“It is important to us to create an environment that supports everyone,” Schrader said. “Each individual’s unique abilities, talents, culture, identity and life experiences contribute to the foundation of our success as an institution and as a community.”

Not only does increasing equity, diversity and inclusion for staff and faculty at UWO improve their environment, Kuether said, but it also positively affects the university’s students.

“It is one of the many ways we are hoping to improve the quality of the educational experience we are providing for our students,” Kuether said.

UWO senior Braini McKenzie, who is a student representative for the Workplace DEI Advisory Council, said support for diversity and inclusion is mostly focused on students but it’s important to ensure the same for staff at UWO.

“The staff at UW Oshkosh contribute greatly to our experiences on campus,” McKenzie said. “Their experiences here matter

and they deserve an equitable workplace environment.”

The council will focus on improving equitable and inclusive leadership and knowledge of diversity, according to Schrader, which will help UW Oshkosh achieve inclusive excellence.

“It enhances our efforts to be an inviting and welcoming environment for current and future employees,” Schrader said. “Additionally, it creates an environment to help all of our students succeed.”

McKenzie said a diverse and equitable workplace is really important to have at UW Oshkosh.

“This advisory council is important because as a university we need to be extremely intentional in our efforts in regards to ensuring we are doing everything we possibly can to make UW Oshkosh the best it can be,” she said. “This includes being aware and proactive in the way we recruit, hire and support the staff at UWO.”

# Lawsuit against university extended

Joseph Schulz  
schulj78@uwosh.edu

The university and a John Doe filed a joint motion to extend an ongoing legal battle between the two parties in the Eastern District Court of Wisconsin on Oct. 24.

The motion will give Doe and his attorney Peter Culp until Nov. 8 to respond to the university’s motion to dismiss the case. The extension also gives UW Oshkosh until Nov. 22 to reply to Doe’s response.

Eastern District Judge Pamela Pepper filed a text-only order to grant the extension on Oct. 25.

The case stems from a March 16, 2019 off-campus Zeta Tau Alpha party where Doe alleges a sorority member invited him, and afterward they had sex.

The woman’s version of events is considered confidential, but on May 13, she reported the encounter as nonconsensual to Associate Dean of Students Joann “Buzz” Bares.

Doe filed a lawsuit against UWO, the UW System Board of Regents and multiple university officials on Sept. 11 that argued the UWO’s Title IX investigation into a possible sexual assault violated his 14th Amendment rights to due process and equal protection under the law.

The lawsuit argued the process was unconstitutional because the university declined to include witness statements in its investigative report and barred Culp from cross-examining the female accusing Doe of sexual assault.

“The student nonacademic misconduct proceeding has been plagued by numerous misrepresentations, errors, lack of communications and other acts and omissions,” the lawsuit said.

The university filed a response on Sept. 25, arguing that Doe’s due process claim was invalid and that UWO’s nonacademic misconduct procedure is constitutional because Doe has not exhausted procedures provided by UWO and the state of Wisconsin.

“The plaintiff did not cite to any legal precedent showing that a student facing Title IX proceedings can be irreparably harmed by simply participating in the process,” the response said.

Culp sent a letter to Judge Pepper on Oct. 4 and on the same day the university’s legal counsel filed a motion to dismiss.

The motion to dismiss built upon the university’s argument that its investigation was constitutional and that Doe’s 14th Amendment claim is invalid.

The brief in support of the motion to dismiss concluded that there is no law supporting the theory that when a university investigates allegations of campus sexual assault the investigators are violating someone’s constitutional rights.

Doe did not file a response to the university’s motion to dismiss prior to publication.



# Incarceration: District Attorney speaks out on mass incarceration

From Page 1

experience a 51% recidivism rate.

“You have to recognize that when the criminal justice system gets involved we are going to make the problem worse by virtue of how we currently operate,” Gossett said.

The average length of time an individual spends in the Winnebago County Jail is about 18 days.

“Putting them in jail might make us feel better for the type of people that feel good that somebody using drugs gets thrown into jail,” Gossett said. “If they sit for a period of time, they will lose their job. They might lose their apartment. If they sit over 30 days, they’ll lose their benefits and then they’ll just be homeless on the streets, begging for money and stealing. ... We’re very shortsighted. Everybody knows, but very few people want to do anything to fix the problem.”

In urban areas of the United States, incarceration rates are dropping. But in rural areas, incarceration rates are increasing.

“My speculation is that it’s be-

cause we don’t have services,” Gossett said. “If we have people with mental health issues, we put them in jail. If we have people with [Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse] AODA issues, we put them in jail. We’re not solving any of the underlying issues.”

Individuals are more likely to overdose after being released from jail, and for individuals who experience mental health issues, their condition gets worse while incarcerated.

“We can’t incarcerate our way out of mental health issues. We can’t incarcerate our way out of the opioid problem. But that’s all we do,” Gossett said. “So why do we keep doing this if we’re all saying we can’t incarcerate our way out?”

The Winnebago County DA’s office is invested in solving the underlying issues regarding mass incarceration. Gossett’s work in criminal justice reform earned him the 2019 Practitioner of the Year award through the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association.

“There are people who have enough courage to stand up to the system and say, ‘This



Courtesy of Oshkosh Media

District Attorney Christian Gossett outlines justice support services at the April 16, 2019 County Board meeting.

is wrong. This is not what this country is supposed to be,” Gossett said. “At our office, we approach every criminal case with the thought, ‘How do we solve the underlying issue here?’ And that’s what prosecution is supposed to be.”

One solution the DA’s office has developed is a justice support services concept. Gossett proposed the concept in April

and again at the Oct. 15 Winnebago County Board meeting.

The justice support services initiative is a partnership between various community agencies and would work as a diversion program for low-level offenders. It would allow the DA’s office to provide mental health and AODA assessments and employment skills training. Other services include trans-

portation assistance, counseling services, benefit connections, housing assistance and more.

Gossett developed the program as an alternative to a proposed \$18.1 million Winnebago County Jail expansion. He believes the program could help decrease the jail population and eliminate the need for an expansion.

“From the time they get to the DA’s office, let’s get these people started in programming and let’s see how many of them we can keep out of the criminal justice system altogether,” he said. He added that keeping low-level offenders in the community costs taxpayers less money and solves the underlying issues for life.

The justice support services proposal was added to the Winnebago County budget Wednesday and Gossett is hopeful it will be approved.

Gossett said criminal justice reform is long overdue in the United States.

“Our system is broken and we’re paying for it,” he said. “Land of the free? More like land of the incarcerated.”

# President retirement: Cross wraps up 42 year education career

From Page 1

leaders, the UW System has never been more important.”

Cross’ recent contribution to the UW System is the campus-wide merger that started in 2018.

The merger was a decision Cross made in response to declining student enrollment rates at the two-year access campuses, declining birth rates in rural Wisconsin counties and declining high school graduation rates.

The UW System merger streamlined the transition process between the two-year access campuses and the comprehensive universities.

It added bachelor’s degree programs to the access campuses and associate’s degree programs to the comprehensive campuses.

It also allowed university budgets to be consolidated under one roof.

In addition, Cross made a number of contributions during his tenure:

Oversaw a 10.3% increase in the number of graduates at all levels from 2008-18; students of color and underrepresented students doubled their graduation



Cross

rates during that time. Both percentage increases were a record for the UW System.

Directed changes to hiring policies, which required

all UW institutions to document instances of sexual violence and sexual harassment committed by employees and to share that information with other employers during the hiring process. A UWO sexual harassment case that resulted in a \$325,000 settlement was influential to that decision.

Required all UW System employees and students to complete an online training module that explains Title IX rights and responsibilities, which was intended to combat sexual assault and sexual harassment issues. Cross said this became a model program at campuses across the nation.

Cross received support from regents and state legislators for managing the UW System

through a tuition freeze that many students and parents liked, but made investment decision difficult.

The tuition freeze was issued early in Cross’ presidency by former Gov. Scott Walker after it was understood that the UW System had a \$1 billion cash reserve and was increasing tuition rates at 5.5%.

Cross said he could have done a better job at that time explaining why he was building up the budget the way he was and said it was a low point in his presidency.

The tuition freeze remains in effect today, but regents said its time should soon come to an end.

Cross said he felt like he was kicked in the shins after the Joint Finance Committee announced their 2019-21 biennium budget that was less than half of what he asked for, but managed to swing a \$1 billion dollar agreement for capital improvements on UW System campuses a month after the biennium budget was approved.

“He has guided the System through financial uncertainty and has positioned the System

extremely well for the future,” UW System Board of Regents President Andrew S. Peterson said. The UW System president reports to the Board of Regents.

UWO received \$500,000 for capital improvements with Cross’ help and it was directed to phase two developments of Clow Social Science Center, which will modernize the labs and classrooms in the College of Education and Human Services.

UWO Chancellor Andrew Leavitt said he is appreciative of Cross’ leadership and service to UWO, the UW System and state of Wisconsin.

“He made it his mission to remind legislators, business leaders, scientists, teachers, artists, entrepreneurs, farmers and our state’s legion UW System alumni of the critical role each public institution plays in changing lives and shaping a better future for everyone in Wisconsin,” Leavitt said.

“This says nothing of President Cross’ investment of more than 40 years of his life in higher education as a dedicated faculty member and passionate administrator,” Leavitt said.

Cross is a husband, father of

four and grandfather of five.

He is the oldest of four children, grew up on a dairy farm in Michigan and said his formal education began in a one-room schoolhouse.

From 1967-70, Cross served with the U.S. Army in Vietnam and was awarded four medals for his service.

He made a career after that in technical design, working for Lockheed Martin and General Motors.

Cross served as a faculty member and department head at Ferris State University; president of Northwest Technical College (Bemidji, MN); and president of Morrisville State College.

He said he plans on relaxing in his retirement.

“The University of Wisconsin System is a tremendous asset for the state, for our communities, for our students, and for businesses,” Cross said. “There is no better talent generator than the UW System. It has been humbling to work on behalf of the people of Wisconsin to advance the mission of our public universities.”

# TBTN: Raising awareness for sexual assault and harrassment

From Page 1

as well as the community, and to provide support to survivors as a whole.”

Wartgow said it’s important for people to believe survivors and show support where it’s needed.

“Statistics tell us that one in six female-identified students, one in sixteen male-identified students and one in three Native American female-identified survivors will experience some form of sexual assault in their college career,” Wartgow said. “We also know that fe-

male-identified students of color are not well represented in the statistics as they do not report as often as white female-identified students, but they are statistically sexually assaulted at a higher rate.”

According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network website, 21% of transgender, genderqueer and nonconforming college students have been sexually assaulted, compared to 18% of non-TGQN females and 4% of non-TGQN males.

“This event is trying to show the ongoing need for support of all survivors as well as highlight

the challenges of under-represented populations of survivors,” Wartgow said.

Brenner said since sexual assault and domestic violence are so prevalent, it is important to provide resources for survivors and people who may know a survivor.

“It is beneficial because some people may not be certain of what constitutes sexual assault, domestic violence or appropriate boundaries — it can really vary from case to case,” Brenner said. “It also allows survivors to know that they aren’t alone and that people are there to support

them.”

Campus for Awareness and Relationship Education director Emily Mueller said this is the 29th annual Take Back the Night event on the UWO campus.

“Everyone should participate,” Mueller said. “It is a great event to attend whether it is something you are passionate about and want to raise more awareness or if you want to learn more about how to get involved.”

Wartgow said the march is one night not to be silent. Make your voices heard.

“We encourage students to

continue supporting and standing against violence of any form all throughout the year,” Wartgow said. “They can do that by getting involved with the Center for Diversity and Inclusive Excellence programs, joining student organizations that support survivors and educate the campus on bystander intervention, becoming a Peer Wellness Educator, attending events that educate about how to be a good ally to a survivor and signing up for a bystander intervention training.”



# UW’s struggles with race continue

By **Bethanie Gengler**  
genglb78@uwosh.edu

A UW Madison Homecoming video showing almost exclusively white students has caused an outcry launching the school into the national spotlight and prompting the creation of the Student Inclusion Coalition and a response video.

The 90-second video was posted by the UWM student Homecoming Committee leading up to the Oct. 12 Homecoming and was titled “Home is where WI are.”

The video featured white students riding around campus on bicycles, dancing and holding a UWM sign.

The student Homecoming Committee invited students from all over campus to participate in the video and spent hours filming with Alpha Kappa Alpha, a black sorority at UWM.

However, footage of minority students was excluded from the film.

The student Homecoming Committee took the video down a day after posting it following online criticism from UWM students and faculty.

UWM officials released a statement on Sept. 30 saying, “We know that, both historically and today, students of color and other under represented groups do not feel as welcome on our campus as majority students.”

In a statement shared on Facebook by the Wisconsin Alumni, the UWM student Homecoming Committee apologized for the video saying, “We regret omitting those images and we recognized that, by doing so, we unintentionally caused hurt to members of our campus community.”

On Oct. 17, anonymous UWM students posted a sign on the Science Hall reading, “UW 4 Whites Only.”

Other signs around campus said “I’m Tired of Teaching my Teachers,” “Complete Hysteria,” “UW Doesn’t Care About Black People,” “UW Doesn’t Care About Trans People” and “UW Doesn’t Care About Disabled People.”

The signs were part of a student protest demanding UWM become more inclusive. The students released a statement regarding their



Courtesy of The Student Inclusion Coalition

The Student Inclusion Coalition advocates for the social, academic and emotional wellness of all marginalized students at the University of Wisconsin Madison.

demonstration to The Badger Herald.

“When creating these posters, we simply wanted to defy the constant silencing and harm being done to black students, students of color and those most marginalized by this university and society,” the statement said. “UW keeps talking about what home is and how they have built a campus for students to love. Until UW makes the changes that need to be made, this campus will continue to be less welcoming for underrepresented students and students of color.”

UWM campus officials released a statement Oct. 18.

“We want to be clear that UW–Madison stands against racism and all other forms of hate and any messages of exclusion,” the statement said. “While we support the right to freedom of expression, we also have policies that prohibit the posting of unauthorized material on campus property.”

Madison officials removed the signs and a newly formed UWM Student Inclusion Coalition released a video Oct. 22 produced by Ali Khan with cinematography by Sami Imam and Joel Rondón titled “Home is where WI aren’t.”

The video features UWM minority students and has more than 25,000 views on Facebook and almost 15,000 views on Twitter. It

begins with a voiceover describing how UWM was built on land stolen from the Ho-Chunk.

“Your home was built on someone else’s home,” a native American student says in the video. “Small plaques cannot fathom the trauma inflicted upon the indigenous communities, specifically Ho-Chunk people, this university has wronged.”

The video shows underrepresented students holding signs and describing their experiences at UWM.

“One semester of an ethnic studies course cannot summarize our lifelong experiences as people of color,” a student said in the video.

The video outlines the challenges minority students face. The students describe being the only person of color in their classes, not having any faculty of the same ethnicity, feeling unsafe and not being provided traditional ethnic dining choices.

One student said in the video that UWM has plans to demolish the American Indian Student and Culture Center with no plans to replace it.

The students asked UWM to fund resources for minority students, provide safe spaces for underrepresented students and support retention programs for students of color across all majors.

“You tokenize us for recruitment, but ignore our contributions and yet claim to support diversity and inclusion,” the video said. “Home is where we aren’t.”

Khan, a UWM student, said in a Facebook post that he produced the video to highlight the experiences of minority students on campus and what he describes as a history of exclusion.

“These incidents exemplify the continuous erasure and exclusion of students of color on this campus,” Khan said in the post.

On Friday the UWM SIC protested on campus asking campus officials to meet five demands.

Those demands include publicly recognizing the sacrifices of past student activists of color, funding student organizations for marginalized groups, improving support systems for marginalized students on campus, restructuring the homecoming committee to engage marginalized groups and creating a coordinated response plan for acts of oppression.

Madison’s diversity issues come at a time when racist acts seem to be on the rise on UW campuses.

In 2017, racial slurs were carved into two UW Oshkosh students’ dorm room doors.

In March, images surfaced of two white male UW Oshkosh student-body candidates along with

the message “UWO Vote for these guys today unless you want a lesbian or a hmong to win.”

In April, UW Oshkosh students posted images to social media of a banner containing a swastika and a white board that said “No Liberals, Jews, Muslims, Queers, or Hmong” written on it.

In May, a UW-Milwaukee student carried a sign with a swastika on it and suggested “gassing the Jews” during an Israeli Independence Day event on campus according to NPR.

Last month, a UW Eau-Claire student found a note on her door that read, “Go back to the rez Red [N-word].”

These incidents highlight an increasing pattern of racist acts on college campuses according to the LEAD Fund, a nonprofit advocacy organization that released a report in February detailing its findings on uncivil, hate and bias incidents on college campuses in the U.S.

The LEAD Fund found that 77% of survey respondents said their college campus had experienced a hate or bias incident in the last two years and 68% reported that more than one incident occurred within that timeframe.

According to the survey, hate and bias incidents “may contribute directly to establish a hostile educational or working environment because of their pervasive nature. Further, if left unchecked, these incidents may lead to other serious climate problems and even violence.”

Students in the “Home is where WI aren’t” video said women of color are more likely to be assaulted than white women and are less likely to report.

“This ‘home’ isn’t safe after sunset,” they said. “This ‘home’ is destroying our community spaces.”

The students said their home isn’t their college campus, and their home isn’t Wisconsin.

“Our home is each other. Our home is our joy. Our home is our history. Our home is our resilience,” they said. “The University of Wisconsin Madison did not provide a home for us. We had to create one ourselves.”

# Raindrops keep falling on Wisconsin

By **Lexi Wojcik-Kretchmer**  
wojcil76@uwosh.edu

Rainfall in Wisconsin is breaking records.

In many different northeastern cities, the amount of rain received is among the highest amount many citizens have ever experienced.

Precipitation totals have been 150% to 200% above the normal conditions, with many cities climbing up to the top 20 wettest years thus far in 2019.

According to the National Weather Service, Green Bay, Wisconsin has received 42.52 inches as of Oct. 24, 2019, which puts it above the original record made last year at 39.21 inches. This is also the first-ever time that Green Bay has had back-to-back yearly precipitation records.

The National Weather Service also described Appleton as having exactly 43 inches of precipitation, only 0.59 inches below the wettest year, 2010. This measurement, however, was taken Oct. 24, 2019 and it will likely be broken in the following months of the year.

In Wausau a total of 42.97 inches was calculated as stated by the National Weather Service, putting this year in second behind 1938 when it rained 48.72 inches.

Oshkosh, however, has been able to avoid these downpours and not break any records to be on the top 20 wettest years even though it may seem like it from the huge puddles by Kolf.

The reason for these record rainfalls is that storms keep following the same pattern over and

over again, hitting these cities.

It is difficult to tell if the reason for these patterns forming and the amount of rain is from climate change or not, but research shows that rainfall will increase as the planet warms up.

UW Oshkosh Director of Environmental Studies Jim Feldman said, “there is no question that one of the impacts of climate change is to destabilize long-term climate patterns.”

Feldman added that the amount of rainfall is probably from the planet warming up.

“Climate science doesn’t work in a way that allows you to say, with certainty, that this year’s record rainfall is absolutely the result of climate change,” he said.

Feldman’s claim is supported by the 125-year record that the Midwestern Regional Climate

Center has collected; over the past few years we have had a period of more intense rainfall.

“Climate change will bring more frequent, more powerful storms, but you can’t say that any one specific storm was the result, specifically, of climate change,” Feldman said.

The more powerful storms bring more precipitation and whichever city gets the largest, most intense part of the storm, will get the most precipitation.

The effects of high levels of rainfall have been mostly negative, causing flooding in urban areas, which affects farmers by causing runoff.

“The increased rains led to delayed plantings ... in the spring because of flooded fields, and it has also delayed the harvest,” Feldman said. “Lots of cattle

farmers who depend on laying in silage are having trouble getting stored in the right conditions — it is too wet.”

Feldman said that he hasn’t heard many people make positives out of the immense precipitation that has been occurring but a possible positive of the rainfall in the Midwest is that the Great Lakes’ water levels have risen again after a long period of low water levels.

Luckily, this doesn’t necessarily mean a snowier winter. There isn’t a direct correlation between the rainfall of one season and snowfall in the next season so it is hard to predict, but still be prepared to walk like a penguin.



# Halloween disappearances and homicides

By **Bethanie Gengler**  
genglb78@uwosh.edu

Halloween is a traditional Celtic holiday created to ward off evil spirits. In Wisconsin, Halloween is celebrated by parties, trick-or-treating, pumpkins, apple cider, hayrides and dressing up in costumes. But no matter how wholesome Halloween traditions are in the U.S., evil still exists on Halloween and it exists in human form.

Read on to learn about unsolved disappearances and homicides that have happened on Halloween.

**Patricia Spencer, 16, and Pamela Hobley, 15**

Spencer and Hobley disappeared after leaving their high school in Oscoda, Michigan on Oct. 31, 1969. A witness later came forward and admitted to giving the girls a ride into town. The pair was supposed to attend their school's Homecoming and a party later that evening but never arrived and were never seen again.

(Source: CBS)

**Wendy Abrams-Nishikai, 21**

The UC Berkeley student disappeared from Berkeley, California on Oct. 31, 1989. At the time of her disappearance, she left behind a husband and 2-year-old daughter. Although her status is listed as "voluntary" missing, her family believes she would never willingly disappear for 30 years. Abrams-Nishikai has never been found.

(Source: missingadultskids.com)

**William Dudley, 31**

Dudley disappeared from Winchester, Virginia after being hit with a bat during an altercation with his girlfriend and her relatives on Oct. 31, 1993. Dudley was last seen stumbling toward his trailer and was never seen again.

(Source: The Charlie Project)

**Cameron Hardman, 31**

Hardman was on his way to visit friends in Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania on Oct. 31, 2011 when he disappeared. His vehicle was recovered a week later about seven blocks from his intended destination. Hardman's cell phone and wallet were found in the car. He is listed as an endangered missing person.

(Source: The Charlie Project)

**Christina Bastian, 34**

Bastian was at a friend's house on Oct. 31, 2005 in Apple Valley, California. Bastian left her friend's house at 1:45 a.m. after becoming upset. She left her wallet and glasses at her friend's house but took her small dog, Coco, with her. Her truck and dog were located the next day, and her backpack was located on a dirt road a few miles away, but Bastian was never seen again.

(Source: The Charlie Project)

**Teresa Halbach, 25**

Halbach disappeared from Two Rivers, Wisconsin on Oct. 31, 2005 after photographing a vehicle at Avery's Auto Salvage yard.

Halbach's vehicle was found a few days later on the Avery's property and although her body was never found, investigators claim to have found her remains in burn barrels on the Avery property.

16-year-old Brendan Dassey confessed to raping and murdering Halbach along with his uncle, Steven Avery, and burning her remains. Avery has recently been released from prison after spend-

ing 18 years locked up for a crime DNA exonerated him of.

Dassey and Avery were both convicted of first-degree intentional homicide but maintain their innocence in the case. A Netflix documentary called "Making a Murderer" has brought attention to the case, attracting supporters from around the world who believe the pair were framed and Halbach's real killer remains at large.

(Source: Netflix Making a Murderer)

**Lisa French, 9**

French went trick-or-treating on Oct. 31, 1973, in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin dressed as a hobo. She never returned home. Her body was found a few days later stuffed in a garbage bag and dumped on a rural road about four miles outside Fond du Lac.

French's neighbor, Gerald Turner, confessed to sexually assaulting and murdering her. Turner was convicted on charges of second-degree murder, enticing a child for immoral purposes and acts of sexual perversion.

Turner, 69, was released from prison in 1992 but returned to pris-

on following public outrage and an appeals court decision.

According to the Fond du Lac Reporter, "Turner's Law" was passed in 1994 due to Turner's release.

"Chapter 980, referred to as "Turner's Law," is a civil commitment process which holds a prisoner in a secure mental health facility beyond the mandated prison release date," according to the FDL Reporter.

Turner was again released on parole in 1998 but his parole was revoked after hundreds of pornographic images were found on his computer.

Turner had a mandatory February 2018 release date which has been held up by appeals according to a Jan. 15 FDL Reporter article. According to the article, Fond Du Lac county will decide if Turner will be committed under Wisconsin's violent sex offender law, Chapter 980.

Following French's Halloween murder, trick-or-treating times in Wisconsin were changed to daylight hours.

(Source: The Post Crescent and The FDL Reporter)

# U.S. military retreat leaves 40 million Kurds landless

Cody Barnes  
barnec73@uwosh.edu

With the death of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, many would assume tensions in the Middle East are getting better, yet the issue of the genocide of the Kurdish people remains an ongoing concern.

The Kurdish people are an Iranian ethnic group native to Kurdistan which is poised along southeastern Turkey, northwestern Iran, north-

ern Iraq, and northern Syria.

40 million landless Kurds are facing a genocide with the announcement of U.S. troops being pulled from Turkey.

In a recent Tweet, president Donald Trump said "it should be cleaned out," referring to a strip inhabited by the Kurds on the border of Turkey, with the intention of clearing out terrorist activity.

Senior lecturer in English at UW Oshkosh and genocide scholar

Cary Henson said that he believed the language Trump used was not genocidal in nature but did give power to regimes interested in committing genocide.

"It certainly gives a green light to those who may be looking to commit genocidal acts," Henson said. "What the recent events of these last couple weeks have done is empowered three different regimes who care very little about human rights and protecting other groups."

Those three different regimes are Putin's Russia, Assad in Syria, and Erodgan's Turkey. Henson said that the groups are not known for their attitude toward groups that they oppose and finds their empowerment concerning.

But despite the disheartening news, Henson had a few tokens of hope so that the average person can help in anti-genocidal efforts.

One group recommended was "The Enough Project," which holds

the membership of actor George Clooney and promotes genocide awareness and cutting money from genocidal regimes.

"Continue to be informed, continue to know whatever your position, continue to learn as much as possible so that you know we're aware that these things are going on," Henson said. "Nothing happened in Rwanda in 1994 because there was no consequence for not taking action. Until that's the case, until there's a political price to be paid for having a policy of doing nothing, people won't do anything."

Recently, things seem to have gotten better as the American troops, who were initially poised for being pulled out of the Middle East will end up remaining in the Middle East, offering slightly more protection for the Kurdish people.

Despite the troops staying or being returned, there is some damage that has already been done. There

are American spy reports that state there are Turkish militias that are going through the areas abandoned by U.S. troops and killing Kurdish civilians.

Against a negotiated ceasefire, there are still Turkish militias who are not abiding by the ceasefire and American defense officials are concerned of a breakdown of the negotiations.

Amid the genocidal events in Turkey and Syria, there are other events in the world that Henson said people should be paying attention to. The uncertainty in South Sudan with current negotiations ongoing, the Central African Republic and the Rohingya people.

Another group that aids in anti-genocide efforts is Fortify Rights, and this group also investigates and documents abuses, provides customized technical support to human rights defenders and presses for solutions.

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Olivia Rinehart / Advance-Titan



# BASKETBALL PREVIEW

**-SPECIAL EDITION-**

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Advance-Titan

A host of Titans hold up the 2019 National Championship trophy while head coach Matt Lewis looks into the crowd. The team will look to make its third straight national title game this season. Four seniors will lead the charge for Lewis who in his first season without the interim tag will try to go 2-2 on championships.

# Men look to appear in third straight championship

By Neal Hogden  
hogden39@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh men’s basketball team will defend its 2019 NCAA Division III National Championship with a roster full of returning contributors.

A magical season capped by a 96-82 victory against Swarthmore College (Pa.) last season in the title game was one of many historical and emotional moments.

Following a 76-56 blowout loss to UW-Stevens Point, the Titans rattled off six straight tournament victories to achieve the program’s first national title in its history.

The program capped the season with more wins than ever before in school history. This feat was accomplished after longtime head coach Pat Juckem left the program for Washington University in St. Louis (Mo.) and Juckem’s assistant, Matt Lewis, stepped in as the interim head coach.

It didn’t take long for the interim tag to be forgotten as the team went on a 21-game winning streak, setting another school record.

Among the host of award winners for the Titans last year were now-graduate Ben Boots who earned an All-American First Team honor, senior Jack Flynn with a fourth-team selection and first-year head coach Matt Lewis, earned Coach of the Year honors by D3hoops.com.

Boots was the second Titan to earn a first-team selection, following former Titan Tim Dworak who achieved the award for his 2003 season.

Coming off a national championship, the team has raised expectations but Lewis said that won’t change the team’s mindset.

“It’s similar to last year,”

Lewis said. “We don’t shy away from the ultimate goal. The vision has always been to win national championships. We don’t sit around and just talk about winning national championships. We’re just trying to get better every single day.”

Looking to follow up the championship run for the Titans are two key seniors in the front-court. Flynn and Adam Fravert return after providing 35.7% of the team’s scores last season.

The duo will need to take on an even bigger role in the offense as the program graduated two vital seniors from last season.

Flynn, selected the Most Outstanding Player at the Final Four, shot nearly 60% from the field and 75% from the free-throw line last season. The 6 foot, 8 inch center averaged 8.2 rebounds per game and 1.3 blocks per game during the 2018-19 campaign.

Flynn said it’ll take a team effort to replace the seniors from last season.

“I think it’s just going to take us coming together,” Flynn said. “Obviously Ben and Brett were a big part of the team and we have some really good guys that

can fill that role.”

Fravert pairs highlight plays and high-flying dunks with consistent scoring and rebounding, giving him a chance to repeat as an All-WIAC selection again this season.

Now Titan alumni Brett Wittchow and Boots averaged 14 and 15.7 points last season. During the playoff push, Boots and Wittchow combined to shoot 43.2% from beyond the arc with Wittchow recording a 50% clip.

Potentially replacing the sharpshooters will be senior guards Jake Zeitler and David

Vlotho. Zeitler is a 42.6% career three-point shooter, and Vlotho shot the three at a 32.5% clip over his three seasons as a Titan.

Zeitler said most of filling the holes left by Boots and Wittchow will be achieved by communicating.

“We just have got to keep working and building together,” Zeitler said. “We’ve got to build chemistry within the offense and communicate on defense. We’re less experienced this year without Ben and Brett so we’ve gotta communicate better offensively and defensively.”

Lewis said he is not committed to anyone filling the positions yet.

“It’s too early to tell,” Lewis said. “We’re two weeks in. The nice thing is we have several guys who are returning that have a lot of experience. We have some new guys who are talented and a lot of guys just got better during the summer.”

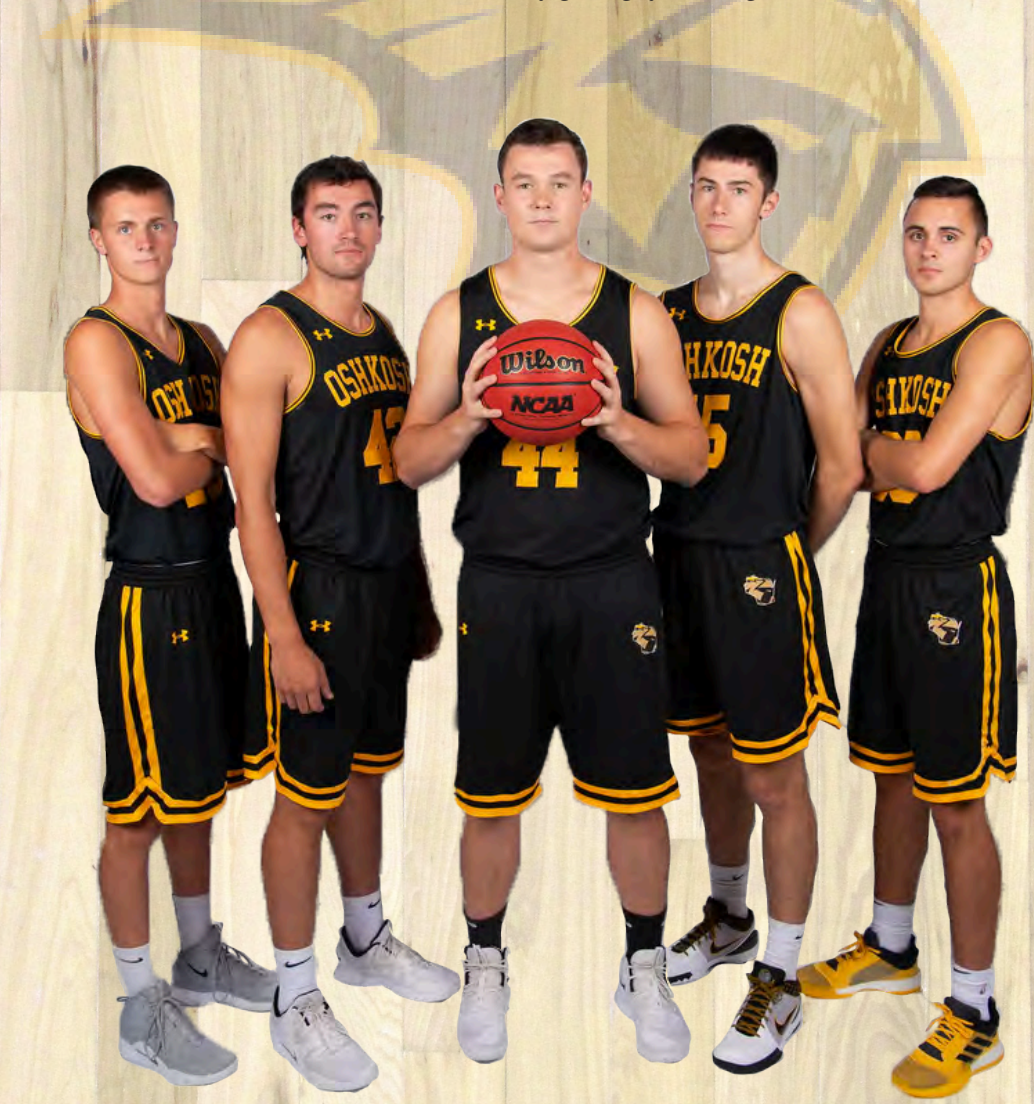
The incoming freshmen garnered praise from Lewis for their work effort.

“It’s a talented group,” Lewis said. “Each of them play their tails off in practice. That’s one of the biggest things during your first week of college practice is how quickly can you adjust to the speed of the game. Each one of them is figuring that out pretty quickly.”

UWO will begin the season matching up with the same team they defeated in the Final Four round of last season’s tournament, Augustana College (Ill.).

The nonconference schedule will also include trips to Atlanta, Georgia, to face Emory University and LaGrange College and Michigan to take on Alma College and Calvin University.

Home conference games to keep an eye on are against UW-Stevens Point on Jan. 22 and UW-Whitewater on Feb. 19.



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Photoshelter





Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Photoshelter

Above: The Titans show off their WIAC Division III Championship trophy from their 69-40 win last season on March 8, 2019 against UW-Whitewater.  
Below: Leah Porath, now a junior, goes up for a rebound in last season's championship-winning game against UW-Whitewater.

# Titans look to take next big step

By Lydia Westedt  
westel51@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh women's basketball team traveled to UW-Green Bay on Oct. 30 for the first exhibition game of the season.

The Titans finished the 2018-19 season last spring in the third round of the NCAA Division III Championship after setting a league record by winning their 13th WIAC regular season championship.

"We're really proud of last year," head coach Bradley Fischer said. "From start to finish, we accomplished more than we thought was even possible."

Fischer said it's important for this year's team to see last year's successes, but this year has nothing to do with last year.

With only two seniors on the 2019-20 team, Fischer said the junior class will need to step up to the challenge.

The team will be looking to juniors Nikki Arneson, Karsyn Rueth and Leah Porath to take on

leadership roles this season.

"The pressure is up for them this year," Fischer said. "They all started up between 10 and 14 games last year, so they have pretty good experience."

Fischer said Arneson and Porath had especially strong finishes in last year's season.

Porath led the team in their final game of the season by scoring 18 points in the D-III semifinals last spring before losing to Wartburg College (Iowa).

The team has had a rough start in the preseason practice.

"We've had a lot of injury issues to deal with here before the season has started," Fischer said. "We've been practicing with nine or 10 players when really we've got 16 that we would have hoped would have been practicing by now."

Fischer said entering into a new season means there are a lot of question marks.

"This is probably the most uncertain I've felt going into a season about a lot of different parts

of our game," Fischer said.

The team has been working hard to prepare for a strong line of defense, in response to the team's struggles with injuries and player turnover.

"I think we're going to have trouble scoring at times this year potentially," Fischer said.

"We're going to need our defense to be consistent so on those nights where we don't shoot well and we're not scoring enough points, the defense keeps us in the game."

Fischer admitted to being an "eternal pessimist" at the beginning of the year.

"As a coach, I see all the things we need to get better at," Fischer said. "It's still so early that it's hard to tell what we're capable of."

The Titans will begin their regular season play with a home game against St. Mary's University (Minn.) on Nov. 11.

The results of Wednesday's game can be seen online at [advancetitan.com](http://advancetitan.com).



## Women's basketball home games:

### November

Monday, Nov. 11 vs. Saint Mary's University

### December

Sunday, Dec. 1 vs. Lawrence University

### January

Saturday, Jan. 11 vs. UW-Stout

Wednesday, Jan. 15 vs. UW-Eau Claire

Saturday, Jan. 25 vs. UW-Whitewater

Saturday, Jan. 29 vs. UW-Platteville

### February

Saturday, Feb. 8 vs. UW-La Crosse

Wednesday, Feb. 12 vs. UW-Stevens Point

Saturday, Feb. 22 vs. UW River Falls



# Calling a national championship game

By Landen Moore  
moorel30@uwosh.edu

Even though the stakes weren't quite as high as the Super Bowl, NBA Finals or World Series, calling a national championship for your university's men's basketball team gives you a feeling that only a select few can relate to.

Looking back on that memorable weekend, I can't help but reflect on how grateful I am to have had this opportunity, and to think that I joined legendary sports broadcasters who've been fortunate enough to call a national championship game.

The Titans headed to Fort Wayne, Indiana, for the 2019 NCAA Division III men's basketball Final Four and I was chosen to travel down to call the action. The morning of March 15 was cloudy and cold, but my radio partner Stewart Atkinson and I made the five-and-a-half hour drive.

At the time, it didn't seem real that we would be calling a Final Four semifinal game that night, but after making our way into Fort Wayne's Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, it hit me like a ton of bricks.

After making our way into the arena and unpacking our equipment, we walked down to the court to find our place among the dozens of other media members.

But as we looked for the "WRST" section, panic began to set in. WRST's section was nowhere to be seen. Even though arrangements for us were made well in advance, did they actually forget about us? This didn't seem real, but it was indeed happening.

All the promotion for this game, all the promises to our listeners, and we may not even get to broadcast the game.

I remember thinking to myself "This is not the way it's supposed to happen. There's got to be a way we can broadcast this game."

After searching for what felt



Courtesy of Landen Moore  
Landen Moore (center) stands next to Christine Bjornstal (left) and Stewart Atkinson as part of the radio crew in Fort Wayne, Ind.

like an eternity, we finally found our designated spot. But we quickly realized we had a new problem on our hands.

There was no port for our ethernet cable, which is vital for our broadcast. If we don't have an internet connection, we don't have a broadcast.

At this point, we knew we had to take matters into our own hands. We tracked down a young man named Alex, who we had met earlier, and asked if we could move to a place where there were ethernet ports.

He said there was a spot on the end of the media table that may work, but only if the media personnel whom the spot was designated for did not show up.

That response was not reassuring at all because if they did show up, we were pretty much doomed. As the first semifinal game reached halftime, and our

potential new spot remained empty, we were given the go-ahead to set up.

It was a huge sigh of relief knowing that we were indeed going to have a broadcast. Now, it was up to the Titans to do their part.

The first semifinal game concluded, with Swarthmore College (Pa.) moving on to the national championship game.

Now it was time for the Titans to take on Wheaton College (Ill.), an opponent they lost to earlier in the year. As the broadcast started, a nervous yet excited feeling came over me, knowing that hundreds of people would be listening to our broadcast.

It was time to see if both the Titans and I would perform at our best or crumble under pressure.

The Titans got off to a fast start, but Wheaton College slowly

made their way back in the game, and at the half, Oshkosh held on to a five-point lead.

The second half featured a dominant performance by the Titans, and when it was all said and done, the Titans were moving on to the national championship game with a 104-85 win.

Just like the Titans, the feeling of victory came upon our broadcast as we performed the call successfully. And the realization that we would not have to travel back to Wisconsin the next day sure was satisfying.

But now the pressure was really on. The next day would be the biggest game of the season for the Titans, and the biggest game of my young broadcasting career.

I was surprised to find the next morning that I had slept well that night, even though the implications of what was about to happen were extraordinary.

Maybe it didn't hit me hard enough. Maybe it was all happening so fast. Either way, I carried on through my day like usual, but as game time approached that night, all of that would change.

Making our way back to the arena that night, I couldn't help but consistently think about what was going to happen.

Were we going to have any issues with our equipment? Was there going to be a proper spot for us? Was the game itself going to be close? Would I be a part of Titan history? All those questions swirled through my head as we walked to the front doors.

Once we unloaded our equipment, we witnessed the first sign that the night would go our way. Thanks to Alex and his team, we had our own spot, with an ethernet port, right along the side of the court. Worry No. 1 was no more. Now on to the game itself.

All of a sudden, it hit me. This was actually happening. I was calling a national championship game for the university's official radio station for hundreds of listeners. No pressure there! But as we eased our way into the broadcast, it felt like we were prepared

and ready for the moment.

As Oshkosh and Swarthmore College made their way onto the court for the opening tipoff, I remember reliving how far this team has come and how far I've come to get to this point. It's now or never, and we had two hours to make history.

Just like they did the previous night, the Titans got off to a blazing fast start. It was a back-and-forth battle for much of the first half, and at the half, the Titans held on to a 45-37 lead.

The second half would feature more back-and-forth battle between the two teams, but as the game progressed the Titans showed they were the better team.

With only a couple minutes left and the Titans up big, the starters left the game to an enormous roar from the 300 or so Titans fans who made the trip, and at that moment, an overwhelming feeling of pride filled me inside.

This wasn't going to be a repeat of last year. The Titans were going to win the national championship, and I was here to witness it. Now it was time to celebrate.

As confetti fell from the rafters and the Titans celebrated on the court, the victorious feeling I had continued to beam inside of me. History was officially made, but maybe even more importantly, memories were made. Not only is this something that team will never forget, but it's also something I will never forget.

Looking back on that March weekend, it still doesn't seem real that I called a national championship game, but the fact that it happened is something I will always be grateful for.

I may never get to call a national championship game again, but I will always be able to say that I got to call one for my university, my school and my Titans.

*Editors Note: This story first appeared on 90.3 WRST FM-Oshkosh.*

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Sports



From left to right, Ameer Hollowell, Hunter Schultz, Mike Olsen, Jason Myrick and Alex Wipperfurth pose after practice on Wednesday. Not pictured is injured senior Hunter Tank.

UWO’s gentle giants

By Neal Hogden  
hogden39@uwosh.edu

Head Sports Editor Neal Hogden spoke with some of the biggest guys on campus — the UW Oshkosh football team’s offensive line. Hunter Tank, Alex Wipperfurth, Jason Myrick, Mike Olsen, Hunter “Cookie” Schultz and Ameer Hollowell chopped it up about football, coming to UWO and life in general.

**Q: Did you guys have to gain weight when you learned you would be playing here?**

Mike Olsen: I did, yeah. When I got on campus I was like 235 or something and they had me at D-line because I was too small to play O-line. I went through the greyshirt process, started working out and eating more food and I ended up at about 270.

Jason Myrick: I’d say I’m about the same. I came to college at about 230 and through a year, or year and a half I gained about 40 pounds.

Ameer Hollowell: I’ve been a big fella my whole life. 285 coming out of high school and about 320 now, so there’s been a lot of snacks in there.

Hunter Tank: A lot of guys did. I personally didn’t. I actually had to try to lose some weight. Just kind of tone up and get rid of some fat. You know us O-linemen, we’ve got a lot of fat on us.

**Q: How did your diet and workouts change when you got on campus?**

MO: I think the big thing for me was just lifting heavy weights year round. When I was in high school, I played football obviously and I wrestled too so there was a four-month gap there where you’re not really lifting heavy weights. You’re doing more cardio stuff, kinda getting more lean. Here it was just bulking constantly and then just eating more.

Alex Wipperfurth: My high school didn’t really have a good weight program. Like we didn’t do any of the olympic lifts or stuff like we do here and we didn’t do a ton of cardio. So it’s kind of what Mike was saying. Just doing a lot more heavy lifting.

HT: Yeah, it was a lot different than high school. I know I went to a pretty small school. We would only have a couple of us lifting over summer and stuff so it was differ-

ent coming here and you’re lifting three, four times a week. You’re eating good so you can play good and perform good. Coach [Steve] Brown does a good job with that. I’ve put on a lot of muscle since coming here. I mean it’s a lot different lifts. We do a lot of body lifts. AH: Because I transferred in, I had to make sure I hit the weights really hard the semester before I got here. I was running early in the morning trying to stay lean and again, snacks at night.

JM: Apart from just lifting and stuff, I think some of the other drills that we do, getting us to be faster, jump better and be better athletes, I had never done anything like that before college.

Hunter Schultz: I think it was just important to pay attention to what you eat. I was already a pretty big guy coming in so I just had to keep it where it was, get lean and try not to gain too much.

**Q: How are your weight room sessions? Do you guys get pretty fired up?**

HS: It’s pretty quiet. We kinda just stick to ourselves and just get after it.

AW: Our offseason stuff, like the winter conditioning and all that. We’re usually in groups with each other and we’re just kind of pushing ourselves pretty hard then. We can get on each other and really drive each other.

MO: I like to get a little loud in the weight room. I know there’s times where I’ll have a big lift and I’ll ask ‘Cookie’ to slap me or something to kinda get me going.

JM: We have fun and it’s a good time.

HT: We’re competitive. We’re one big family, the entire team, but we try to beat out the rest of the guys and have a little competition and make it fun. Try to put up bigger numbers than the other guy and brag to them about it.

**Q: Do you guys live together or hang out outside of football?**

MO: We hang out.  
AW: Yeah, we hang out quite a bit.  
AH: Thursdays.  
HS: Qdoba every Thursday night.  
MO: Yeah, we hang out a lot. Usually Saturdays after games we all hang out.  
AW: I live with Hunter Tank too.  
HT: Yeah a lot of us hang out. We’re kind of our own separate unit from everyone else. We’re our

own culture. Yeah, I live with Alex Wipperfurth and we pretty much do everything together.

**Q: And do you get stares if you go into Blackhawk?**

HT: People are always looking at us and asking, ‘Do you play football? Do you play football?’ They can tell how big we are and stuff. And the lunch ladies in Blackhawk, God bless ‘em. They love us and we love them. It’s a good relationship.

**Q: Who’s the best cook out of you guys?**

MO: Me. I can grill and I can’t do a whole lot else. I can grill a lot of meat.

AH: I’m more of a pan-seared guy.

HT: The best cook would probably be Joe [Blitstein]. Joe can make some good stuff. He used to be a cook.

HS: Yeah that one’s going to have to go to Mike.

**Q: Who’s the best athlete out of you guys?**

HT: I’m gonna go with Cookie. We call him ‘Cookie’ but it’s Hunter Schultz. The story behind why we call him ‘Cookie’ is freshman year, after we were doing camp and stuff in August, every day after practice he’d be walking along to Insomnia Cookies to go get some cookies after practice and that’s how the name stuck.

MO: Not what Hunter [Tank] said.

HS: I know.

AH: That’s a lie.

MO: I gotta go with Myrick here.

JM: I gotta go with Wipp.

HS: We’ll give it to Wipp.

**Q: Finally, a football question for you guys. What has it been like working with a freshman quarterback this season?**

MO: It’s been pretty smooth. He’s pretty good.

AW: The mobile thing is something we haven’t really had a lot in the past so that’s been a little bit of a challenge to pick up but I mean, he’s just been making plays constantly. He’s saved us on a bunch of plays too. There’s been times where guys get through and he just makes them miss.

JM: His ability to make plays makes our job pretty easy.

HT: He’s done great. He’s awesome. Oshkosh is lucky to have him the next four years. He’s quite the guy, quite the stud and quite the person.

Titans get throttled by UW-La Crosse

By Gregory Sense  
senseg89@uwosh.edu

The UW-La Crosse football team snapped UW Oshkosh’s four-game winning streak and dropped the Titans to 3-1 in conference in a 31-3 defeat last Saturday.

UWL got off to a fast start against UWO, scoring 21 unanswered points to open the game.

The Titans’ defense struggled to stop UW-La Crosse’s offense as sophomore quarterback Evan Lewandowski threw for 352 yards.

Head coach Pat Cerroni didn’t sugarcoat things when talking about the defeat on Saturday.

“We got our butts kicked pretty good,” Cerroni said, “We’ve got to move on and try to get better.”

UWO’s offense faltered to make an impact by scoring only three points, and gaining a mere 201 total yards on offense, compared to UWL’s 475 yards.

The Titan’s failure to move the ball effectively was compounded by their inability to convert on third down, only converting 3-15.

Despite the defeat, UWO had some silver linings to their performance on Saturday.

Sophomore Jaydon Haag remains perfect on the season completing six of six field goals, scoring the Titans’ only points against UWL.

Junior Nick Noethe recorded 10 overall tackles including a sack that resulted in a 13-yard loss.

This standout performance by Noethe was the third consecutive week that he led the Titan’s in tackles.

Noethe credited his success so far this season to good coaching and

great overall team work.

“I mean it’s nothing I really do, it’s really just having a great game plan,” Noethe said, “Our coaches have a great game plan for us, and everyone around me does their jobs, it makes opportunities for us to make plays.”

The UWO defense was effective at forcing turnovers notching three interceptions and one fumble recovery.

Sophomore Kollyn Beyer also had a standout performance on Saturday, recording two interceptions and seven total tackles.

Despite this, Beyer remains focused on overall team improvement going into this Saturday.

“We’ve just got to keep focused on the basics; our coaches are going to put us in a position to make plays,” Beyer said. “We gave up a lot of points, more than we should have, so we’ve got to clean some things up.”

Freshman quarterback Kobe Berghammer led the Titans in passing with 95 yards, and senior Riley Kallas led the Titans with 60 yards respectively.

Junior Chris Hess also was a team leader on offense on Saturday, leading UWO in rushing with 51 yards.

The Titans have a tough challenge ahead of them as they will travel to Platteville on Saturday to play the Pioneers who are 6-1 overall and 3-1 in conference.

UWO sits at 3-1 in conference, good enough for fourth place in the WIAC.

“We’ve just got to keep fighting,” Cerroni said. “This isn’t going to get any easier; we have a lot of work to do.”

School	WIAC Record	Overall Record
UW-Whitewater	4-0	7-0
UW-Platteville	3-1	6-1
UW-La Crosse	3-1	5-2
UW Oshkosh	3-1	5-2
UW-Eau Claire	1-3	3-4
UW-Stevens Point	1-3	2-5
UW-Stout	1-3	2-5
UW-River Falls	0-4	1-6

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# Titans bounce back from loss

By Dakota Zanin  
zanind51@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh women’s volleyball team lost to UW-Whitewater two sets to three at home last week Wednesday after winning the first two sets.

The nationally ranked Warhawks secured the WIAC regular season title with the victory.

Titans head coach Jonathan Ellmann said he felt like they didn’t leave everything out on the court.

“It’s one thing to lose while playing your hearts out, but it’s another when you feel like you left some gas in the tank,” Ellmann said. “Emotion from a win or loss can distract you from the reality of the match. Although it was a hard one, we knew we had to get back to work.”

Despite the loss, junior Shelby Coron led the team with a career-high 13 kills, as well as four blocks, while freshman Kate Nottoli led the team with eight blocks and added seven kills. Senior Samantha Jaeke also registered seven kills.

Senior Rachel Gardner accumulated team-high 25 digs, and freshman Carissa Sundholm contributed nine kills to go along with 15 digs.

The Titans then competed at the Illinois Wesleyan University Holiday Inn Express Classic II over the weekend where they won two of their three games.

UWO lost to Millikin University (Ill.) two sets to three on Friday, before defeating both Au-



Allison Rossotto / Advance - Titan

Freshman Carissa Sundholm leaps for a kill attempt against UW-Whitewater in a home game on Oct. 23.

gustana College (Ill.) three sets to one and the hosting Illinois Wesleyan University three sets to two on Saturday.

In the loss to Millikin, Jaeke led the team with 18 kills, sophomore Taylor Allen had 10 blocks and Gardner tacked on 26 digs.

Gardner also eclipsed 2,000 career digs during the contest, becoming the first Titan since Mandy Trautmann in 2015 to hit the milestone.

Ellmann said Gardner’s hard work and consistency, among other equitable traits, has allowed

her and the team to have success.

“I couldn’t be more proud of the player and person that Rachel has become,” Ellmann said. “Her competitive drive, work ethic and willingness to learn and embrace change have acted as cornerstones for her success.”

In the victory against Augustana, Coron hit a career-high 16 kills, Gardner led with 17 digs and Nottoli registered six blocks and the team’s only service ace during the contest.

The winning performance was followed by another victory as the Titans defeated Illinois Wesleyan University after trailing one set to two to finish off the weekend.

Jaeke again led the Titans in kills, this time with 17, while Gardner added 21 digs and Nottoli tallied five blocks.

Jaeke said the success over the weekend was the team trending in the right direction.

“After our loss against Whitewater, we were motivated and ready to work hard against the teams this weekend,” Jaeke said. “Going 2-1 this weekend and winning some tough matches helped boost our confidence back up. We are capable of being great volleyball players and each of us knows and agrees with that.”

As the season begins to wind down for the Titans, Jaeke said she wants her legacy as a Titan athlete to be one of a passionate and hard working player.

“I hope I can be a great role model for the underclassmen and even for the incoming freshmen for next season,” Jaeke said. “I want to be remembered by my intensity and competitiveness along with my work ethic, but also for my passion for the game and my love [and] empathy I have for each girl on the team.”

# Tennis gains a spot in championship

By Cory Sparks  
sparkc21@uwosh.edu

Last weekend, UW Oshkosh women’s tennis put on a performance impressive enough to land themselves in the spring WIAC Championship when they grabbed the fourth and final spot as the fall season concluded.

Senior Samantha Koppa finished second at No. 2 singles and then won second at No. 1 doubles when she teamed up with junior Kelley Hodyl. The doubles partners defeated UW-Whitewater, providing a crucial confidence boost that propelled the team into

a successful playoff experience.

“I played some of my best tennis to qualify for finals for singles and doubles,” Koppa said. “My partner and I worked for every point in the semifinal match against the No. 1 seed and we ended up winning.”

The women really came in the clutch as many of them were seen playing some of their best tennis when it counted the most.

“I think it’s fair to say they both played the best doubles match of their lives this weekend,” head coach Robert Henshaw said following the pair’s performance.

However, the weekend at Mad-

ison’s Nielson Tennis Stadium was not full of positives for the Titans. There were many close games that could have gone either way, and for the majority of them, the team relinquished losses to the opposing schools.

“We lost four match-deciding tiebreaks, which really could have been significant enough in the total scoring to put us in contention for either second or third place in conference,” Henshaw said. “However, it is a testament to how strong our team is that we were literally points away from being one of the top two teams in the conference.”

These close-margin losses could be attributed to the team being down on themselves after missing some shots. This then leads to unforced errors that accumulated into bigger losses of points and even games.

“What didn’t go well was that I think when we start to miss shots, we get into our own heads which makes it even worse,” Hodyl said.

Nonetheless, the team earned its fourth place ranking by racking up 38 points in total, only trailing UW-Whitewater (54), UW-Eau Claire (52) and UW-La Crosse with 50.

The collective efforts of each

player throughout conference boosted team morale as the Titans begin the preparation process for the spring.

“This weekend was full of incredible moments,” Koppa said. “Everyone supported each member of the team through each match. This confidence from other team members and working hard during practices created some very close matches during conference.”

The four-team scramble will determine who gets to an automatic berth to compete in the 2020 NCAA Division III Championship.

# Women’s cross-country finishes strong

By Josh Woolwine  
woolwj80@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh men’s and women’s cross-country teams competed at the UW Oshkosh Open on Friday, which was moved to UW-Whitewater due to poor conditions at Lake Breeze Golf Course in Winneconne.

The men took third at the four-team invite while the women took home the title in what was the final meet before the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship on Nov. 2.

“The meet at Whitewater last Friday was the final opportunity for some of our runners to compete in an official meet this year, as we can only take 12 to conference,” head coach Eamon McK-

enna said. “We also were looking to solidify our rosters for conference.”

McKenna said he was proud of his runners for battling for a spot on the conference team.

Lauren Urban finished second out of 32 runners with a time of 25:01, leading the women’s cross-country team to a first-place finish at the meet with a score of 30 points.

UW-Stevens Point came in second with a score of 41 points. UW-Whitewater took third with 54 points and Maranatha Baptist University placed fourth with 94 points.

Skyler Yunk lead the men’s cross-country team with a time of 28:04, finishing eighth out of 54 runners.

“Skyler Yunk ran a strong race to earn the final spot on our conference team for the men with Andrew Strasser earning the alternate spot,” McKenna said. “Tricia Cich competed well to earn the final spot for the women, with Megan Berg earning the alternate spot.”

While the location changed on short notice, the Titans were prepared for it regardless.

Originally scheduled to be held at the Lake Breeze Golf Club in Winneconne, the meet was relocated to UW-Whitewater.

“We did not need to do anything in particular after the location changed,” McKenna said. “It made for more work on my end in terms of communicating with teams, organizing travel, etc., and

UW-Whitewater’s cross-country staff stepped up in helping us. Otherwise, the mentality on race day was the same for our group that was competing.”

While the Titans were also solidifying the final roster spots for the WIAC Championship, the top group from both the men’s and women’s sides took the opportunity to rest before the big meet on Nov. 2.

“Our top groups had two very quality workouts this past week,” McKenna said. “This allowed them to have a week off from ‘race stress’ while continuing to put in quality work that will serve us into the championship season. Due to the layout of the week, many of them were able to have a lower key weekend as well to

get some additional rest and recovery.”

McKenna also mentioned that unless weather becomes a major factor, the course for the WIAC Championship should be good to go on Saturday.

“I don’t anticipate any obstacles at the WIAC Championship site unless there ends up being a lot of snow,” he said. “That always makes things more challenging in terms of practice, travel and mentality, but the fact will be that every team would have to deal with that. The WIAC is the deepest conference in the country, and it is always a great opportunity and challenge for our student-athletes to see how they stack up. We are excited to get after it.”



## Opinion

# Why I chose UWO over Madison

By Owen Peterson  
petero84@uwosh.edu

When I was applying to colleges as a senior in high school, it seemed like everyone was intent on going to UW Madison. So after I got accepted to Madison, many of my friends were surprised to hear that I was choosing to attend UW Oshkosh in the fall instead.

Being somebody who has always taken their academics very seriously, my friends were critical of my decision, constantly lecturing me about how it was a poor choice to waste my time at a “party school” like UWO.



Peterson

Their concern no doubt came from the fact that UWO has somewhat of a poor reputation compared to a lot of the other UW schools, as proven by “loving” nicknames such as “UW-Zero” and “Sloshkosh.”

When asked about UWO’s reputation, UW Madison freshman Nathan Truettner immediately responded with, “Are you talking about the alcohol?”

But what all my friends (and, unfortunately, a lot of people it seems) are doing is taking this reputation at face value and looking past all of the positives that UWO has to offer.

Competitive athletics, one of the state’s best nursing programs, one of the nation’s best Model United Nations teams and a beautiful campus are just a few of the things that make UWO better



than just “that drinking school.”

But above all those aforementioned benefits, the thing about UWO that won me over was the Honors College.

The Honors College at UWO provided exactly what I was looking for in my college experience: small classes with familiar students that are more focused on discussion and participation than lecture.

At a school like Madison, my general education classes during my first two years or so would have been spent in 400-person lecture rooms where the professor would probably never know my name, but with the Honors

College at UWO, the gen. ed. classes I am currently enrolled in only have 30 other students at most.

“I like that I know everybody in my classes and that my classes are small and I always feel like I can talk and get my participation grades,” Sami Christiansen, a freshman in the Honors College, said.

Another benefit of the UWO Honors College is the sense of community it provides. My classes this semester are with many of the same students, which makes it easy to build relationships, a big concern of mine, seeing that I didn’t know anybody coming in.

Outside of the Honors College, another big factor for me when applying for colleges was the size of the campus.

When I went to visit some of my friends who attend Madison a few weekends ago, it took me 20 minutes to walk from the bus stop to their dorm and an additional 20 minutes to go from that dorm to go out to eat that night. In that same amount of time, I probably could have made it back and forth between South Scott and the Arts and Communications building at least four times.

It’s not that I don’t like walking, but having everything so close alleviates a lot of stress

about not making it to class on time as well as meaning that you have to spend less time walking in the snow come winter.

All these factors taken into account, UWO suited my vision of a college experience full of small classes on a small campus better than UW Madison ever could have.

While UW Madison may be touted as the best school in the state, I believe it is important to realize that at the end of the day, the best decision you can make about your future is the one that suits you the best, not the one that everyone is saying is the best.

## UP responds to complaint concerning Run with the Cops photos

By Bethanie Gengler  
genglb78@uwosh.edu

I returned to college to get a degree in journalism because all my life I’ve felt silenced. As the seventh out of eight children born in a blended family, I never felt like my voice was heard. This feeling continued throughout my adult life.

A drug charge in 2009 sent me on a path that led to a stay at the Winnebago County Jail. I remember sitting in a 6-by-8 foot cell feeling trapped, suffocated and unheard. I promised myself that someday I would write about my experiences and share them with others.

This desire to be heard was the driving force behind my desire to return to college as a nontraditional student; however, throughout my two years at UW Oshkosh I have told very few people about my past because I didn’t want to be judged or to be looked at as a criminal.

I wanted to fit in and feel normal for once instead of feeling shameful for a mistake made nearly a decade ago. My past was a deep, dark secret that I kept hidden until three weeks ago.

On Oct. 7, I was scrolling through pictures on the UWO Flickr page when I came across

photos from the University Police’s partnership with the Special Olympics of Wisconsin for a charity event called Run with the Cops.

The photos showed UWO students and children wearing prison stripes standing behind bars while being handcuffed by police. They appeared to be laughing and having a good time.

When I saw these photos, I felt like I had been kicked in the stomach. No longer did I feel accepted on campus or like I fit in. My horrible experience with incarceration was being laughed at, and I couldn’t understand how making fun of incarceration helped those with special needs.

I sat down and began writing and my memories of incarceration poured out onto paper. On Oct. 10, my article “Incarceration is No Laughing Matter” was published in the Advance-Titan.

I didn’t know what response to expect from the campus community. At worst, I feared I would get angry emails calling me a criminal. At best, I thought my article would largely be ignored.

The United States’ criminal justice system is supposed to operate in a “do the time and you’ve paid for your crime” sort of way, but for a person with a felony conviction, you never re-



Courtesy of University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Flickr

A group poses as inmates during Run with the Cops, Oct. 3.

ally stop paying for your crime. In my experience, my opinion is often discredited once people learn I’m a felon.

However, my experience with incarceration gave my words credibility, and my words had an immediate impact on the UWO community.

The morning my article was published, I received an email from UP Capt. Christopher Tarmann who apologized for the UP’s ignorance and promised not to have the incarceration photo booth at future events.

“Having a jail cell and allowing folks to take photos inside that fake cell has been a part of

our event since the beginning, six years now, and no one ever brought up a concern about it,” Tarmann said in an Oct. 10 email. “No one thought about the impact of what was written in the Advance-Titan article and that’s unfortunate because our intent was never to joke about being incarcerated.”

The UP declined to comment on this article.

Not only did my article spark change in the UP and future Run with the Cops events, but I also received emails of support from students.

“Incarceration is a seriously complex issue that should not be

taken lightly,” one student said in an Oct. 10 email. “What the Run with the Cops event did was a vulgar display that I did not know about until reading your article.”

The UWO Social Justice Club discussed my article at their Oct. 17 meeting and will be hosting a panel discussion in November focused on incarceration. I will be participating in the discussion because I believe incarceration is a serious and often overlooked issue.

According to Winnebago County District Attorney Christian Gossett, you have a greater likelihood of being arrested and charged in Wisconsin than you do of earning a bachelor’s degree.

“Land of the free? More like land of the incarcerated,” he said. Criminals are not just sketchy-looking characters hanging out in dark alleyways. We’re your friends, your neighbors, your family, your professors and your classmates.

The UWO community’s response to my article has made me grateful to be a UWO student journalist. For once, I was not silenced and my words made a difference; journalism made a difference. Thank you for listening to me.



**“Whatcha Think?”**  
What’s your favorite Halloween activity, candy and movie?



**Maggie Herzog, sophomore**  
Activity: going to haunted houses  
Candy: Reese’s PB Cups  
Movie: “Halloweentown”



**Preston Ingalls, sophomore**  
Activity: scaring people  
Candy: Mambas  
Movie: “The Goonies”



**Yasmilet Esquivel, sophomore**  
Activity: watching movies  
Candy: Sour Patch Kids  
Movie: “Coraline”



**Erik Freiberg, senior**  
Activity: drinking in costume  
Candy: Skittles  
Movie: “Halloween” (1978)



**Angela McLaughlin, freshman**  
Activity: exploring corn mazes  
Candy: Almond Joy  
Movie: “Hocus Pocus”

# LAST MINUTE HALLOWEEN COSTUMES



## Area 51 ‘Naruto’ Runner

Be a meme lord this year by dressing up as one of the people who stormed Area 51 in September to free the aliens. Go find an alien plush toy to carry in order to really sell it. When someone asks who you’re supposed to be, grab your alien and run away as quickly as possible.



## Shy Invisible Man/Woman

Have you been invited to a Halloween party you don’t want to attend? Here’s your answer: don’t go. If someone asks why you didn’t show up, just tell them that you were there as a shy invisible man/woman. It’ll be the most convincing costume you’ll ever wear.



## Billie Eilish as seen in ‘Bad Guy’

You can really confuse or concern people not in the know once you punch yourself in the face enough to make your nose bleed. Crawl around on the cement for half an hour to bruise your knees for effect. If someone asks you who you’re supposed to be, just say, “I’m the bad guy... duh!”

## ‘Bird Box’ Challenge

Against all logic, “Bird Box” became one of Netflix’s most watched original movies this year. The “Bird Box” challenge inspired thousands of shortsighted adults and children to hold hands blindfolded and run into walls. Simply tie a piece of fabric around your head and good luck!



## Fat Thor

If you’ve got the body for it, go as Thor as he’s seen in “Avengers: Endgame.” Buy yourself a cheap Mjölhnir (Thor’s hammer) from the Halloween shop for extra credit. This is also great for people who’ve put together a lazy “The Dude” costume from “The Big Lebowski.”



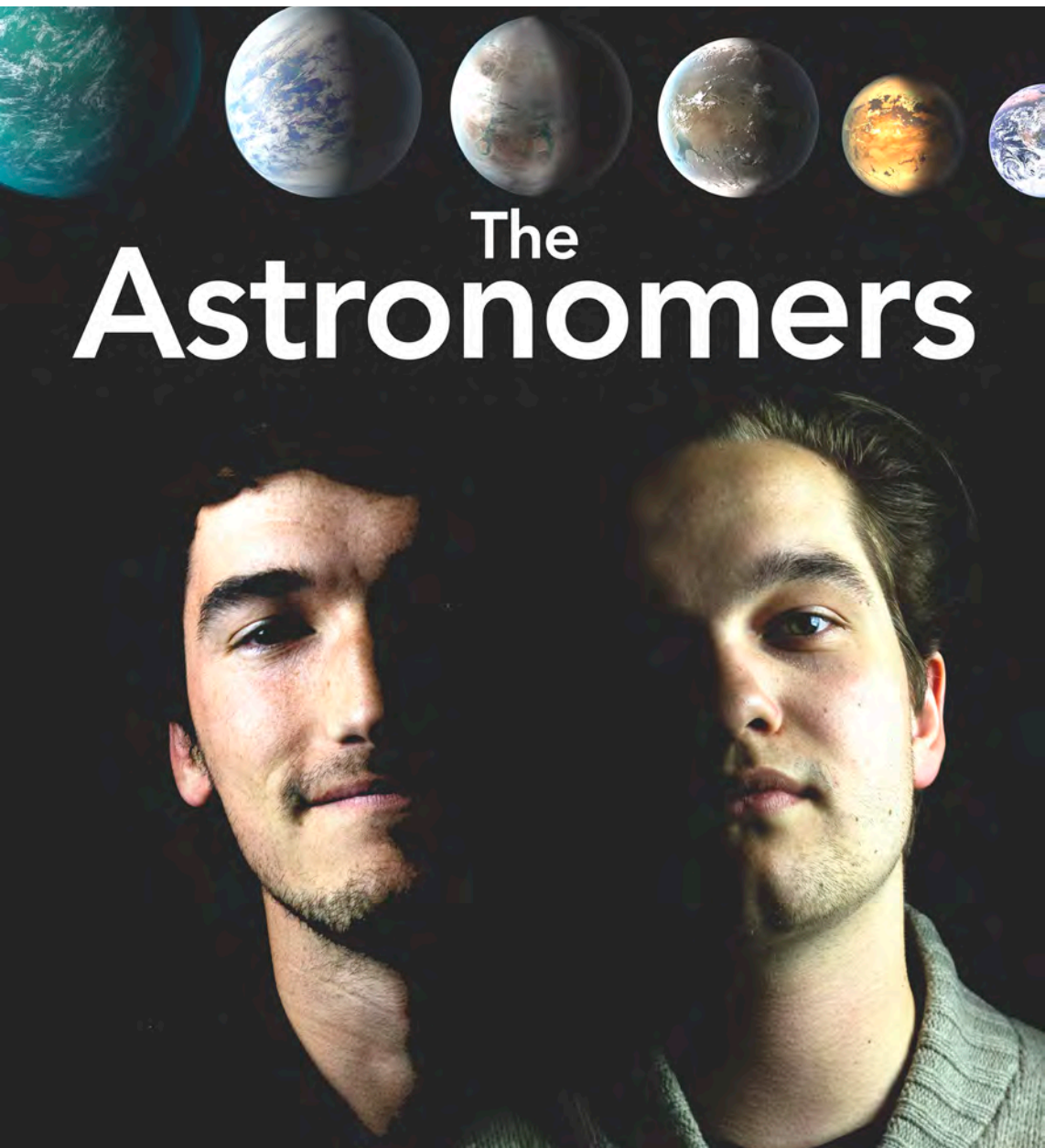
## The ‘Tethered’ from ‘Us’

Go outside the police station and have an officer see you publicly urinating. Get in jail. Break out. Throw a red piece of clothing in the washing machine with your jumpsuit. Paint a pair of scissors gold. Buy one driving glove. By this time, you should be crazy enough to pull off this costume.



By Leo Costello  
costel93@uwosh.edu  
Illustrations by Susan Lor  
lors74@uwosh.edu





Ben Baker (left) and Michael Stensland (right) form the pop group “The Astronomers”

# The Astronomers go all in

By Ethan Uslabar  
uslabe78@uwosh.edu

With over 13,000 monthly listeners on Spotify, Ben Baker and Michael Stensland’s pop duo “The Astronomers” is likely one of the most popular music groups from UW Oshkosh.

Baker and Stensland have been performing music since the sixth grade when they were in jazz band together. During high school, the two performed with other friends in a cover band, and most recently, they formed The Astronomers in early 2019.

Baker had been doing music production on his own for several years and was getting sick of going it alone.

“I was like ‘I know someone who would definitely want to do it with me,’ so I was like ‘Hey Mike,’” Baker said. “I was facetimeing him because I went to Platteville last year and I was like ‘Hey, how would you like to just form this group with me?’ and he was just like ‘Yes.’”

Getting an emphatic “yes” from Stensland was simple, but a long-distance musical relationship was a much more difficult challenge.

“It was definitely really hard because it was just a lot of facetimeing and just trying to figure out details,” Baker said. “It’s really hard to collaborate over FaceTime because it’s just a different vibe, but I don’t know, once it got to May and we were out of school we could do it every day, and we started to get the ball rolling.”

Baker does a majority of the music production for the group, and Stensland writes lyrics for production.

“Every song is different. There’s a different story behind each song,” Baker said. “Sometimes we write a song first and then I go and produce it. Sometimes I’ll text Mike, I’ll be like ‘Hey, check out this demo I just made,’ and he’ll write to it, so a lot of it is different and there’s no set process that we have set in stone.”

The group takes inspiration from artists like Chelsea Cutler, “The Chainsmokers”, John Bellion, and “Two Friends.” They also like to collaborate with other artists, embodying the new wave of creation fueled by the connectivity made possible by the internet.

“It just keeps it interesting for us and allows us to branch off with other ideas,” Stensland said. “So sometimes it ends up being a colab project.”

The Astronomers have used internet music communities to grow and learn from collaborations with other artists to getting on Skype calls to learn from big-time producers.

Baker had been doing music production for a few years when he and Stensland formed The Astronomers.

“The first year I just wasn’t really serious about it — and then two years in I just started posting stuff little by little and getting better and better,” Baker said.

Baker began posting instrumentals he produced on YouTube for gaming communities in 2018. One day in February 2018, he left a comment on a “Kid Indigo” video.

“I was like, ‘Hey you have a great voice, we should work together sometime,’ and his manager, Woods Entertainment, saw that and I got an email the next day

saying ‘Hey, we listened to your stuff and we like it. Let’s get on a call.’”

Since then, their relationship with Woods Entertainment Group has been highly beneficial to the group.

“It’s been really, really nice, like just getting some insight on how things work that I’d have never known if we didn’t have a manager,” Baker said.

“It’s really paid off on our end, just kinda of helping get our sound out there,” Stensland said. “It’s a lot of fun. It’s just crazy, honestly, just talking about it.”

After The Astronomers released their first track, “All In,” their monthly listeners on Spotify skyrocketed to 25,000. The taste of success has inspired them to keep creating more and more music. “All In” has over a 100,000 listens.

“It’s addicting,” Baker said of the reaction they’ve seen to their music. “It’s so much fun.”

“It’s crazy because when we released ‘All In,’ which was our first song, it got up to like 25,000 monthly listeners, and so it’s just cool to see our songs get put on playlists.”

“We’ve got a lot of projects in the works. We just got in contact with this artist named Bronwyn Silk who’s originally from La Crosse but is in LA now, so we’re trying to get vocals done with her and get that track probably done by January,” Baker said.

The group is currently working on a song collaborating with Bronwyn Silk, another Wisconsin native. The Astronomers said that listeners can expect a new single shortly after New Year’s, on January 11.

## James Kies’ Key Picks

Hello, my name is James, resident music composition student and music lover. This week’s playlist follows a rap/alt rap style and features artists like BROCKHAMPTON and EARTHGANG. These six songs all have something in common: great production. As a producer myself, I really value when time and creative energy are channeled into music like this. Pay attention to the eerie harmonies in EARTHGANG’s “UP” and the gritty synths in Labrinth’s “When I R.I.P”, featured on HBO’s “Euphoria.” I really enjoy these songs and hope you do too.

**GOLD**

BROCKHAMPTON  
SATURATION  
2017



**UP**

EARTHGANG  
Mirrorland  
2019

**Hair Down**

SiR, featuring  
Kendrick Lamar  
Chasing Summer  
2019



**When I R.I.P.**

Labrinth  
Euphoria (original  
score from the  
HBO series)  
2019

**Aliens are Ghosts**

\$uicideBoy\$,  
Travis Barker  
LIVE FAST, DIE  
WHENEVER  
2019



**Wild**

Tony Velour  
Vices Hurt  
2019



# Warming shelters: Helping homeless day by day

From page 1

“Last year during the polar vortex we had to expand our capacity through our emergency protocol, so we had, I think, 42 guests in our shelter,” Matt Johnson said.

Day by Day operates from mid-October through mid-April, during the most brutal winter months. They see a very diverse crowd come through their doors each night.

Johnson said that they see people in the shelter due to a whole host of different circumstances, but the two most common are alcohol and drug addictions and mental health concerns.

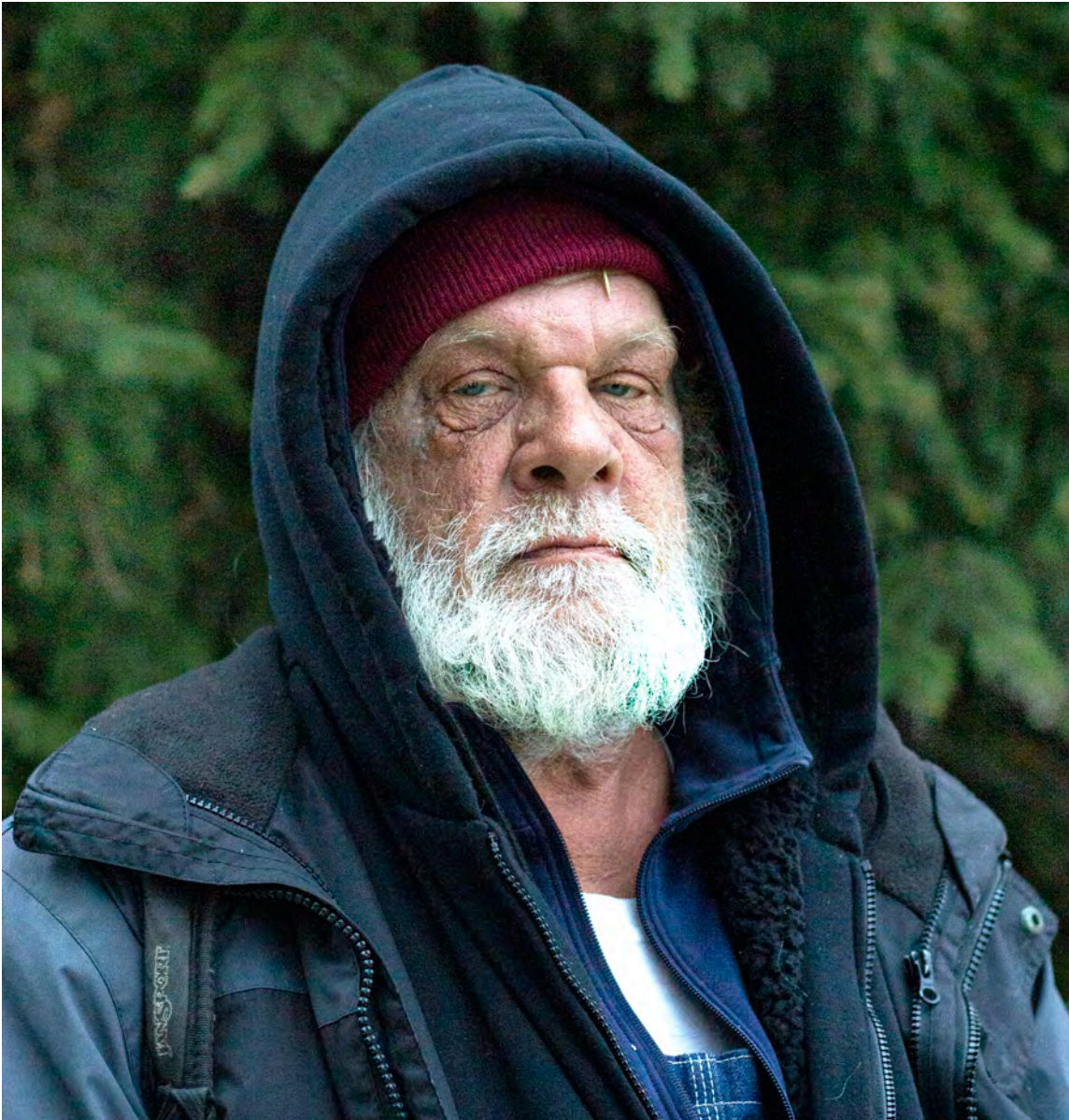
“Surprisingly, being homeless is not fun,” Matt Johnson said. “A lot of people don’t choose that. 166 individuals used our shelter last year. I’d say of those 166, maybe 10-15 are chronically homeless.”

Chronic homelessness is a definition given by HUD Exchange which means that a person has been repeatedly homeless or homeless for over a year while battling mental illness, disability or substance abuse.

“There are a number of different reasons why a person would choose to be homeless, but factor no. 2 and factor no. 2 are usually drugs and alcohol and mental illness,” Matt Johnson said.

That’s not to say that people who don’t use drugs or alcohol or suffer from mental illness can’t become homeless either. Nearly one in five Americans are living paycheck to paycheck, meaning their financial situation is very fragile.

“That’s a bad day at work, that’s a car accident, that’s a medical bill that can set you on your way to homelessness,” Matt Johnson said. “Last year, we had a person with a master’s degree in communications that was in our shelter.



Don Eshelman became homeless after losing his job in Mayville due to the 2008 financial crisis.

He wasn’t uneducated, he had opportunities, you know. He just fell on bad luck.”

Bad luck can come in many forms, but it doesn’t discriminate, and it’s not as distant as one might think. It’s what happened to Jeremy Jent. On Dec. 1, 2018, Jent was staying in a rooming house on New York Avenue in Oshkosh when he was nearly stabbed to

death by another man staying at the rooming house.

“That was scary,” Jent said. “That’s pretty much how I got homeless. I couldn’t work at the time, lost my job, fell behind in rent, so I got kicked out. That’s how I ended up on the streets.”

Don Eshelman’s story is like that of many Americans who lost their jobs in the slew of layoffs

following the 2008 financial crisis.

“I was a temp working in a place in Mayville called Mayville Engineering Company and of course when they had the big layoffs, the temps were the first to go.”

Eshelman stays at Day by Day, but he said it’s hard the first few weeks before the shelter opens due to the cold late-fall weather.

“The first couple weeks in Oc-

tober are really rough,” Eshelman said. “You’ve gotta sleep outside.”

There are other invisible challenges facing the homeless in Oshkosh as well. The first and most poignant is that Oshkosh doesn’t have all the necessary resources to support the approximate 200 homeless adults in the community.

“It doesn’t seem like our community would be capable or even have the quantity to have 200 homeless people — I mean, that’s 50% higher per capita than Milwaukee County — but they’re here,” Johnson said. “We need the resources available to match the population we’re serving. I mean, our shelter holds 25 people; that’s like 10% of that population.”

The stigmas surrounding homelessness tend to distance people in positions to help the homeless from the real human beings in need of help.

“People are scared of what they don’t know and what they don’t have experience with, so they think the homeless population is trying to cause harm to our community or to neighborhoods,” Johnson said. “In reality, they’re trying to get by. They’re trying to survive in bad weather circumstances. They’re trying to get food because they haven’t eaten in a couple days. They’re trying to do the best they can with their situation at the moment.”

But addressing issues of homelessness is actually the best way to curb the problems stereotypically associated with people who are homeless.

“A lot of other community ailments, like dealing with high arrest rates, dealing with mental illness, they all can be improved with the homeless population if they’re just provided a place to stay,” Johnson said. “As long as shelter is provided, those other issues automatically start decreasing.”

Upcoming Events

<b>Friday, Nov. 1:</b> Live Music — New Moon Café Titan Nights — Reeve Memorial Union ballroom, 8:30 p.m. Titan Nights Movie: “The Breakfast Club” — Reeve Memorial Union theatre, 9:15 p.m. FDL Campus Preview Day 2	p.m.-3 p.m. Learning in Retirement Wisconsin Maritime Museum Tour 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. <b>Saturday, Nov. 2:</b> RUB Movie: “The Breakfast Club” — Reeve Memorial Union theatre, 1:30 p.m., 7 p.m. Oshkosh Chamber Singers —	St. Jude the Apostle Parish, 4 p.m. Oshkosh Area Community Band — Alberta Kimball Auditorium, 7 p.m. Algoma Club HalloWEEN Party — Algoma Club, 7 p.m. Franki Moscato and Friends — The Grand Oshkosh, 7:30	p.m. UW Oshkosh - Fox campus e.a.t.s. Fundraiser <b>Sunday, Nov. 3:</b> RUB Movie: “The Breakfast Club” — Reeve Memorial Union theatre, 1:30 p.m., 7 p.m. <b>Monday, Nov. 4:</b> Live Music — Jambalaya	Arts, 6 p.m. Voices of Titan Men featuring Tiq Milan — Reeve Memorial Union Ballroom, 6 p.m. <b>Tuesday, Nov. 5:</b> COEHS Informational Session — Clow L101, 8 a.m.
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