

# The Advance-Titan

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Photo illustration by Carter Uslabar / Advance-Titan

## Labor shortage bad for business

By Joseph Schulz  
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The unemployment rate in Winnebago County is roughly 3%, but that figure doesn't tell the whole story as only about 67% of adult residents are participating in the workforce.

Only about 91,000 of the roughly 136,000 adults living in the county were part of the labor force as of Dec. 2019, according to data from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and 2018 population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

This lack of labor isn't exclusive to Winnebago County. Statewide, the labor force participation rate is 67%, and nationally it's 63.4%, according to data from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

These figures are down sharply from the rates registered in the late 1990s, according to the nonpartisan Badger Institute.

Because so many have stopped looking for work, the low unemployment rate may provide an overly positive picture of economic strength, a recent research paper published by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco suggests.

The shortage of workers is having a negative effect on local employers as many are operating under capacity, according to Jason White, CEO of the Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corp.

In Northeast Wisconsin, 40% of workplaces have not adopted practices to compensate for the worker shortage, while the ones that have are offering increased pay and benefits to entice workers, according to a

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## What happens when you get caught with a fake ID?

By Amber Brockman  
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Although it's illegal, people younger than 21 years old drink 11% of all the alcohol consumed in the U.S., according to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence.

Owner of Molly McGuire's bar, Tom Taggart, said his bar sees anywhere between 10 to 30 fake IDs in a night.

"A lot of them we know are mail order," Taggart said. "It even gets down to as crazy as the bouncers

will know the person on the ID and know it's not the person using it."

According to the Center for Alcohol Policy, fake IDs come in many forms, including borrowed or stolen real IDs, newly created fake IDs and altered real IDs.

Borrowed and stolen real IDs are among the most common fakes used, but scanners won't catch this kind of fake, because it's a real, government-issued ID.

"This is one reason trained gatekeepers are critical to the ID checking process," the Center for

Alcohol Policy website said. "Human gatekeepers can not only see and feel security features, but they can observe and assess behavioral nuances often associated with the use of a fake ID."

Taggart said they have books, an ID scanner and online resources that help them determine whether an ID is fake.

"Now you can go online and it'll tell you in two seconds what a proper ID for that state should look like," Taggart said. "Usually when they're from out of state, that's the first dead giveaway."

Taggart said if someone gets caught using a fake ID they will confiscate it and save it for the police.

"We tell them that if they want to call the police, that's fine," Taggart said. "I mean, let's face it, everybody has a cell phone, so we tell them if they want to call they can call, and a lot of them say 'OK, we're going to leave and go call them' but obviously they never do."

Molly McGuire's also has signs posted in the bar warning against

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## Wisconsin firearm deaths up 28% from 2014

By Amber Brockman  
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A backyard cookout in the Westhaven neighborhood of Oshkosh took a surprising and potentially violent turn when a 32-year-old man emerged from his home brandishing a pair of AR-15 assault rifles on Sept. 20, 2019.

"You're not going to leave here alive," the man, Johnathon Hanley, shouted to his wife, Alison, whom he accused of being a "slut" and of having had their 3-month-old daughter with another man.

Hanley had been drinking since

he got off work that day and had several shots of Fireball at the cookout before he fired at least one round, prompting a call to 911. By the time police cleared the scene, they had recovered the two assault rifles, three handguns and nearly 100 rounds of ammunition.

Although nobody was killed in this incident, firearm deaths in Wisconsin rose 28% from 2014 to 2017, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Last Wednesday, an employee opened fire at the Molson Coors complex in Milwaukee, killing five workers before taking his own life,

according to the Associated Press.

In 2018, 43% of Winnebago County households had a firearm in or around the home, according to the Winnebago County Community Health Survey Report.

"I think it's really important for people to understand that guns are all around us," Oshkosh Police Detective April Hinke said. "Some people have good intentions with those and some people don't."

### Causes of gun violence

The offending rate for males involved in gun violence was almost nine times higher than the offending

rate of females, according to Bureau of Justice Statistics.

"If I go into the research on active threat situations, it's almost always a male subject who does something like that," University Police Captain Chris Tarmann said. "There have been female subjects. However, every time there's a female subject, there's also a male subject involved."

Hergert Sport Center manager Mark Spanbauer said, from what he has experienced in his shop, men are more likely to buy a gun than women.

"The concealed carry and hand-

gun sales are probably 75/25 male over female," Spanbauer said. "A lot of the female sales are due to men who work out of town and are gone for a stretch of time or they live in the country and they're just looking for protection."

Spanbauer said gun violence has more to do with poor mental health than gun control laws.

"The bottom line is, all these mass shootings and those kinds of things that are going on — it's not a gun issue, it's a mental health issue," Spanbauer said.

Currently, there are no mental

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KALINOSKI A BEAST

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BEAUTY BIAS

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# News

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**About the Newspaper**  
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**Correction Policy**  
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

# Career Closet offers professional attire

By Kate Sawyer  
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The Student Success Center recognized that students’ budgets may not leave room for unexpected situations. They created the Career Closet to assist students who might not otherwise have disposable income to update their wardrobes to fit into professional settings.

Between tuition payments, rent, food and entertainment, students may be strapped for cash. This makes it difficult to come up with extra money for the unexpected, including professional clothes for last-minute internship and job interviews.

Chelsy Cegielski, a career adviser in the SSC, said that the Career Closet started in 2013 as the result of feedback they received from some of their employer sponsors who invest in the professional development of students.

“They were telling us prior to 2013 that students were prepared well with resumes, cover letters, for interviewing appropriately, but their dress was less than to be expected,” Cegielski said. “So we’d hold students accountable to that and they’d say, well, ‘We don’t have money for that,’ or ‘We’re poor college students,’ and so we figured there has to be a resource that is going to help students.”

The Career Closet offers a variety of styles and levels of professional dress, including full suits, sport coats, business-casual attire and even scrubs.

“On average, we donate about 1,500 items each semester in donated clothes that the students are taking,” Cegielski proudly said.

Looking at the Career Closet,

a small section of the SSC, you wouldn’t expect this to be the case. This is a true testament to the large number of students who take advantage of the Career Closet, each taking up to four items per semester.

Cegielski said that they see 700 unique students stopping into the Career Closet in a single semester.

To those students who do not regularly take advantage of the Career Closet, Cegielski said that the benefits in the long-term are worth it.

“We work with students to have an understanding of what the professional dress wardrobe is going to be. If you take four items each semester from your freshman year to your senior year, that’s quite the professional wardrobe that you would have,” Cegielski said.

A common misconception that students come into the Career Closet with is that the items are for rent, not to own.

“The items are yours to keep,” Cegielski said. This allows students to build the professional dress collection that Cegielski thinks is imperative.

The items come in all shapes, sizes and styles. Because of the number of different partners, there is something for everyone. Not only do companies donate to the closet, but staff and alumni, who the closet may have helped in the past, donate as well.

For those who would like to donate to the Career Closet, there are donation stations in the College of Business as well as the SSC. The SSC asks that the items donated are clean, show minimal wear and have been purchased within the last five years. Students can come to the SSC any time during their open



April Lee / Advance-Titan  
The Career Closet started in 2013 because of employer feedback.

hours to take advantage of the Career Closet resource.

Cegielski said that in terms of professional development, clothing is an important aspect, but it is just a small part of a much bigger goal.

“Just like students come to our

office for clothing, they should also know that they should come to our office for LinkedIn and for resumes, I mean all of that. To their clothing, to their documents, to their presence. That’s all part of who they are to get a position,” Cegielski said.

# Census workers and students raise awareness

By Lydia Westedt  
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On Feb. 27, four UW Oshkosh public relations students were joined by census workers on the UW O campus to inform students about the 2020 census and encourage students to pledge to take the census.

The UW Oshkosh Bateman Team’s campaign, “20/20 Oshkosh: Count Osh In,” has been circulating around classrooms and campus to ensure that Oshkosh knows taking the census is vital for community and college federal funding.

According to Oshkosh Student Association Vice President Ian McDonald, counting oneself in the census is important now because of the decline in student attendance.

“Federal funding is very vital to subsidizing the lack of fees that are paid when more students are at the university,” McDonald said.

According to a U.S. Census Bu-



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Bateman Team  
The Bateman team and census workers tabled in Reeve last week.

reau employee, census data helps your community prepare for emergencies, create jobs and build infrastructure. The data determines how much funding a community receives and how the community plans for the future.

Census data also helps paint an accurate statistical picture of the

nation and communities, according to the U.S. Census Bureau employee. That statistical picture is used to drive important decisions, including community funding for schools, roads and hospitals.

Responses to the census impacts political representation. Since 1790, our nation has been counting

its population and uses the data to determine where to redraw electoral districts based on where populations had increased or decreased, according to 2020census.gov.

According to McDonald, the census is important for political decisions.

“In order to have an accurate representation on who the people are, you kind of have to make sure you know how many people are in a certain state or a certain place,” McDonald said.

Census answers can only be used to produce statistics, according to the census employee. This means answers are confidential.

According to the census worker, Title 13 makes it clear that the data collected by the census can only be used to produce statistics and cannot be used for immigration enforcement or law enforcement purposes.

For more information on the 2020 Census, visit 2020census.gov.

# Faked: Local bars address fake ID issue

From page 1

the use of fake IDs.

“When somebody walks in the door, there’s a sign hanging up that says ‘If you’re going to use a fake ID, we will confiscate it,’” Taggart said. “Now Tavern League supplies us with the signs and they also give advice on how to handle it.”

Bartender at Kelly’s Bar Steph

Rammer said the bar typically sees at least 15 fake IDs on weekend nights.

“When it’s busy, the bouncers are IDing before people get into the bar,” Rammer said. “So, we tell the bartenders and bouncers that if you see a fake ID, you’re supposed to take it and that’s pretty much what we do.”

Kate Mann, Oshkosh Police

Department public information officer, said people using a fake ID might be issued some citations or be charged with a crime, depending on the circumstances of the incident and how the identification was used.

“If they present it to the police and they state that is their information and it is the wrong name, age, etc., they could be charged with ob-

structing, a state charge or citation for \$295,” Mann said. “They could possibly receive a citation for Carry Card Not Legally Issued for \$421, Knowingly Carries False ID Card for \$421 or Misrepresent Age for Entry/Service for \$484.”

Taggart advises against the use of fake IDs in order to obtain alcohol.

“Everybody else has to wait, you have to wait, too,” Taggart said.





April Lee / Advance-Titan  
Alex Mangmoradeth exhales a cloud of vapor. Researchers found that when e-cigarette taxes increase by 10%, sales of vaping devices decrease by 26% and traditional cigarette sales rise by 11%.

# Vaping tax increases cigarette smoking

By Heidi Docter  
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A UW Oshkosh professor’s research on the relationship between the taxation of e-cigarettes and the sales of cigarettes reveals a dangerous consequence of e-cigarette taxation.

Chad Cotti, chair of the economics department at UWO, worked with a team of five other health economists across the nation to research the impact that e-cigarette taxation has on the sales of e-cigarettes, and whether consumers shift back to traditional cigarettes when e-cigarette taxes are implemented.

As a health economist, Cotti studies the economic side of “sin goods,” or products related to unhealthy consumption, such as alcohol and cigarettes.

“What economics has taught us,

among other things, is that if you make things more expensive, people will consume less of it,” Cotti said. However, by increasing taxes on vaping devices, smokers flock towards the now less expensive alternative: traditional cigarettes.

The researchers found that when e-cigarette taxes increase by 10%, sales of vaping devices decrease by 26% and traditional cigarette sales rise by 11%.

The goal of government policies on unhealthy products is to decrease consumption, most often by raising the price on the products.

“When we decided to put taxes on cigarettes, 30 to 40 years ago for the first time, there wasn’t a good substitute for consumers to turn to,” Cotti said. “With e-cigarettes, there is a really good substitute: regular cigarettes.”

Cotti said the unhealthy product

that smokers are buying is nicotine.

So, when a taxation policy aimed to decrease smoking only covers one of the many nicotine devices on the market, consumers will turn to other unhealthy products to get their fix.

Since e-cigarettes are a relatively new product and vaping has only recently become a phenomenon, it only makes sense to research sin goods, Cotti said.

“Young adult use of e-cigarettes every day or some days increased from 2.4% in 2012 and 2013 to 5.2% in 2017, and increased again to 7.6% in 2018 based on a recent analysis,” the Truth Initiative, a nonprofit health organization, website states. “44.3% of young adult current e-cigarette users were never smokers before trying e-cigarettes.”

Cotti’s team hasn’t explored which demographics are flowing

back to traditional cigarettes just yet, but he said that traditional cigarette taxation policies are more effective at reducing consumption among youth smokers.

“A tax of equal size largely is going to affect the teenager more than the adult because it affects their income more because they have less,” Cotti said.

Cotti and his team of health economists plan to research the characteristics of the consumers flowing toward traditional cigarettes in the future.

He hopes their research helps to inform the discussion around vaping.

“We have to make sure people are fully educated about the health consequences of those behaviors so that when they make those choices, they’re making well-informed choices,” Cotti said.

# Discrimination remains on UWM campus

By Joseph Schulz  
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A former UW-Milwaukee student’s discrimination lawsuit against the UW System Board of Regents was recently dismissed by the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

Cherakei Griffin, a female African-American student, initially sued the Board of Regents and UWM in April 2019 for allegedly charging her out-of-state tuition despite her being a Wisconsin resident.

The initial lawsuit, filed in the Western District Court of Wisconsin, alleges that when Griffin applied to the university she was subjected to “strange, bizarre and harassing behavior,” and was required to complete unnecessary “to do tasks” that were not required of other applicants.

Griffin argues that UWM created rules that only apply to her in order to bill her at higher rates than students not of her race or gender.

Court documents said instances of discrimination within the UW System have increased in recent years, and that the “culture of ra-



cial discrimination is alive and well within its facilities.”

At UWM specifically, court papers say discriminatory barriers cause only one in five black students to graduate within six years.

In Griffin’s case, the lawsuit alleges that administrators refused to correct their billing error and created a “flagging system” that “purposely mislabels African-American applicants as ‘non residents.’”

In addition, she claims UWM denied her financial aid, waivers and other opportunities provided to students not of her race or gender.

As a result of the “false and outrageous” billing, Griffin has been forced to discontinue her education, as the university has placed holds on her academic record for unpaid fees, court papers noted.

The lawsuit argues that UWM violated the Civil Rights Act of

1964, which states that no one in the U.S. shall be excluded from participation or be or subjected to discrimination from any program that receives federal assistance.

In a May 2019 court filing, the Board of Regents denied all of the allegations in Griffin’s complaint.

In October, District Judge Barbara Crabb ordered that UWM and specific faculty members be dismissed as defendants in the case.

In January 2020, Crabb also denied Griffin’s motion for reconsideration, which asked that the specific faculty remain defendants.

Later that month, Magistrate Judge Stephen Crocker ordered that Griffin travel to Madison for a deposition.

On Feb. 10, Griffin appealed to the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, arguing that the previous orders were inconsistent with the U.S. law.

The next day, the court replied that an appeal cannot be taken in a civil case until a final judgment has been made. A motion for a voluntary dismissal was filed Feb. 26, and the appeals court dismissed the case on Feb. 27.

In a Feb. 27 court filing, Grif-

fin wrote that the Western District Court will cause a “miscarriage of justice.”

“I am stating, under oath, that I believe that a fair and impartial trial cannot be obtained,” she wrote.

Griffin isn’t the only student who’s allegedly been wrongly charged out-of-state tuition at UWM. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reports that Almond Moone, 20, of Janesville, was also wrongly charged out-of-state tuition.

According to the Journal Sentinel, Moone received in-state tuition when she attended UW-Rock County, but when she transferred to UWM she was charged out-of-state tuition.

By February 2019, Moone owed UWM \$12,989.61, the Journal Sentinel reports. UWM only waived Moone’s debt after the Journal Sentinel reported that she was wrongly charged.

In her Feb. 27 filing, Griffin wrote that Moone recieved “over 90% of the same discriminatory profiling” as she did, which is “indicative of a serious pattern and practice of racist and sexist discrimination against minority female students.”

# SEAC to host Free School event

By Megan Behnke  
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The UW Oshkosh Student Environmental Action Coalition will host a Free School Event on Saturday, March 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the third floor of Sage Hall.

Free School includes workshops, skillshops and lectures that revolve around environmental, economic and social sustainability.

SEAC President Samantha Sprenger said Free School is a day of free learning for the campus and community.

“At 5:00 p.m., we will have a celebration of community learning, meaning we’ll invite everyone to stay, have a cookie and talk about what they learned about and what their favorite things were,” she said.

UWO philosophy major and SEAC member Melanie Zens said it’s important that people learn about environmental, economic and social sustainability because there’s more carbon in the environment than ever.

“Anything that we can do, even on a very small scale or very small changes that we can make added together, that’s going to make a huge impact,” Zens said.

Sprenger said this is the fifth Free School Event at UWO and SEAC is hoping to keep the annual tradition going for years to come.

“In the past, we’ve had around 200 participants throughout the day, and we’re always hoping to reach more people,” Sprenger said. “Historically, our student turnout has not been as high as the turnout of community members, so we’re really hoping to increase the number of students that attend this year.”

Sprenger said everyone needs to register at the registration table upon arrival. After registering, participants can choose between different workshops and classes without having to register for specific ones.

“Some classes do have limits on the number of participants they can accommodate due to the materials necessary for certain classes; those classes will be first come, first serve,” Sprenger said. “Many of our classes have multiple sessions throughout the day, so don’t be discouraged if you can’t make it the first time.”

The event will also have a “Swap Spot” feature, where people can bring household items and take what they need.

Sprenger said the Swap Spot will be a room dedicated to people bringing and taking old and new treasures.

“There will not necessarily be anybody assigned to stay in the room, but people can feel free to hang out in there and talk or trade as they please,” Sprenger said.

To learn more about Free School, you can find the event on Facebook at UWO Free School or visit the event’s website: sites.google.com/uwosh.edu/uwoshkoshfreeschool.



# McDonald, Devitt to run unopposed for president and VP

By Carter Uslabar  
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Ian McDonald and Sydney Devitt form the only official slate running for president and vice president in the Oshkosh Student Association elections.

McDonald currently serves as the vice president of the Oshkosh student body and Devitt is the OSA speaker pro-tempore. The two have collaborated throughout the year on bringing services to the campus, such as UWO Go and The Cabinet food pantry, which recently opened in Reeve Memorial Union.

McDonald said that the focus of the past year, alongside OSA president Jacob Banfield, had been transportation and food insecurity.

## Game show highlights fake news

By Amber Brockman  
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In 2016, a North Carolina man traveled to Comet Ping Pong Pizzeria in Northwest Washington, D.C. with a rifle and allegedly fired one or more shots, according to the Washington Post.

The man claimed he had come to the restaurant to self-investigate the false conspiracy theory that the then-Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and her campaign chief were running a child sex ring out of the restaurant. This is just one example of what can happen when someone fails to fact-check what they see online or in the news.

The Advance-Titan and Society of Professional Journalists are hosting a “Facts or Fakes” game show March 12 in Reeve 306 encouraging students to look beyond the story when determining if the news they see is truthful. Fact-checking has become an increasingly popular activity among the public.

“There’s some very interesting, sophisticated organizations that either try to debunk false statements or, a lot of them are human rights organizations that are concerned about, for example, the fighting in Syria,” SPJ adviser Miles Maguire said. “They’ve gotten to understand that the kinds of shards and shrapnel that result after different kinds of munitions.”

Maguire said part of verification is going out and looking at the story or the picture, but it’s also important to look internally at yourself to see what your biases are.

“It’s really important, when given the volume of information and misinformation that’s out there, all of us have to be better prepared and better equipped to analyze information,” he said.

When analyzing news, Maguire said people should be skeptical about everything, but also open to the possibility that anything could be true.

“What this exercise should do is at least open peoples’ minds and get them thinking about the news and preparing them to be more well-educated consumers of news,” he said.

Students interested in playing should arrive at 6:45 p.m. to register their group of four and the game will take place from 7-8 p.m. Prizes will be available for the winners, and refreshments will be provided after the game show.



Alongside continuing UWO Go and securing donations for The Cabinet next fall, McDonald and Devitt hope to focus on mental health and sustainability initiatives on campus.

“Making sure that we have large-scale events to educate students on such things like mental health and what they can do for themselves and their peers and their friends,” Devitt said.

McDonald and Devitt said they hope to collaborate with other groups on campus that have done work in sustainability and increase the scale of those projects so they have the widest impact on the student body.

This year, McDonald and Banfield have advocated for the creation of new OSA senate positions in an attempt to create more direct and diverse representation in groups and student government.

Previously, all senators had been considered at large, but on March 2, the OSA assembly approved a referendum that will be on the spring general election ballot to add 10 advocacy senators and five academic senators who will be required to identify and propose solutions to

issues on campus.

“It was kind of like, ‘Yeah, we’re a senate body, but nobody really has a specific function for groups on campus,’” McDonald said. “Now these advocacy and academic senators can speak to these marginalized groups on campus and be the connection between them and their student government.”

At the time of writing, OSA had received eight applications for senate positions compared to only two last year. McDonald and Devitt have known each other since freshman year and have worked alongside each other in student government through OSA, something they said makes them trust one another.

“Looking forward to next year, we felt we were the best equipped

with knowing the policies we’ve put in place, and for continuing to grow OSA,” McDonald said. “We felt excited to pick that up for another academic season.”

McDonald and Devitt said that they really care about what the student body wants and needs. They’re not tourists; they’re committed to the programs they’ve started this year.

“Based off the different things we’re involved with and our different experiences, and we think we have good outreach to different groups on campus,” Devitt said.

The OSA election will take place March 10 and 11. Students can vote through Titan Connection.



Carter Uslabar / Advance-Titan

In Northeast Wisconsin, 40% of workplaces have not adopted practices to compensate for the worker shortage.

## Labor barriers: Participation down nationwide

From page 1

2018 survey of 288 business leaders from multiple industries conducted by the New North, a regional nonprofit marketing and economic development organization.

“Employers are looking at creative ways to recruit talent,” White said. “It seems like entry-level workers are the hardest to recruit right now.”

Multiple factors are contributing to the labor shortage including declining birth rates, workforce retirements and employment barriers, White noted.

Three of the main barriers preventing workers from rejoining the labor market are a lack of soft skills, substance abuse and unreliable transportation, he added.

From the perspective of wage earners, low pay and a lack of employer loyalty may discourage them from seeking certain kinds of jobs, said Grant Withers, treasurer for United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1473, which represents members in Wisconsin and upper Michigan.

A recent survey of 601 manufacturers in Northeast Wisconsin found that over half of the employers reported communication and attendance as the skills most lacking. The NEW Manufacturing Alliance, a nonprofit that promotes the industry, conducted the survey.

Ann Franz, the organization’s director, said entry level workers lacking soft skills isn’t a new phenomenon. She attributes the lack of communication and attendance

skills to a culture change.

“When I was in school, my parents would never pull me out of school ever; we didn’t go on vacation,” Franz said.

She added that many parents don’t care about attendance in school anymore, leading to poor attendance in the workplace.

One employer working to combat the issue of attendance is Sadoff Iron and Metal Co., a scrap metal recycling company with facilities in Oshkosh and Fond du Lac.

CEO Mark Lasky said Sadoff offers financial incentives to employees with no unexcused absences in a year.

“In order to retain talent and recruit talent, you have to pay attention to culture and how you’re treating people,” he said.

But not all employers treat their employees well. For a long time, employers have undervalued their entry level workers, Withers said.

“I think you reap what you sow,” he said. “For employees on the lower end of the wage spectrum, what’s the incentive if they know their employer will pay them minimum wage, or as close to it as they possibly can.”

Beside a lack of soft skills, substance abuse also prevents people from entering the labor force in multiple ways.

Addiction is often associated with prior criminal charges, making it hard for those in recovery to re-enter the job market, according to Megan Reinl, Sober Living Program coordinator at Solutions Recovery, Inc.

She said past criminal charges

can sometimes force those in recovery to take low-wage jobs.

In order to help people in recovery find employment, Reinl believes there needs to be less of a stigma surrounding drug addiction.

Some employers haven’t been exposed to addiction, and everything they know comes from the media or what others have told them, which is “typically negative,” she said.

In terms of those unable to pass a drug test, there’s no clear solution as many jobs that do not drug test are lower-paying jobs, Reinl added.

“Low-paying [jobs] keep the person in poverty and then poverty and addiction are highly correlated,” she said. “So, it just keeps them in that cycle.”

That cycle can lead addicts to continue using, making any kind of stability difficult to achieve, Reinl added.

A job may only be one of the things that someone struggling with addiction may lose, along with family and children, she noted.

“There’s no balance because the drugs come first,” she said. “Whether it’s their priority or not or they want it to be or not, the drugs have taken over.”

For those dealing with addiction, options are available, but many are already strapped, Reinl said.

“Even for our sober living program, we almost always have a 10-person waitlist,” she said.

Beyond a lack of soft skills and substance abuse, transportation also prevents prospective workers from entering the labor force.

In Winnebago County, 81% of

job seekers report transportation as a significant challenge, according to Feonix Mobility Rising, a nonprofit that aims to enhance transportation options for underserved communities.

“If an individual relies on the bus and they work second or third shift and that bus ends, they don’t have transportation home,” outreach specialist Allison Knautz said in a video on Feonix Mobility’s website.

Make the Ride Happen Mobility Manager Holly Keenan said transportation affects people in every facet of their lives.

Even with additional skills training beyond a high school education, transportation can be a major barrier to employment, she added.

“If they can’t drive, they can’t live their lives,” Keenan said. “Maybe they’ll be able to piece something together with their neighbor or their friend or their girlfriend, but that’s going to get old.”

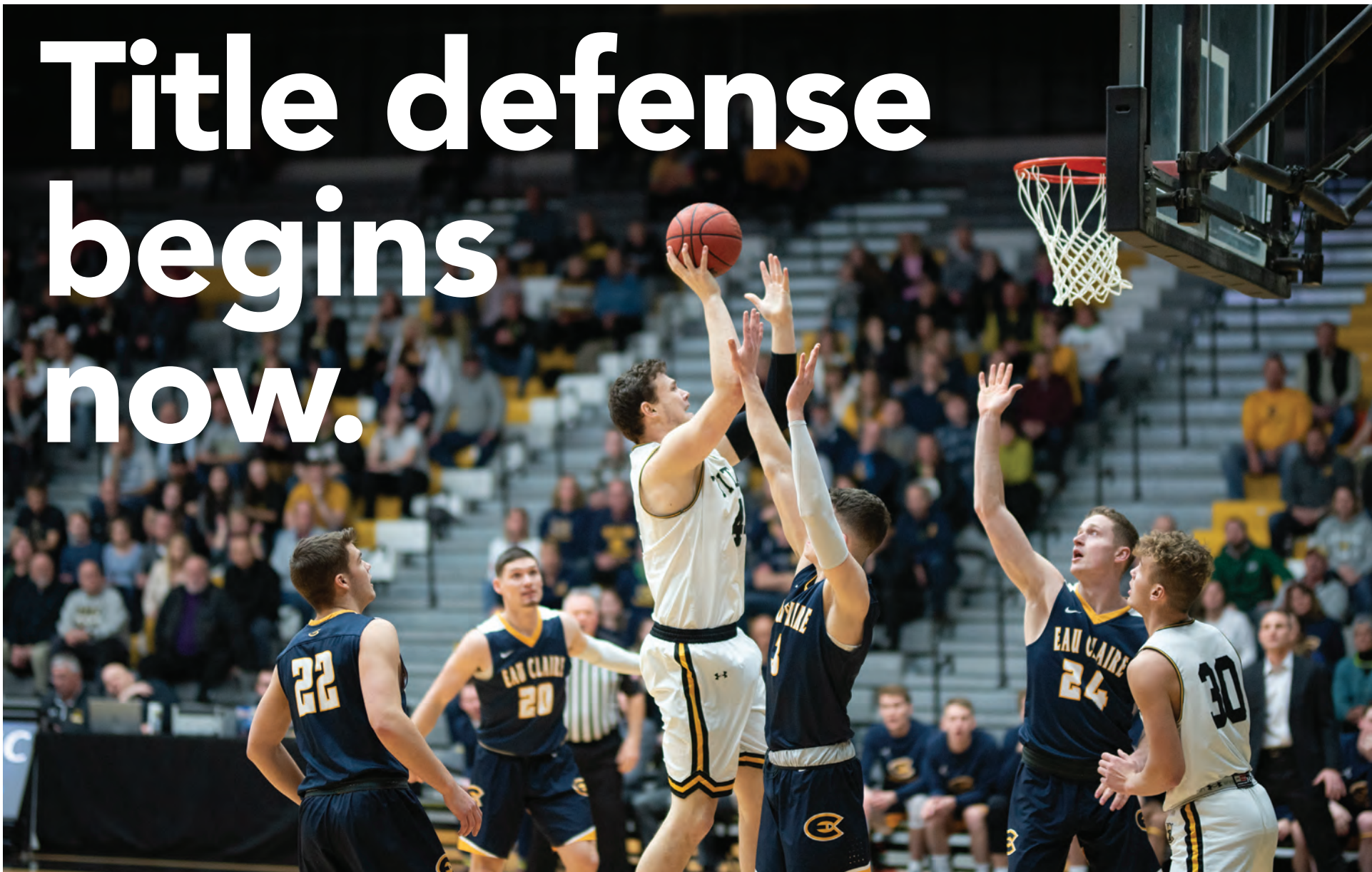
Labor barriers combined with stagnant wages make it harder for those who haven’t been in the labor market in quite some time to re-enter, UW Oshkosh economics professor David Fuller said. He added that there’s a misconception that people who aren’t working are lazy, and that there’s “really no evidence to support that.”

In order to get more people to enter the labor market, Fuller said wages would need to increase across the board.

“We’ve hit a point where the only way you’re going to be able to hire more workers is to pay them more,” he said.



Sports



April Lee / Advance-Titan

Senior center Jack Flynn tosses up a floater over UW-Eau Claire forward Spencer Page in UW Oshkosh’s 78-72 WIAC Championship home victory on Feb. 29. Flynn put up 19 points, eight rebounds and one assist. The Titans will ride their seven-game winning streak into Naperville, IL to play Transylvania University.

By Neal Hogden  
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The UW Oshkosh men’s basketball team beat both UW-La Crosse in the semifinal and UW-Eau Claire in the final of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament to secure a berth to the NCAA Division III men’s basketball tournament for the fifth straight year.

Winning the WIAC tournament gave UWO an automatic bid to the big dance where they will travel to Naperville, Ill. to take on Transylvania University (Ky.) in the first round.

In the tournament final, UWO faced UWEC, whom they lost to earlier in the season at Kolf Sports Center and defeated the Blugolds 78-72.

UWO entered the d3hoops.com Top-25 poll for the first time since week two after taking the WIAC Championship.

The Titans dominated UWEC on the glass as they held a 48-22 rebound advantage and held the Blugolds to just one second-chance point while recording 24 of their own.

That allowed Oshkosh to cover up a poor shooting night as they were out-shot in all facets of the game by Eau Claire.

Senior Jack Flynn led four Titan starters in double-digits with 19 points and eight rebounds while going 5-6 from the free-throw line.

Fellow senior Adam Fravert dropped 16 points and 14 rebounds on 7-7 shooting from the free-throw line.

Other Titans in double-digits were freshman Levi Borchert, who had 19 points and nine rebounds and junior Eddie Muench, who contributed 15 points and five

rebounds.

To get to the WIAC final, UWO had to get through UWL first. UWO needed overtime to take care of the Eagles as UWL mounted a late rally to tie the game at 64 at the end of regulation.

The Titans outscored UWL 12-4 in the overtime period as Fravert, Flynn and Muench all scored in the frame to lead UWO to its third victory over La Crosse this season.

The Eagles were held without a field goal as they missed on all six shots they took from the field in overtime.

After La Crosse senior Terек Nesheim picked up two early fouls, Flynn went to work on the inside. It led to dominant advantages in rebounds, points in the paint and second-chance points for UWO in the game.

Flynn led the Titans with 24 points and 12 rebounds with five of those coming on the offensive end. Fravert also recorded a double-double as he poured in 23 points and 13 rebounds.

La Crosse guard Ethan Anderson scored 25 points in the losing effort, going 8-13 from the 3-point line.

Two other WIAC schools will make D-III tournament appearances as UW-Platteville and UWEC will play Concordia Wisconsin and Whitman, respectively. Despite being ranked 23rd in the latest d3hoops.com poll, UW failed to make the 64-team field.

UWO’s first round matchup will take place at Merner Field House in Naperville, Ill. at 5 p.m. on Friday. The winner of UWO vs. Transylvania University will play the winner of No. 11 ranked North Central College (Ill.) and Adrian College (Mich.) on Saturday.



Allison Russotto / Advance-Titan

Senior Jack Flynn surveys the court for an open man in UW Oshkosh’s 76-68 home win in the WIAC semi-final on Feb. 27.



April Lee / Advance-Titan

LEFT: Levi Brochert works in the paint against UW-Eau Claire. RIGHT: Junior Eddie Muench cuts the net following the Titans’ win that solidified them as back-to-back WIAC Champions.



Carter Uslabar / Advance-Titan



# Consistent Titans close in on Eagles

By Greg Sense  
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The UW Oshkosh men’s track and field team placed second and the women’s team placed third at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Indoor Championship on Feb. 28 and 29.

The UWO women’s team recorded three individual champions, junior Cara Volz won the triple jump, freshman Libby Geisness won the 800-meter run and senior Ashton Keene won the 3,000-meter run.

Volz previously won the triple jump in the 2018 WIAC Indoor Championship, but missed the 2019 championship due to injury.

Despite struggling with injuries throughout the season, Volz’s triumphant comeback renewed her confidence and possibly earned her a spot at nationals.

“Recording my best jump of the season at conference was huge,” Volz said. “I have been struggling all season with injury and I just wanted to repeat as a champion since the last time I competed in the WIAC Indoor Championships. I was glad to be able to feel as well as I did ... this jump gave me my sense of who I am as a jumper back since my surgery and continuing injuries.”

The men’s team recorded two individual champions at the WIAC Indoor Championship, as sophomore Jonathan Wilburn won the triple jump for the second year in a row and sophomore Jamyle Brantley won the long jump.

Brantley credited his stellar performance at the WIAC Indoor Championship to hard work and preparation throughout practice.

“It felt amazing recording my best jump of the season especially on that big of a stage,” Brantley said. “It goes to show that all of the hard work put in building up to the championship is paying off.”

In addition to the individual champions, many other Titans finished on the podium at the WIAC Indoor Championship.

Among some of the Titans’ top



Volz



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Photoshelter

Sophomore Jamyle Brantley soars to a first place finish in the long jump with a distance of 7.25 meters, his best of the season.

finishers on the men’s team were freshman Jaylen Grant, who finished second in the 60-meter dash, senior Joe Vils finished second in the pole vault, sophomore Steven Potter earned second place in both the mile and the 800-meter run and senior Todd Beadle finished in second place in the 400-meter dash.

The 2020 WIAC Indoor Championship was one to remember for Beadle, as he recorded his fastest time in the 400-meter dash this season.

“It felt amazing,” Beadle said. “I never got on the podium for an individual event during the indoor season, so taking second in my event was a big accomplishment.”

On the women’s team, freshman Emma Warr finished second in pole vault, the distance medley group consisting of sophomore



Beadle

Alexandra Demco, senior Taylor Pralle, freshman Lauren Rabe and junior Amanda Van Den Plas also finished second.

The team results for the WIAC Indoor Championship for the men’s teams are as follows from first to eighth: UW-La Crosse, UWO, UW-Eau Claire, UW-Whitewater, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls.

The team results for the WIAC Indoor Championship for the women’s teams are as follows from first to eighth: UWL, UWEC, UWO, UWSP, UWW, UWS, UWP, UWRF.

Despite the men’s team finishing second to UWL, Brantley is as confident as ever in his team.

“Putting up the fight we did at the indoor conference championship gives me a ton of faith in my team,” Brantley said. “We came so very close to ending La Crosse’s 19-year championship streak. Instilling fear into their athletes at La Crosse is a huge accomplishment because we almost pulled off something that hasn’t been done

since 2001.”

The Titans will get the chance to compete again during the final qualifier opportunity for nationals on March 6 at Carthage College and March 7 at UWSP

Volz also has a strong belief that the UWO women’s track and field team is leaving the WIAC Indoor Championship a more confident, stronger team.

“We brought in our own energy and used it to our advantage in every way we could,” Volz said. “Our biggest take away from this indoor championship is realizing that no matter what place we took overall, no matter how we did in every event, we’re still not done yet and we have more to show.”



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Photoshelter

Sophomore Steven Potter cruised to a second place finish in both the 1 mile and 800-meter run.

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GAME SHOW

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Guess what is real or fake about politics, sports and pop culture.

6:45 p.m.

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GAME GOES FROM 7-8 P.M. REEVE 306

Refreshments 8-8:30 p.m.

PRIZES AWARDED!



# Firearm deaths: Examining gun ownership, rights and regulation

From Page 1

health checks involved in buying a firearm, but the background check form includes questions about the individual’s mental health.

“If they answer in a negative way, they don’t get the gun,” Spanbauer said. “The trick is they can lie and we have no way of knowing.”

On Aug. 1, 2019, Bonnie Tyson shot her husband, John Tyson, in the head before turning the gun on herself in Oshkosh.

Although he survived the incident, his wife legally purchased the weapon just days before.

“They had been married a long time and she had some mental health issues, I believe, and the family was aware of that,” Hinke said. “That is a situation that sticks in my head because I don’t know that anybody really saw that coming.”

Hinke added that there have been three similar situations within the past year in Oshkosh.

### Gun laws

Jon’s Sport Shop employee Jerry Lingnofski said background checks for handguns typically take 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

“We call the National Crime Information Center, the FBI-based background system and the state of Wisconsin has the background system that they use, so we can run them through the system,” Lingnofski said. “But most of the time with handguns, we’ll just call in.”

Lingnofski said handguns have a variety of uses.

“There are certain handguns that are designed for hunting but most of them are for sport shooting and concealed carry,” Lingnofski said.

In 2017, handguns were involved in 64% of the 10,982 gun murders and non-negligent manslaughters in the United States, according to the FBI. In 2015, Wisconsin repealed its 48-hour waiting period for handguns.

“It was, at the time, kind of a feel good deal,” Lingnofski said. “The problem with that is if somebody wants to do harm to somebody, they’re going to say, ‘What can I get right away?’”

Spanbauer said gun owners should be educated on when they can or cannot use their firearm.

“If someone in the middle of the road with a baseball bat is screaming ‘I’m going to kill you,’ you can’t do a damn thing,” Spanbauer said. “If they get within four feet of you with a baseball bat, again screaming ‘I’m going to kill you,’ then yes, you have a right to use your weapon.”

It’s important to understand Wisconsin’s firearm laws before using a weapon.

“The rules change in your home, outside your home, in public, in a place that has a posted sign that says, ‘No Concealed,’” Spanbauer said. “By getting your concealed carry license online, you haven’t been educated on that.”

Open carry is legal in Wisconsin, meaning people are legally permitted to carry a loaded weapon in public without a license or permit.

“You can strap a pistol to your



side and as long as it’s fully exposed, you’re completely legal,” Spanbauer said.

### WI on gun acquisition

Lingnofski said he thinks stricter gun control laws would not be effective in preventing gun violence.

“Criminal thinkers will always be criminal thinkers and they will figure out a way to get a gun,” Lingnofski said. “They could sit outside a gun show, follow the guy home and when the guy leaves, they could take the guns.”

Lingnofski said there isn’t a single solution for reducing gun violence in the United States.

“That’s like trying to diagnose each and every one of the 316 million people and that’s not going to happen,” Lingnofski said.

In Wisconsin, an individual is able to fill out a concealed carry form online and can obtain the permit without participating in safety training.

“We recommend you take a class, either in Green Bay or Appleton, there are several places that offer a good educational class,” Spanbauer said. “It’s important that you know what the rules are.”

Spanbauer said there’s a process that the individual has to know in order to determine what is considered a threat before using their concealed carry.

“You have to be 100% in the right,” Spanbauer said. “You’re going to go to the police station and how fast and how cheap you get out is based on how you answer and assess the situation before you had to use your weapon.”

Spanbauer said the gun market is bad right now, as far as handgun sales go.

“At one point in time, we would sell a gun a day but now we’re lucky if we sell two guns a month,” Spanbauer said.

### Increasing death toll

An average of 160 people die from gun homicides in Wisconsin every year, according to Everytown Research.

“If we look at the trends over the past 20 years, there’s obviously more frequency of murders involving guns,” Tarmann said.

UWOPD Chief Kurt Leibold said gun violence in the past revolved around drug dealing and the black market economy,

whereas now gun violence is becoming more common in arguments.

“People handle their disputes with guns instead of having a conversation,” Leibold said. “It goes right from an argument, ‘You disrespected me’ to ‘I’m going to shoot you.’”

Winnebago County Sheriff John Matz said there has been a decrease in overall crime in the county although there has been an increase in violent crimes.

“We have to make sure that we’re doing our best to ensure that we’re keeping weapons out of the hands of criminals and those that are mentally ill,” Matz said.

### Possible solutions

Democratic Party of Wisconsin Chair Ben Wikler said the government could be doing more to help protect citizens from gun violence.

“I think it’s shameful that Republicans refuse to take any action, especially when kids are going to school in all these communities across the state and are afraid of what might happen with gun violence,” Wikler said. “Things like background checks and extreme risk protection orders shouldn’t be controversial.”

Wikler said policy makers need to work together in order to implement laws that could help prevent gun violence.

“I think the thing that should’ve happened yesterday is the legislature should agree to join forces with the governor and pass universal background checks and extreme risk protection orders,” Wikler said.

The Republican Party of Wisconsin did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Leibold said he thinks there should be harsher penalties for illegal use of firearms or illegally possessing firearms.

“I believe that red flag laws should be enacted that allow judges the authority to remove weapons from people who have been deemed a threat to themselves or others,” Leibold said.

Leibold also thinks more restrictions should be put on gun sales, including universal background checks, mental health screenings and banning large capacity magazines.

Matz said gun shows should have more regulations than they

currently have.

“I think we could do a better job when it comes to background checks at gun shows,” Matz said.

He also thinks that there needs to be more communication about mental health between agencies and at home.

“We need to do a better job as family members and friends, paying attention and noticing those things,” Matz said. “I think we need to increase resources, making them available to those people that are having those short term problems, identifying what they are and helping them through that process.”

There were 50 weapons arrests in Oshkosh in 2017 and 2018, according to the Oshkosh Police Department’s annual report.

“I know we’re not going to arrest our way out of the drug problem and all the social issues that exist but we certainly still need to have that accountability piece and make sure we’re still prosecuting people that commit violent crimes,” Matz said.

Hinke said limiting gun violence starts at home.

“You should secure your own guns, talk to your kids about being a responsible gun owner and be a responsible gun owner,” Hinke said.

Hinke added that poor awareness about mental health could influence gun violence.

“We have a lot of mental health issues that are not being addressed,” Hinke said. “One of the biggest problems, I think, is information sharing between hospitals and police agencies.”

If someone is admitted to a hospital that could be a potential risk to others after their release, the police have no way of knowing unless the admitted individual signs a form.

“There’s this gap that prevents law enforcement from understanding who’s got mental health issues and when you’re filling out a background check and you say, ‘No, I’m not a convicted felon,’ that’s easy enough to figure out,” Hinke said. “It’s not easy to know whether or not you’ve been committed for a mental health issue or whether or not you use dangerous drugs everyday.”

Leibold said the issue of limiting gun violence shouldn’t be controversial considering the statistics.

“I believe conversations around gun violence should not be partisan but instead should be about the fact that approximately 100 Americans die from gun violence every day,” Leibold said.

Leibold said limiting gun violence should be a priority because it affects everybody.

“Gun violence brings down quality of life and if it happens frequently in the same areas of a city, it will cause business and industry to move to safer neighborhoods,” Leibold said.

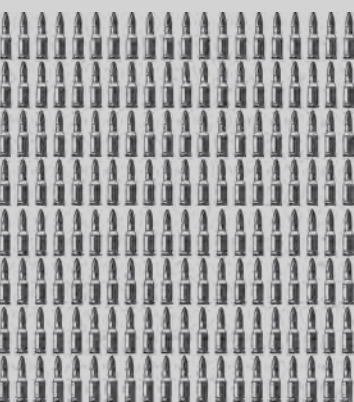
In 2018, 63% of Oshkosh residents felt safe in their neighborhoods after dark compared to 72% in 2017, according to the OPD annual report.

“The ever-present threat of gun violence is something that people live with everyday in communities across Wisconsin,” Wikler said. “There’s no reason that parents, community members and kids have to live with this fear.”

## Wisconsin firearms by the numbers



**43% of county homes have a gun in or around them.**



**160 people die from homicides in Wisconsin each year.**



**There were 100 weapons arrests in Oshkosh between 2017 and 2018.**



**9% less city residents felt safe in their neighborhoods in 2018 than 2017.**

Graphics by Tatum Spevacek



# Titans crowned WIAC champs, in NCAA bracket

By Cory Sparks  
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Urgency: that is something that the 2020 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champions, the UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team, has been playing with for the past four weeks.

They have shown out by only losing one game since Feb. 8. Despite being the No. 4 seed in the WIAC Tournament bracket, the Titans rung off three straight wins: a 68-60 home victory over UW-Stout on Feb. 25, a 81-65 domination at UW-Whitewater (No. 4 in the country at the time) last Thursday, and a 52-50 nailbiter at UW-Eau Claire last Saturday to solidify the team as back-to-back conference champions.

The upset against UWW was arguably the best game the Titans played all season, and it couldn’t have come in a more timely manner.

“We knew the game wasn’t going to be easy, but going into it we knew that we had to win to continue our season and have a chance at making the NCAA,” junior guard Leah Porath said after putting up a game-high 22 points while shooting 7-for-17 from the field and converting on seven out of nine free throw attempts.

The Titans outshot UWW 45.3% to 32.4%, and got the margin of their lead up to 26 points with 6:48 remaining in the fourth quarter.



April Lee / Advance-Titan

The Titans rattled off two consecutive upsets to become back-to-back WIAC champions. The team won at UW-Whitewater by a score of 81-65 and defeated UW-Eau Claire 52-50 on their home court.

They also outshot UWW from behind the 3-point line by shooting 37.5% to Whitewater’s 25%. The Warhawks took 18 more shots than the Titans.

“We went into the game with a winning mindset and knew they were a beatable team since we already beat them once this year,” sophomore guard Katie Ludwig, who put up 15 points on a 4-for-6 shooting effort from beyond the arc, said.

They then traveled to Eau Claire

and played a game where they never trailed. Oshkosh hung onto a lead that only got as large as eight points with 1:28 left in the first quarter.

Ultimately, they clung onto their 52-50 when an Eau Claire player missed on a three-point shot that left her hand milliseconds before the final buzzer sounded.

When the game ended, the Titans hoisted up their 14th WIAC tournament champions banner and their second in as many years.

“We are super excited to be back to back WIAC champions,” Porath said following a win that gave the team their 16th NCAA postseason berth. “It is a very rewarding feeling. We know that the next game won’t be easy, and we are ready to have a great week of preparation.”

The Titans gathered to watch the 2020 Division-III women’s basketball tournament, and at approximately 1:30 p.m. on Sunday they found out that their first-round opponent will be the Edgewood Col-

lege Eagles. The Eagles are sitting at a 25-2 record; this is a complete turn around after going 0-25 just three years ago during their 2016-17 campaign.

The two teams last faced off on Nov. 21, 2017, and Oshkosh won rather comfortably by a 93-31 margin.

The matchup will take place on Friday, March 5 at 5 p.m. at Bethel University in Arden Hills, Minnesota.

## Baseball starts season off 1-2

By Josh Woolwine  
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The Titans split weekend competitions at Sauget, Ill. with an 8-5 win over Concordia University Chicago and a 2-1 loss against North Park University.

“We need to be better at making hard contact and working the count to get the starting pitcher out of the game quicker,” head coach Kevin Tomasiewicz said. “We also need to realize that every play could be the difference maker in the game. We are a really young team and we will learn that quickly.”

A missed opportunity to put some runs on the board came earlier when the Titans failed to capitalize on a bases-loaded, no-out situation in the bottom of the first against North Park.

Following that tough loss the Titans rebounded nicely with an impressive 8-5 victory over nationally ranked Concordia University Chicago in Saturday’s second game. A double by fresh-

man Jake Andersen drove in the runs to give UW Oshkosh their first lead of the game in the top of the fourth inning.

“Growing up it is always a dream of any kid to be up in big situations,” Andersen said. “It was a great moment that I won’t forget. It’s a great feeling that the first one came the way it did, hopefully there’s many more like it in the future.”

The Titans continued their onslaught with a three-run top of the seventh before a comeback bid by Concordia fell short as the Titans picked up their first win of the season.

“After the loss and the first game jitters, we stepped back and reviewed our approaches at the plate that we have been working on for the past five weeks,” Andersen said. “This allowed us to see more pitches and forced them to start their bullpen early.”

The Titans finished their weekend with a heartbreaking loss to another nationally ranked

team in Webster University, who came out on top 4-3 in 10 innings. A back- and-forth match-up led to junior Sean Cummins hitting a game-tying RBI single that would lead to the game going to extras. Webster would then drive in the winning run in the bottom of the 10th to walk-off the Titans.

The Titans will now prepare for their next set of games against Berry College (Ga.) on Friday, Adrian College (Mich.) on Saturday, and Denison University (Ohio) on Sunday in games that will be played all the way down in Georgia.

“We will practice a couple of times and work on the things that we feel as a coaching staff we struggled at,” Tomasiewicz said. “Our schedule resembles a nice baseball schedule where we are playing consistent games on the weekend. The weekend will be a tough test again for us, facing another two ranked teams.”



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Photoshelter

Senior pitcher Matt Wiechmann had a quality start win on Feb. 29 against Concordia University in Chicago, Ill. He pitched seven innings with seven strikeouts, and only gave up three runs in the 8-5 victory.



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Photoshelter

Sophomore Kaira Hammond finished her Saturday outing by finishing second in the balance beam with a score of 9.60 and third in the uneven bars with a score of 9.40.

## Gymnastics prepares for regionals

By Jonathon Samp  
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UW Oshkosh gymnastics came away with a win over Gustavus Adolphus College (Minn.) this past weekend by a score of 186.525–178.950.

UW Oshkosh was ranked third and Gustavus Adolphus College was ranked 12th going into the meet. The Titans were able to post their seventh consecutive meet with a score greater than 186 points.

Emily Gilot lead the Titans

with two first-place finishes in her events. Gilot scored a 9.775 in the vault which was good for first place. The vault was an event the Titans dominated as they filled four out of the top five scores for that event.

Gilot also tied for first in the uneven bars with a score of 9.425, and was closely followed by fellow teammate Kaira Hammond who scored a 9.400 in the event.

Olivia Keller also contributed to the Titans’ victory with a first-place finish in the floor exercise by scoring a 9.625 in that event.

Hammond tallied a score of 9.600 which was good for a second-place finish as well.

With the win over Gustavus Adolphus College, the Titans have won their past three consecutive meets. However, their focus shifts to the WIAC Championships which will be held in Eau Claire.

The competition will be tough as the Titans enter the week ranked No. 5, but will have to face some stiff competition as UW-Whitewater sits at No. 1. They’re followed by UW-La Crosse who is ranked No. 2 and UW-Stout who is No. 4.



# Total beast

By Carter Uslabar  
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In the Arts and Communication building on the UW Oshkosh campus, Richard Kalinoski sits in his office wearing light jeans and a shirt and tie beneath a Calvin Klein zip-up jacket. Books of plays and papers sit every place, and behind the door a blown-up review in the Courier-Journal of his play, “Beast on the Moon” adorns the wall.

“Beast on the Moon” is Kalinoski’s most successful play, having been awarded numerous Molière Awards, Ace Awards, being recognized by the American Theatre Critics Association as the best new play in America from an emerging playwright in 1996.

It also received the Khorenatsi Medal on behalf of the country of Armenia by former Armenian President Robert Kocharyan and the Agnoui Award from the Armenian Relief Society of North America.

But success did not come to Kalinoski quickly. He attended the undergraduate program at UW Whitewater studying English. He was mostly interested in writing poetry, but chanced upon a summer program for American students to study at Oxford in England, where he took a course about Shakespeare.

“I was fascinated with the process, and fascinated with doing it, and so when I came back to my home campus at Whitewater, I just said ‘Well, I think I could write a play,’” Kalinoski said. He ended up writing a full-length play in about a semester. “I ended up getting some acting students together — I wasn’t in the theatre department, I didn’t even really know them — and we ended up presenting it in the basement of a high-rise dormitory.”

Kalinoski ended up creating a theatre company, the Wells Theatre Company, named for the Wells dormitory that it was founded in, and he ran that through the rest of his academic career at UWW.

After graduating with a Master of Fine Arts in playwriting from the elite Carnegie-Mellon in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kalinoski’s career splintered off into multiple experiences surrounding drama; directing, teaching in a high school theatre department, the head of a prominent children’s theatre in Seattle, Washington, and eventually ended up at Nazareth College in Rochester, New York.

Kalinoski’s work on “Beast on the Moon” began when he was teaching at Nazareth College. But the story’s origins begin much before then. Kalinoski had been married to an Armenian-American woman who had parents who had survived the Armenian genocide. One spoke English, and Kalinoski was able to



Carter Uslabar/Advance Titan

Richard Kalinoski has won numerous awards for his play, “Beast on the Moon”

spend time speaking with them and learning about their experiences.

“I had not contemplated writing a play inspired by them,” Kalinoski said. At the time, he was in graduate school and he wrote a play called “Lifetime” about an Armenian family with children, living in the midwest. “[Lifetime] was produced at my graduate school and I didn’t really know what to do with it, and many years passed, and a colleague of mine at Nazareth College said, ‘There’s something here of value; you need to revisit this.’”

Kalinoski took her advice, and he took up his pen and fashioned a single, long scene — what’s now the first scene and nearly a quarter of the play. He invited friends and acquaintances to semi-public readings he had arranged, which led Kalinoski to write more scenes, a full act and so on until the play was completed.

Kalinoski finished the play in 1995. In all, the writing took about two years; two years of writing, interviewing Armenians he had met in the Rochester area and a friend whose father was an Armenian historian to hear their story.

“By 96 I was starting to get offers from across the country,” Kalinoski said. “96-99 I had productions in various places in the U.S. and I think it was in 98 that I got an offer to have it produced in London and Paris. I think it was in 2001 when it was done really seriously in Paris and it won a bunch of awards, which eventually led to a whole bunch of productions across Europe, and they’re still going on.”

Having graduated from Carnegie-Mellon in 1972, it wasn’t until 1995 when Kalinoski saw significant success and recognition given to his works, after being accepted to the prestigious National Playwriting Conference for his play “Between Men and

Cattle,” as well as “Beast on the Moon’s” completion and increasing success.

“It’s been mostly a blessing, but there can be a real serious mixture as well,” Kalinoski said. “It’s also been often confusing because having your play produced in other countries appears to be promising, or exciting, and worthwhile and all that, but sometimes it can be awkward.”

Awkward, Kalinoski says, because sometimes theatres will take liberties with his play without first consulting him such as when a well-established community theatre added an extra character. Kalinoski said the play can’t accommodate any other characters on stage.

“It was produced in the Moscow Art Theatre in 2004, and I went for the opening,” Kalinoski said. “They had gone through the formal procedure of getting permission to do the play, and my agent and I had agreed, and that was great, and I was excited about it because it was the Moscow Art Theatre, which was founded in 1898.”

When Kalinoski got to the theatre, the company still hadn’t paid him the advance, which is interestingly called an advance because it’s meant to be paid before the production. At the theatre, Kalinoski was given the money in cash.

“They ended up doing the play for 13 years and they’ve never paid me anything beyond that first episode of paying me American dollars in cash,” Kalinoski said.

Overall, the experience for Kalinoski has been positive.

“It’s been exciting, obviously and illuminating and at times joyous,” Kalinoski said.

Kalinoski’s “Beast on the Moon” premieres Thursday, Feb. 27, and will show for two weekends. Tickets can be purchased on the theatre department’s website or in the box office of the Frederic March Theatre.



## James Kies’ Key Picks

Hello! My name is James, resident music composition student and music lover! This week’s picks hold a special place in my heart, but not one you might think. These are all songs I discovered since the last installation in this series. Kicking this week’s playlist off is Puma Blue’s “Moon Undah Water.” This song’s about someone you have had interactions with but they don’t feel the same way as you do. BONES’ “Vertigo” is a pessimistic rap anthem that can be analyzed in many ways. KUČKA’s “Real” is a dreamy song about making your dreams into reality. Mad Zach & yunis’ “Noth” is an instrumental electronic piece that invokes a feeling of “all is well” along with a somewhat longing nostalgia of things that once were. The 1975’s “Fallingforyou” is a whimsical song that is almost obviously about falling in love with someone so wonderful but so unattainable. Enjoy!

### Moon Undah Water

Puma Blue  
Moon Undah Water  
2018



### Vertigo

BONES  
OFFLINE  
2020



### Real

KUČKA  
Real  
2019



### Noth

Mad Zach, yunis  
Noth  
2018

### Fallingforyou

The 1975  
IV EP  
2013





# UWO grad passes 1 million TikTok followers

By **Jelissa Burns**  
burnsj29@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh alumna Christine Juhas has recently become viral on the trending app, TikTok. She has almost 2 million followers on TikTok and over 110,000 followers on Instagram. Juhas graduated from UWO in December 2017 with an Radio/TV/Film major. She aspires to be a TV sitcom writer or producer.

**Were you doing TikTok videos before your first viral one?**

The



Courtesy of Christine Juhas

Kristine Juhas graduated from UW Oshkosh in 2017.

content that I put on my TikTok, I’ve kind of always made videos like that, but I used to just put them on my Snapchat for just my friends and family to look at.

**When did you actually start posting on TikTok?**

I started actually posting stuff on to TikTok in November of 2019. I didn’t know anything about the app before that, but then some girls at my work kept sending me videos from TikTok, so I was, like, ‘I’ll just post some of my old videos from Snapchat that I’ve saved,’ and if anyone outside of my friends and family want to watch them they’re there.

**Did you plan your first viral video or did you really just go buy a cactus?**

I really did just go out and buy a cactus. Me and my friend went to Walmart one night because she wanted to go look at the clearance section that’s in the back. I saw these four little cactuses, and I was like ‘Oh I think I want that one,’ for no reason. She tried to talk me out of it, and I initially put it back, but then I came back because I thought it’d be funny to have a cactus. Then that night, when I went home, I was just in my bathroom and I was like ‘OK, I have this cactus, now I have to figure out what to do with it.’ So, I just started recording a video and that’s what

happened. It really was by accident.

**When did you start to realize your video was picking up on views and how did you feel?**

I must have opened the app and it might have had a couple hundred thousand views and I thought, ‘Oh, what a weird video for people to like,’ and then I think I opened it a few hours later and suddenly a million people had watched it. I was in my room beside myself just freaking out. I think I called one or two friends and was like, ‘You’re never gonna believe this, but this video I posted has a million views.’ I never expected that after everything. Overnight, I think I gained over 300,000 followers.

**When did you hit a million followers on TikTok and how did you feel when you saw that?**

I don’t remember the exact date\* but I was in my room texting one of my good friends like, ‘Dude, I’m about to hit a million followers on TikTok.’ Above everything else, I couldn’t believe over a million people had seen my face. I couldn’t believe that

that many people had seen my face or my bathroom — I was just beside myself. I’ll never even meet a million people in my life and that many people have already seen my face. I did cry, for sure. I did shed a couple tears because who wouldn’t?

*\*Christine hit 1 million followers on TikTok on Feb 11.*

**Do you have plans to stay on TikTok or do any brand deals/sponsors?**

I’ll definitely stay on TikTok because that’s where my big audience is at the moment. I mean, as long as TikTok is around, I guess I’ll be on it. It can’t hurt for the exposure. As far as brands or sponsors in the future, I’m open to it, but just like anyone else I wouldn’t want to represent something I don’t believe in. I’m really just posting videos to make people laugh or distract them for a minute or two. As long as people wanna see the videos, I can make them.

TikTok: @Christines\_snaps  
Facebook: Christine Snaps  
Instagram: @Christines\_snaps  
YouTube: Christines Snaps

# UWOSO plays ‘Star Wars’ and more



Courtesy of UWO Flickr

UWOSO members prepare to play music from famous sci-fi films.

By **Jelissa Burns**  
burnsj29@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh Symphony Orchestra will be performing their first concert of the Spring 2020 semester on March 18 at 7:30 p.m.

The theme of the concert will be “movie music.” Most of the pieces will be from John Williams, a famous composer responsible for film scores that are easily recognizable today.

The concert will include pieces from “Star Wars,” “E.T. the Extra-terrestrial,” “Schindler’s List” and “Close Encounters of the Third Kind.”

Eli Vang, who plays the bassoon in UWOSO, says that the concert will be enjoyable for audiences of all kinds.

“People can expect the whole ‘wow factor,’” Vang said. “It’s gonna be very pretty and very wonderful to hear.”

Two of the pieces will be led by student conductors, Jake Falcon and Tim Fitzpatrick. while the rest will be led by conductor Dylan Chmura-Moore.

The theme of movie music was a very special choice for Chmura-Moore.

“It’s important and excit-

ing that we play music in all styles and in every time period,” Chmura Moore said. “This makes us more compassionate people, more well-rounded people, and better musicians. And, to be honest, playing film music is just a good ol’ time.”

They will be performing well-known classic pieces that define the films they emerged from.

“I am looking forward to playing one of the main songs from ‘Star Wars.’ It’s called ‘Across the Stars,’” Vang said. “It’s very pretty and I’m excited to play it.”

Music lovers, movie lovers and anyone looking for a fun and new experience should attend the UWOSO concert.

“[Expect] an escape to other worlds, melodies that will make your heart ache, rhythm that will boil your blood and highs that will shatter the glass on our phone,” Chmura-Moore said.

This is a one-night only event, so don’t miss out. Tickets for students are free while the price for non-students is only \$10. You can purchase tickets at the front doors of the event.

The concert will be performed in the Arts and Communication Center’s Music Hall.

UWO Oshkosh Presents

**BEAST ON THE MOON**  
**A LOVE STORY**

By Richard Kalinoski

Directed by Richard Kalinoski

**UWO Oshkosh – Experimental Theatre**

**Feb. 27-29, 2020 @ 7:30 pm**  
**March 5-7, 2020 @ 7:30 & March 8, 2020 @ 2 pm**

Adults: \$14.00  
Senior/Alumni with TitanCard: \$11.00  
Students with ID \$6.00  
UWO Student, Faculty and Staff \$5.00  
To order tickets: (920) 424-4417 or uwosh.edu/theatre  
Box office opens February 24, 2020,  
Box Office Hours | Monday, Feb. 24 - Friday, Feb. 28, 2020  
Noon - 4 PM | Monday, March 2 - Friday, March 6, 2020  
Noon - 4 PM and 1 hour before each performance.



Opinion

Cult classic ahead of its time

By Nolan Fullington  
fullin38@uwosh.edu

Dr. Griffin has made a scientific breakthrough when he turns himself invisible. However, with great power comes great financial and personal gain when Griffin decides to sell his invisibility potion to the highest-bidding nation so that an invisible army can rule the world.

This film was very much ahead of its time due to not only its special effects. “The Invisible Man” is quite astonishing just by how the camera moves, even though it’s mostly moving on a dolly track.

This is a rather odd film to view through a modern lens because with a film today, you usually have a main character you follow. Regardless of whether they’re the protagonist or not, you can identify with that main character and understand their decisions.

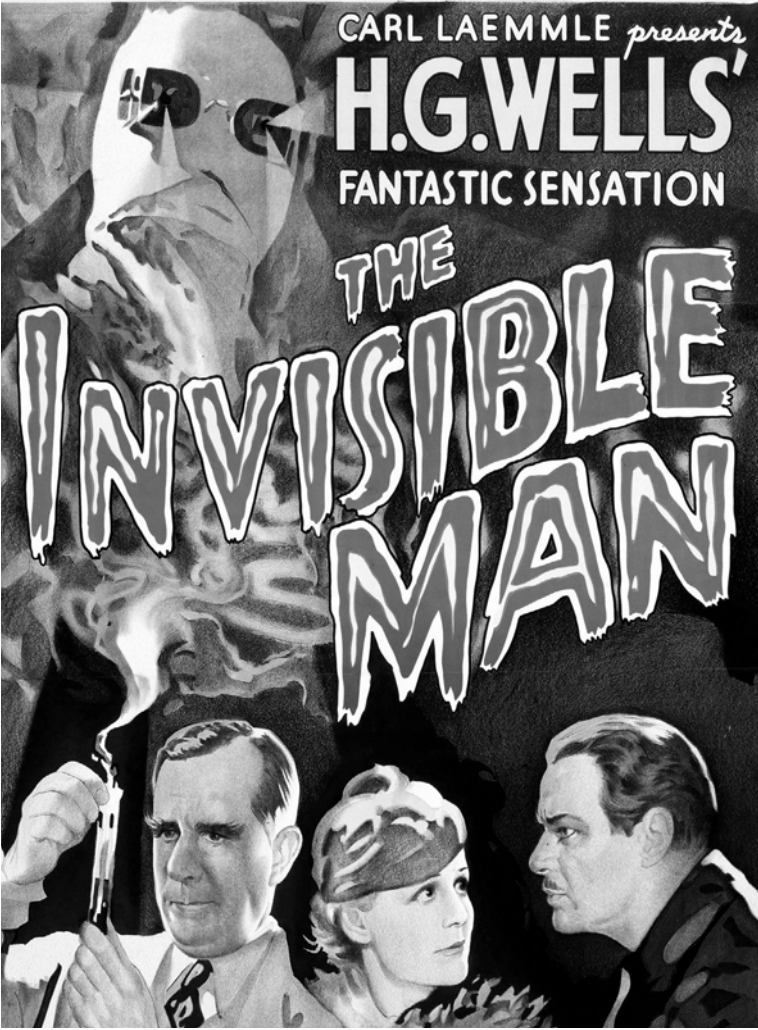
However, in “The Invisible Man”, the main character is Dr. Griffin and he is so inconsiderate to everyone around him to the point where he finds it hilarious.

The theme of the film is how power can corrupt the average man, which is a fine theme, but perhaps don’t make him the main character because he’s psychotic. It really isn’t too much of an issue because the tone is goofier and less serious like the 2020 remake.

Essentially, Griffin is doing it all for a girl. They are both very much in love and he is a poor man. He believes that making such a great scientific breakthrough will lead to fame and fortune, but he gets greedy and goes mad with power.

He plans to sell the potion to the highest-bidding world nation and profit off of it. His verbatim dialogue is, “Reign of terror, murder of men, derail a few trains and strangle some people.”

It’s understandable if Griffin wants to make money by selling the potion, but there are a myriad of occasions in this film where he goes out of his way to harm people because he finds it hilarious, which



adds to the goofier tone of the film.

Claude Rains has a very difficult job in this film, which is acting underneath a mask. This was his first role in a feature film, so his voice and how he emotes was the most crucial aspect of the film.

The effect of having Rains appear invisible on-screen was achieved by filming him in a separate environment in front of a black backdrop, similar to how green and blue screens are used today. He then wore a tight black velvet suit under his clothes, so when he removes his clothes in the film, he blends into the background, creating the effect of invisibility. When not on-screen, the crew just filmed nothing and pretended the character was there. And that all comes down to executing the wonderful wirework in the film to achieve the

effect of an invisible man interacting with a real environment.

This is definitely a more plot-driven film as only Dr. Griffin is focused on. There is his love interest character, Flora, but she has so little screen time that she’s almost not a character. The new 2020 film looks to focus on the female character and not the Invisible Man.

This H.G. Wells adaptation definitely struck a nerve with people in the 30s, but may feel very quaint to today’s audiences because it’s “old” and “boring.”

This is not a “horror” film, though it’s categorized under the universal horror monster genre. It is a straight science fiction and fantasy film with elements of horror in the form of how power can corrupt man.

Remake terrifies audience

By Nolan Fullington  
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“The Invisible Man” (2020) is the Blumhouse-Universal co-produced remake of The Invisible Man. After several embarrassing attempts at doing something with the original universal Monster movies, universal has now leased their property to a production company who actually specializes in making low-budget horror films.

Cecilia (Elisabeth Moss) escapes the custody of her overprotective boyfriend, which results in his suicide. However, Cecilia believes he is not dead, but rather ruining her life by pulling wacky practical jokes on her.

In horror, the most frightening, most terrifying thing is what you don’t see; the ability to fill in the gaps with your imagination is what truly makes something haunting and impactful. This is why H.G. Wells’ novella “The Invisible Man” is such a prolific stroke of brilliance. However, that

is merely a concept. Just because it solely exists, that sole concept alone does not give merit to an instantly great film.

The positives of “The Invisible Man” (2020) are very strong ones. I’m glad to see that Leigh Whannell’s style is very pronounced in this film. His choice of camera movement creates this deep sense of terrifying curiosity where the camera pans into negative space, as if panning to a person who is not there. It lent to some very gripping scenes of tension, which this film exceeds at stupendously.

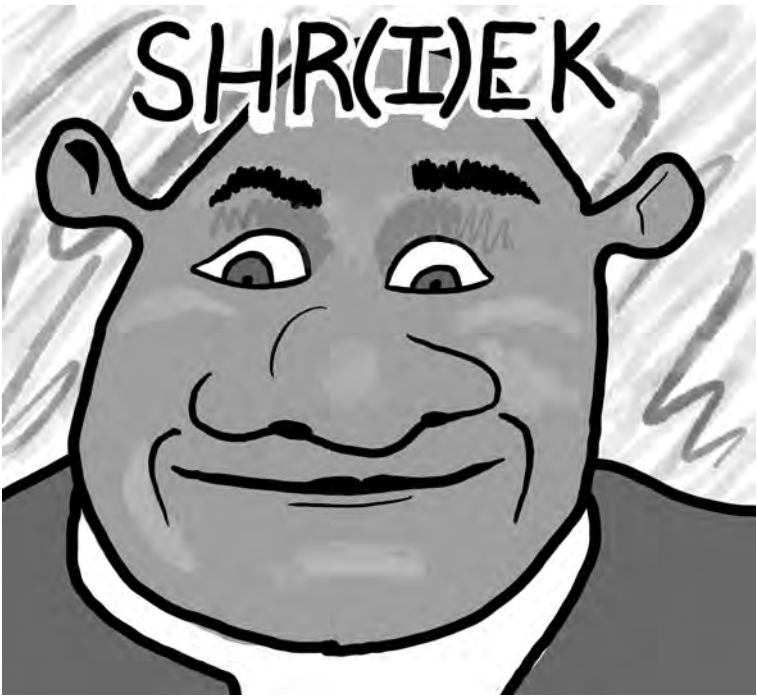
While Dr. Griffin was the main character in the 1933 film, the love interest character is the one we follow in the remake (a character so horrendously underdeveloped in the 1933 film).

Elisabeth Moss does a splendid job at selling this character which everyone around her is very unsure of and it leads to her deterioration throughout the film. She really leads the film with her constant internal conflict that is played externally.

Now, the issues are also very much in the forefront as I found the film to be very banal as a whole. The film first presents itself as a psychological horror film and it leads to one of my greatest fears, which is being admitted into an insane asylum knowing full well that you are absolutely not crazy.

The last twenty minutes of the film also felt like a very corny soap opera where, in order to keep the audience hooked for next week’s episode, twist after twist is presented to “blow our minds.” It felt very contradictory and it leaves you with no real satisfaction to everything that was set up over the span of a long two hours.

When you look at the premise alone of “The Invisible Man”, there seems like this well of brilliant potential that I feel has not been used to its fullest. Even the small giallo twist to this film cannot add anything to, what I thought, was a solid, yet straightforward horror/thriller with terrific atmosphere and sound editing.



Pinocchi-oh my God, my ears are bleeding

By Carter Uslabar  
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Welcome to my review of UWO-Fox Cities’ production of “Shrek” the musical. The show was spectacular, by which I mean it resembled a spectacle. From my perch in the balcony, behind a bald man with a scar — or possibly a dent — on his head, I watched this musical unfold. So what about it?

Much like the height difference between Shrek and Lord Farquaad, the show had its highs and lows.

Shrek, played by Lorenz Marcus, is told from age seven that it’s a “big, bright, beautiful world,” but not for him, and he’s sent away from his parents. In his swamp, he takes this to heart and becomes a sort of happiness-incel, cursing anyone capable of enjoying life and its bounties.

The show’s excessively reclusive character was dull, and caved unrealistically quickly to Pinocchio’s plea that he go to Duloc (cleverly renamed Du Lac) and convince or coerce Lord Farquaad to give the fairy tale creatures their land back.

In Shrek’s defense, the fairy tale creatures, led by Pinocchio, are so insufferably irritating, I too would surrender myself to a fiery dragon just to be free of their presence.

Pinocchio’s jokes and costuming are painfully insipid and cringe-worthy. Let me guess, he’s going to say something all defensive-like, and then his nose will grow? Please, the jokes were as stale as the stench of beer in a freshman’s dorm.

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By way of costuming, I was let down. For a production with such an exceptional set, I would have expected better costuming for Shrek than green face paint and what appeared to be a hood. As for the swarming mass that was the rest of the cast, they all blended into one unremarkable crowd of trick-or-treaters.

One costume that did stand out was that of Lord Farquaad, played by Kevin Plekan, which was comic in a very postmodern way. To

achieve the effect of Farquaad’s short stature, Plekan bumbled around the stage on his knees, with flimsy puppet legs dangling before him. This, combined with the heavy arm swinging required when walking on one’s knees, gave off the playful, whimsical manner common to some drunk types. It also made for truly exceptional dance scenes, punctuated by his awkward, shuffling movements.

The stage’s design was first-rate, with smooth transitions taking mere seconds, minimal and effective set pieces, and lighting that left me totally awed, most notably in the scene when Shrek and Donkey, played by Ericka Wade, are crossing a bridge over a moat of lava. A warm, orange light spun around the stage as the bridge was slowly pulled across the stage, the two of them climbing over it left to right. The light added such complexity that I couldn’t help feeling the drama of the moment.

Lyrically, the musical fell shorter than Farquaad. With the exception of Amanda Petersen’s powerful and rich solo as the dragon, I spent the majority of the musical questioning whether I was mistaking volume for vocal skill. What emotion there was in “Shrek” was a product of the marvelous pit orchestra, conducted by Todd Wegner, although I have my reservations about one particular moment in the musical that can only be described as a symphony of flatulence.

Sadly, in regards to the aspect of musicality, there was no — I repeat — no rendition of Smash Mouth’s “All Star,” which, if you’re anything like me, is ubiquitous with “Shrek.”

As a whole, I don’t believe “Shrek” had the emotional depth that was perhaps intended, and many jokes were rather hoary. The musical was peppered with bits of meta humor, which were sometimes funny, and sometimes negatively impacted the pace of the show. The show’s acting and singing was generally hit or miss, with consistent, quality music from the orchestra. I’d give “Shrek” three out of five stars.



# Opinion

## Cult classic ahead of its time

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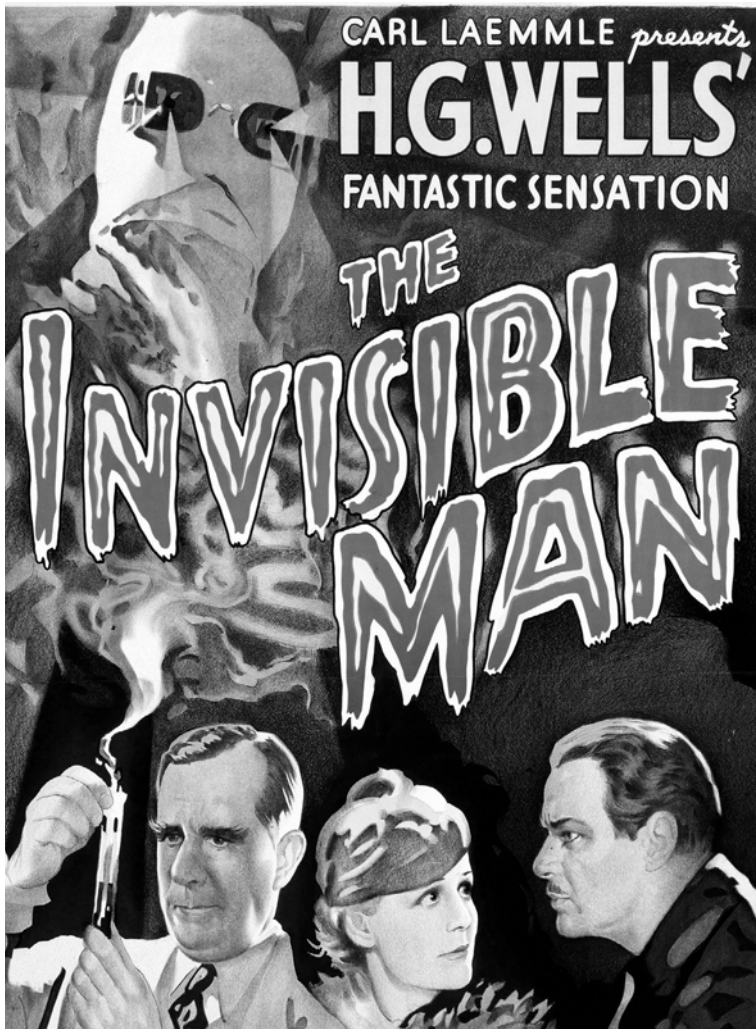
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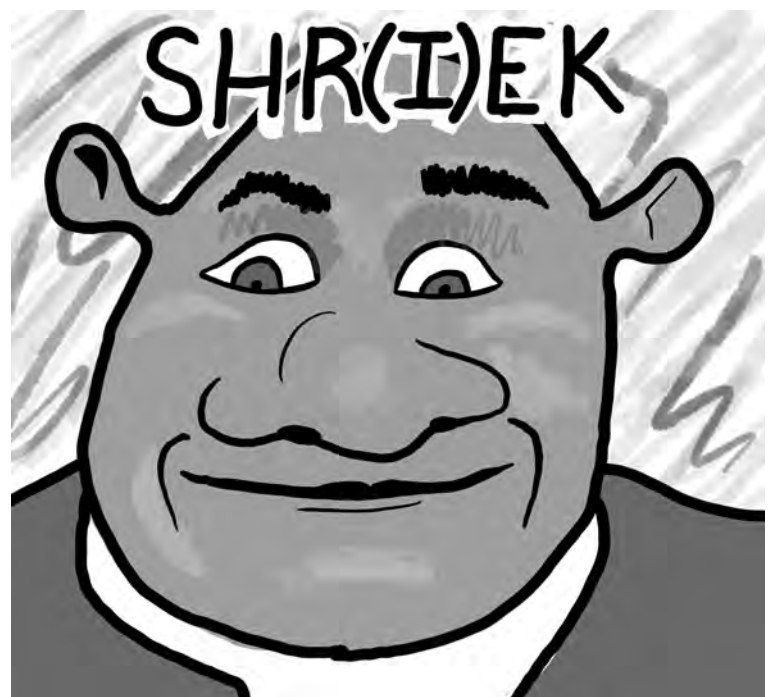
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