

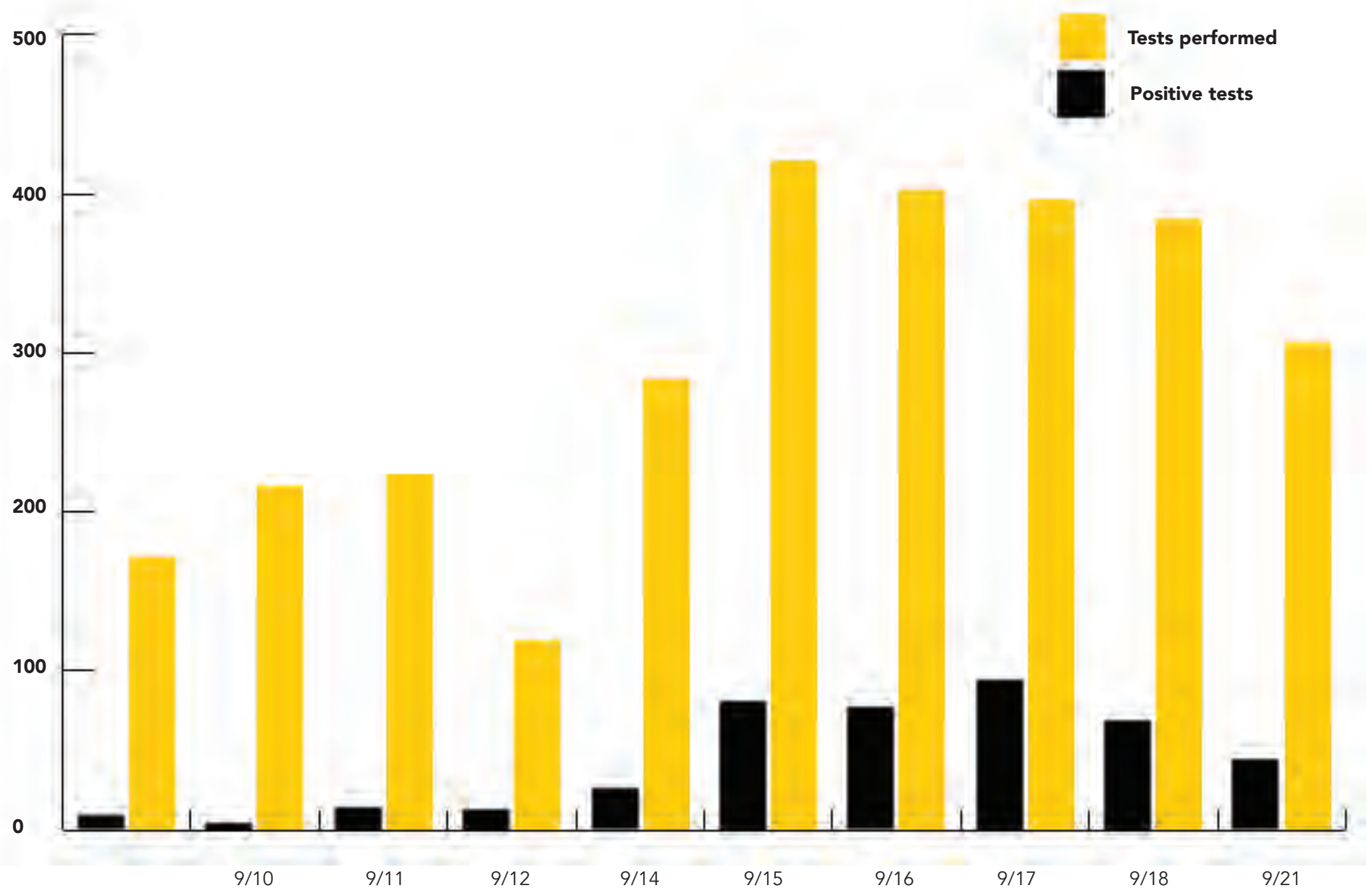
# The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUSES

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Graphic by Carter Uslabar

COVID-19 cases on the UWO campus rose in the semester's second week, followed by a small drop pre-and-post weekend. Data representative of UWO on-campus rapid antigen testing reported on the university's COVID dashboard as of Sept. 22, 2020.

## As COVID cases rise, administration pleas with students to avoid close contact

By Heidi Docter  
docteh72@uwosh.edu

Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and other members of the UW Oshkosh administration answered student and parent concerns related to COVID-19 protocols on campus in a virtual town hall meeting Tuesday.

"There are lots of safety measures and protocols that we need to adjust to, and there are more that we will add," Leavitt said. "We are stressing individual responsibility to build and preserve a culture of collective safety. Our Titans Return plan works best when people follow the protocols and when we adapt as we go."

### New Protocols

The university's plan to implement additional restrictions on campus came in an email from Leavitt on Tuesday.

"Beginning Thursday, Sept. 24, in-person seating in dining areas will be closed to all students, faculty and staff for two weeks," Leavitt said in his email. "All food from these locations must be taken to go: Blackhawk Commons, Titan Underground, Reeve Marketplace, Reeve Coffeehouse, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Café Clow and Scotty's."

Leavitt also stressed the impor-

tance of vigorous and consistent testing at the meeting and in his email.

"Beginning next week, we will test all residence hall students for coronavirus every other week," Leavitt said in his email.

Director of Risk and Safety Kimberly Langolf said the testing resources on campus are plentiful and they will continue to accommodate any student who wishes to get tested.

"We want anyone that feels like they need to get a test to get a test," Langolf said. "For off-campus residents, we've seen a lot of students that either they're maybe not having symptoms but maybe they have a close contact or they have a concern and we really try to accommodate them as quickly as we can."

### Tracking student cases

According to Leavitt, the rate of positive tests on campus is around 17%, but the university would like to see it below 5%.

Chief of Police Kurt Leibold said the higher rate of positive COVID cases on campus is in part due to the university's testing strategy and the number of tests the university administers.

"We know, by design, that we are going to have more positive tests, but the idea is we're going

to take out the positive students and then we should start seeing a decline in our positive numbers," Leibold said. "We kind of hit that surge, but we're seeing in the last few days our numbers are starting to come down again."

Leavitt, who said he spent some time in the isolation residence hall, said the majority of students he talked to had only mild symptoms.

"The No. 1 complaint that they had was the lack of taste or smell," Leavitt said. "Most of the students were moving around fine."

As of right now, the Student Health Center is not aware of any student hospitalizations due to COVID.

Langolf said the Student Health Center sees around 10-15 new cases daily, and they're working to keep in touch with students who exhibit symptoms.

"We in the Student Health Center are following students who are in the isolation dorm who have symptoms," Langolf said. "So we, daily, are reaching out to students who have been newly diagnosed with COVID-19."

To keep in contact with every student who has tested positive, the university plans to increase the number of employees available to reach out to those who

have tested positive.

"We are hiring some grad students that, on a daily basis, will be making phone calls to every student to follow up, to do wellness checks with them to see how they're doing," Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Art Munin said.

### Housing and Food Refunds

Many students and parents raised the question of being refunded for housing costs if a student wants to leave campus or if classes move fully online.

"Any student that would like to request the cancellation of their housing contract can do so by emailing [housing@uwosh.edu](mailto:housing@uwosh.edu)," Munin said. "If you are approved, you do get a refund prorated up to the day that you move out."

Attendees also raised concerns over the quality of meal plans being offered to those in quarantine dorms and asked if meal plans can be canceled during the semester.

"As long as students live in the residence halls, they are required to have a meal plan," Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor Jean Kwaterski said. "We don't have kitchen facilities in all residence..."

Jump to **LEAVITT** / page 2

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About the Newspaper

The Advance-Titan is an independent student newspaper published on campus since 1894. The paper is written and edited by students at UW Oshkosh who are solely responsible for content and editorial policy. Any UW Oshkosh student from all three campuses is welcome to work on the newspaper staff.

The Advance-Titan is published on Thursday during the academic year.

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.

Latest Awards

First Place Best of Show Newspaper, Associated Collegiate Press (ACP), 2020  
Third Place Best of Show Website, ACP, 2020  
Fifth Place Best of Show Special Edition, ACP, 2020  
First Place Wisconsin Newspaper Association Foundation (WNAF) Better Newspaper Contest, 2020, in column writing, sports photography, page design and newspaper promotion  
Second Place WNAF Better Newspaper Contest, 2020, in public affairs reporting, editorial writing, column writing, infographic, page design, website and advertisement creation.

# Leavitt: ‘We will climb out of this’

From page 1

halls for students to prepare their own food so I would really want to work with anyone who’s having an issue with the meals.”

As for the quality concerns, Leavitt and Kwaterski assured that the students in quarantine are receiving a variety of quality foods, and UWO food service provider Aladdin is working with the university to better the meals students receive.

“We have frozen entrees which are freshly prepared and then frozen,” Leavitt said. “You have fresh food, you have fruits and vegetables, and so you have, I think, a pretty good sampling of different kinds of food that’s available to students.”

“I do understand that there were some disappointing meals in the beginning of the semester, and Aladdin has stepped up and made changes at Blackhawk Commons,” Kwaterski added. “I know they are always willing to hear from us when it comes to issues that we’re hearing about.”

Kwaterski said if students or parents have concerns about the meals being served to students, they can direct questions to food@uwosh.edu.



Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and other members of the UW Oshkosh administration answer student and parent concerns related to COVID-19 protocols on campus in a virtual town hall meeting.

**Making the move to online?**

In Leavitt’s email, he states: “You may have heard of other UW System campuses moving all instruction to online. We are not taking that step here at UWO.”

He said they expected a rise in cases when the semester commenced, but the rise is not coming from in-person learning.

“We know from the data that the transmission of the virus is not occurring in the classroom, or quite frankly even in academic buildings,” Leavitt stated. “If we had a high rate of infection in

the classroom, then I would say yes, going online for two weeks would be a good way to knock [the positive cases] down.”

Because faculty and staff are not being impacted by COVID yet and the cases seem to be coming from the residence halls, Leavitt said they have no plans to move classes fully online.

Leavitt said they were expecting some students to behave recklessly and put others at risk by not following the university’s protocols, and he said in his email that students who don’t follow safety protocols could

face probation or suspension.

He asks students to continue to wear masks, socially distance and to stop their reckless behaviors for the good of the campus.

“We will climb out of this; how quickly we are able to move forward, at this point, is largely dependent on your willingness to do everything you can right now to keep yourself and others safe,” Leavitt said.

For more information on COVID protocols on campus, visit the Titans Return website.

## Online voter registration ends Oct. 14

By Steven Devine  
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The Wisconsin General Election is on Nov. 3, and for those on college campuses like UW Oshkosh, being registered to vote is a must, according to James Kruger, UW Oshkosh associate professor of political science.

Kruger, an expert on voter registration, says one of the big things for students to know is that if they voted in the 2018 election, they are ready to vote

again in this year’s election.

“You will still have to show proof of ID when you get to the polls, but you will not have to re-register unless you have changed your address,” Kruger said.

Kruger says students will have to make a decision on where to vote. It has to be between the university they go to or their hometown.

“Students are in a bit of a bind here on our campus and every other campus, because they have to make the choice of whether

they want to vote at their permanent address or if they want to vote at their campus address,” he said. “They cannot vote at both; that’s fraud. But you do have the option to vote at whichever one you choose. So if you have recently voted at your permanent address, you would not need to re-register if you are voting at your permanent address again.”

For those interested in voting in Oshkosh, Krueger says re-registering in the city is beneficial since it can impact city council, which in turn could

change laws involving those living off campus.

There is a three-week period before the election where residents are not able to register online, so students looking to register online must do so by Oct. 14.

Voters can also register to vote by mail until Oct. 14, but even after the deadline, voters are still able to register on election day. To register online go to myvote.wi.gov.

## College students face identity theft

By Amber Brockman  
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College students are very susceptible to identity theft, with many scams accommodated toward them, according to the Better Business Bureau.

By taking proper precautions for monitoring and detecting fraud, the likelihood of becoming a victim of identity theft is greatly reduced.

“The easiest way to avoid identity theft is to keep your personal and financial information secure,” assistant criminal justice professor Matt Richie said.

Students should never give out their Social Security number, unless absolutely necessary, or allow anyone to use their identification for any purpose.

It is also vital to use strong passwords and be sure of who you’re talking to on social media.

“Most attempts to gain personal information is through communication on the internet,” University Police Detective

Mike Bartlein said. “A common way they do this is to tempt the student with an offer too good to be true.”

“There are multiple ways for a student to become a victim of identity theft, but the most common is to give away your personal information to someone on the internet or by phone,” Bartlein said. “For example, a student receives a call from a person pretending to work for financial aid, or a student loan department requesting private information. The student is told without providing this information the services would be put on hold.”

Students should be aware of their surroundings and keep their personal effects, such as wallets and purses, close by.

“The residence halls pose a unique problem because of the communal nature of the facilities,” Richie said. “Individuals can and often walk into a friend’s room with another friend and students may not think twice about it until there is something missing.”

Although anyone is at risk of identity theft, it has become exceedingly rare because most people are careful with their personal information, and technology has evolved substantially to protect this type of information.

“In 2019, there were a reported 5,023 cases of identity theft in Wisconsin,” Richie said. “Given the 5.8 million individuals who live in Wisconsin, the odds are certainly in your favor of not being a victim of identity theft.”

Richie said that the hype surrounding identity theft among college students is rooted in the idea that they are inherently irresponsible.

“In my experience, I find that college students are more responsible than many give them credit for – they know not to share their Social Security number, their phones and laptops are typically not just left out and, for the number of things left behind in class, I have never found a wallet or purse,” Richie said. “This tells me that students are more aware of the pitfalls of technology and

act accordingly.”

If someone suspects or knows they are a victim of identity theft, they should immediately notify the police.

“The victim should put a hold on all their financial accounts,” Bartlein said. “The victim would need to place a fraud alert and request a credit report with one of three credit bureaus; Equifax, Experian and Transunion.”

With the right information and a knowledge of how to extract funds from someone’s bank account, victims could be left penniless in a matter of minutes.

“There are legal safeguards in place to retrieve the stolen money but it will require the victims of identity theft to do the legwork to get their money back which could take days to weeks to months until they are made whole again,” Richie said. “But the bottom line remains that students are protective of their personal information.”





# OSA Assembly adapts to COVID

By Carter Uslabar  
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The UW Oshkosh Student Association Assembly discussed why it will not vote on legislation and more university COVID concerns in their first meeting of the semester.

“Going into this new semester, with all the room attendance policies and limitations, we couldn’t accurately project and guarantee the level of participation the Assembly needed to meet quorum,” OSA office manager Tyler Klaver said. “So that affected voting and passing legislation through the body.”

To meet quorum requirements, the OSA Assembly needs representatives from at least 51% of active student organizations. With the new virtual meetings and lowered attendance, it may be difficult for the Assembly to regularly meet quorum.

“Last spring when the campus shut down, the max number of participants who participated virtually was maybe 22 or 23, and we were able to continue because what happened was unprecedented,” Klaver said. “We kind of relaxed the attendance policy, but this semester we can’t do that.”

Klaver said because of the risk and the inability to guarantee quorum to meet, the OSA can’t have legislation waiting in for the assembly’s approval.

OSA Senate will continue to meet and vote on legislation.

Missy Burgess, OSA co-adviser, addressed an assembly member’s concerns about the university shutting down after the Oshkosh Area School District made the decision to transition to all-virtual learning starting Sept. 24.

“On the emergency operation committee, we look at the data every day to determine what we should do,” Burgess said. “They meet with public health on a regular basis, and at this point — it’s always out there — but I can tell you that there are other measures they would look to first.”

Burgess said it seems less likely that the spread of COVID on campus is related to going to in-person classes.

“While Oshkosh Area School District decisions definitely impact campus, and campus staff have kids at home, the two aren’t married together,” Burgess said.

“Doing whatever we can to stay safe — I think that’s what’s going to allow us to stay open,” Burgess said.

# The bipartisan fight to end WI gerrymandering

By Sophia Voight  
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Former majority leaders of the Wisconsin Senate Dale Schultz (R) and Tim Cullen (D) joined together to end gerrymandering in Wisconsin in an effort to create a more representative government in the state.

Schultz and Cullen have been traveling around Wisconsin educating people on the disadvantages of gerrymandering and proposing policy solutions for nearly a decade.

In a panel discussion over Collaborate Ultra on Sept. 16, Schultz, Cullen and Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Debra Cronmiller discussed how the adoption of the “Iowa solution” could end unfair mapping in Wisconsin.

Gerrymandering is the drawing of representational districts to create an unfair political advantage for one party.

“Gerrymandering is about abuse of power; it’s about one party having total power,” Cullen said.

Cullen said gerrymandering occurs when one party controls both houses of the state legislature and have legislators draw representative districts in their favor.

“They win the election the day the maps are drawn,” he said. “Election Day really doesn’t matter if you create a 60-40 district for one party,” he said.

Schultz and Cullen suggested that the People’s Map Commission created by Gov. Tony Evers to draw and submit nonpartisan maps to the Legislature implement Iowa’s approach to redistricting into Wisconsin’s maps.

Under the Iowa redistricting system, non-partisan staff draws the lines with a nonparti-

san approach. Drawers are required to:

- Refrain from using political data such as political affiliations of registered voters and previous election results.
- Make districts contiguous and compact, and not irregularly shaped.
- Never take the address of incumbents into consideration.
- Keep cities and counties intact to the fullest extent possible.

Schultz said the legislation seems to be very popular in Iowa as no legislators have tried to eliminate the system in the 40 years it has been around.

“It’s popular with people, they get to decide who their representatives are; the representatives can’t decide who their constituents will be,” Schultz said.

The People’s Maps Commission will be holding virtual hearings in all eight congressional districts beginning Oct. 1 to get input from citizens on their electoral districts.

Cronmiller said it is a huge injustice to our electoral system to not have fair maps in Wisconsin.

“Our forefathers and foremothers fought for fair representation and fought for a system of representative government,” she said.

Cronmiller said gerrymandering allows elected officials to secure their seats in upcoming elections regardless of whether they listen to their constituents.

“We don’t get good government; we get another form of contentious government that does not represent the people,” she said.

Cullen said when officials are secure in gerrymandered districts, they don’t talk to their

constituents about issues because they know they have enough support among party lines to win elections.

Gerrymandering allows officials to pass legislation that doesn’t necessarily support what the majority of Wisconsinites want, according to Cullen.

Cronmiller said banning gerrymandering is the only real path toward a more representative government.

“It is not a system that was designed in our making and it’s not a system that most Wisconsinites want,” she said.

According to a Marquette Law School poll, 72% of the public prefer redistricting of legislative and congressional districts to be done by a nonpartisan commission.

Schultz said gerrymandering also leads to more divisive politics, because politicians don’t need to listen to constituents or debate opponents to win elections.

“People don’t listen to each other; the great debates of the past have disappeared, and we find ourselves no longer interested in hearing what others have to say,” he said.

Cullen said incumbents don’t debate their opponents when they’re in gerrymandered districts, because they already know they’ve won the election.

“They just say ‘I’m not debating you’ knowing that the majority of the voters in their district will stick with them, no matter how outrageous their behavior is,” Cullen said.

Cronmiller said having fair maps would bring back a civil dialogue, where politicians interact with their opponents and constituents.

“I think this is really the way we restore our governance when we elect people that represent us and our opinions,” she said.

# A collaborate(ive) effort: Toward bi/pan/poly acceptance

By Heidi Docter  
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COVID-19 doesn’t stop the UW Oshkosh BiPanPoly Group from gathering and discussing LGBTQ+ activism in 2020, and last week’s BiPanPoly online event was made special by a visit from Victor Raymond.

Raymond, who has a Ph.D. in Sociology, was part of BiNet USA, a group of bisexual advocates that started in 1990. Raymond was able to visit the White House with BiNet while former President Barack Obama was in office.

Others on the panel included Alicia Obermeier, a recent graduate of UWO; Haley Olson, a current UWO student; Amney Harper, an associate professor in the Department of Professional Counseling; and Liz Cannon, senior lecturer and director of the UWO LGBTQ+ Resource Center.

The panel started the discussion by identifying themselves and discussing their sexual orientation and what it means to each of them.

“One of the reasons why I continue to identify as bisexual is because it gets discriminated against a lot,” Raymond

explained. “And I think it’s important to own the radicalness of it.”

A few of the panel members said that the labels used to define their sexual orientation gave them a sense of freedom.

“I identify as bisexual, and I would say for me it really hits home because it’s an identity that I can use to just feel free to love whoever I want,” Olson said. “It means a lot to me because for a while when I was little, I always felt this way but could never put a label to it.”

Harper discussed the progression of their identity over time as they learned more about terms within the LGBTQ+ community and as their attraction changed over time.

“I started identifying first as bisexual because that was the word I knew,” Harper said. “I shifted to queer because it helped to explain a little bit more of my experience beyond just sexuality. [Then] I started using the term polysexual, because I think it’s actually more accurate for how I experienced attraction.”

Speakers then started to discuss the societal challenges that the Bi/Pan/Poly community faces due to lack of understanding.

“So often people in the Bi/Pan/Poly community are seen as having more privilege compared to lesbian or gay,” Harper said. “You’re often told ‘Well, you can retreat into privilege at any point you want to.’ And yet, the research shows the opposite — the research shows that bisexual people have more negative outcomes than anyone else.”

According to some panel members, the invisibility of their sexuality that comes with dating someone of a different gender is another challenge they face.

“If [two partners] appear to be different genders, then the assumption is that they’re straight,” Raymond said. “How does someone bisexual, pansexual, polysexual — how do they get seen?”

They discussed the personal and institutional-level activism they do to try to combat the misconceptions and negative connotations that come along with being bisexual, pansexual or polysexual.

Community building, helping others to discover and explore their own identities, leading by example and having conversations with people who are curious about their community are

personal activism situations the speakers face every day.

“The smallest but the most rippling form of activism is being yourself,” Obermeier said.

On a more institutional or organizational level, some panel members have experience working in LGBTQ+ activist organizations, while others plan to continue their activism through their education.

“Ideally, I’d love to get a doctorate in some kind of LGBTQ studies, women’s studies, and eventually be a professor,” Obermeier said. “If I have my goals aligned in that kind of way — of sharing knowledge, attaining knowledge, always be willing to learn — those are my greatest strengths in being an activist.”

Even the smallest forms of activism can have the biggest impact on helping others to understand the Bi/Pan/Poly community, some panel members said.

“Everyone who’s watching right now, whether or not they’re intending to be, they’re being an activist,” Obermeier said. “And I think that’s something already very special.”



# Gerrymandering: Helpful or harmful?

By Ian McDonald  
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In a democracy, it is the voters who choose the politicians to represent them in Congress. However, what if the politicians began cherry picking voters to increase their chances of winning? It’s been happening for centuries, and it’s called “gerrymandering.”

Gerrymandering is a term used when voters in congressional districts are divided or combined to favor one political party over another. While gerrymandering isn’t new, recent advances in data gathering and analysis makes it easier to accomplish as well as address.

How is it done?

Political districts are man-made boundaries, usually drawn by state legislatures after a national census once every 10 years. If one party has a majority in the state legislature, they can draw districts that favor their party.

To do this, mapmakers must often draw odd shapes to include or exclude the voters they want.

This happens in one of two ways: “packing” or “cracking.”

Packing is when a district is packed with voters of one party. This concentrates the other party’s voters into fewer districts. As a result, their party wins fewer districts overall.

Cracking is when an area with a high amount of Democrats or Republicans is broken up into multiple districts. Voters are broken up to reduce their power in a given district.

How do they know?

So, how do legislatures know who you voted for or what party you belong to when drawing new district lines in modern times?

Data, and lots of it. It is often collected by third party entities willing to sell it off to politicians who are looking to gain an edge on the political landscape.

This data can come from election results of each precinct, surveys of voters in exit polls, public data (census data and property records) and the data people create and share every day from smartphones, fitness trackers and other gadgets.

All of this data can be used to create algorithms that categorize who is more likely to be a Democrat or Republican based on your demographics (age, gender, edu-

cation), where you live and your behavior online and in the store.

Algorithms are essentially instructions that tell a computer what to do with all of the data and inputs it receives. They are designed to process and analyze massive amounts of user data and can make suggestions, inferences and predictions.

From someone’s age and address to what someone searches online or posts on social media, everything can be tracked and recorded into algorithms that will determine the likelihood and strength of political leaning.

This can be used to tailor advertisements that speak to one’s political profile (like Cambridge Analytica), predict and respond to political opinion changes (like with Twitter) and can be mapped, “cracked” or “packed” by politicians who choose what voters they want in their district.

While data technology means gerrymandering is more sophisticated than in 1812, data can also be used to identify inconsistencies, alternatives and inform constituents.

For example, what if, instead of politicians in state legislatures, a computer program redraws the districts to minimize the distance between each person and the center of their district, removing all other factors while keeping population even?

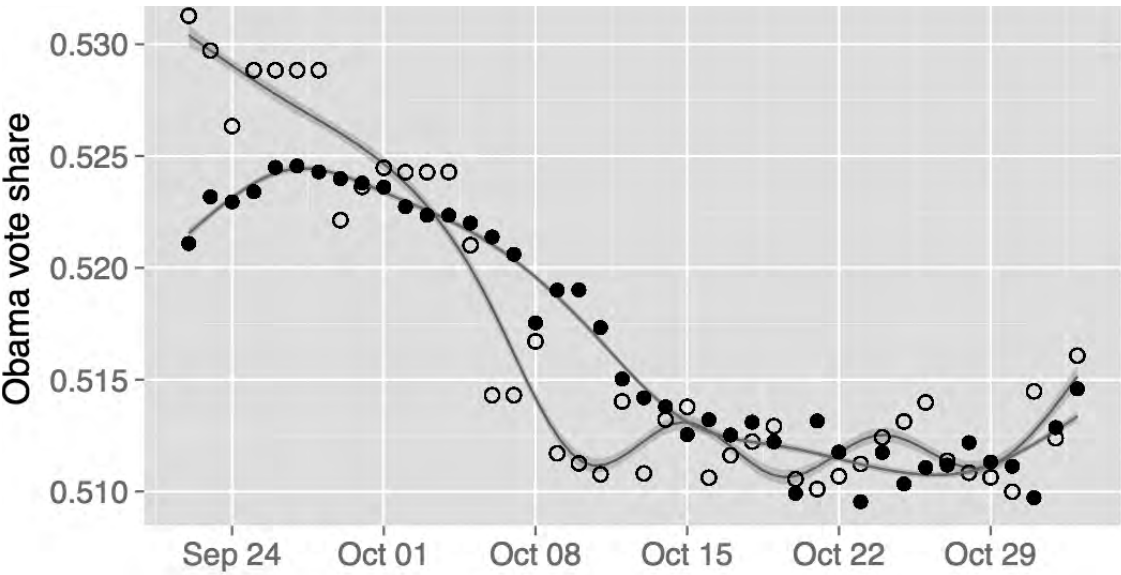
A graduate student at Oxford University, Jory Flemings, conducted such an analysis using an algorithm. His model drew districts that were a third more compact than the districts drawn in the 115th congress.

These computer-generated districts increased swing districts from 15% to 28% indicating elections would be more competitive if population and compactness were the only factors.

A range of computer models can be created to model alternative districting plans and to flag possible partisan gerrymandering that is so severe that it unfairly represents voters.

However, the definition of fairness is not universal and can be measured in many different ways. Any computer model raises its own questions about how fairness is measured and who it is for, according to Moon Duchin, associate professor of mathematics at Tufts University in Massachusetts.

Provisions to help guide a fair



Beauchamp data in his study on state level polling and Twitter. This data set is representative of Ohio’s state polling where open circles indicate polls and closed circles indicate poll predictions based on tweets that can affect voting behavior.

democratic process do exist in legislation like the 1964 Civil Rights Acts, which bars any state from drawing political boundaries that interfered with the representation of minorities.

But beyond race, gerrymandering is largely unrestricted. In 2019, the US Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 decision that federal courts could not determine if a district is too politically partisan and that such a decision needed to be made in Congress.

This begs the question, to ensure a stronger and more representative democracy, do we leave the power of redistricting in the hands of man or turn it over to the hands of a machine?

I think there are two factors that need to be brought to light. First, we live in a society that is more mobile and connected than ever before.

Looking at other options

Ultimately, populations are ever changing and increasingly on the move, but tracking political trends through technology is becoming easier and easier. Thus, gerrymandering will likely become more convenient and valuable.

But, this leads to my second point, if we put all of our political trust outside of humanity and hand it over to a computer, what does this say about the confidence within ourselves to make the right decisions about our democratic process?

Recently, a few states have found another option that can consider both sides while being nonpartisan. Nearby Michigan,



A political cartoon of a gerrymandered map in Massachusetts in 1812. The term comes from this election when then Gov., Elbridge Gerry, signed a district map into law that was drawn to favor a political party. People thought the new district looked like a salamander, which was called the “Gerry-mander.”

specifically, voted to create an independent redistricting commission to oversee the drawing of congressional districts that comprises four Republicans, four Democrats, and five individuals who do not identify with either party.

While certainly not the end-all, it shows yet another option.

Democracy should be guided by data technology because technology is not going away. While the amount of information today is unparalleled, data has long

played a role in shaping society, for better or worse.

Data and technology are just tools, and like all tools, can be used to rebuild and reinvent or tear down and divide. How we harness the power of data is a test to our character and the soul of our nation in which we belong. We should use technology to aid us, not restrict us or replace us.

*Sadie Baile contributed to this article. The full version of this piece can be found on [advancetitan.com](https://advancetitan.com).*

## Letter to the Editor

### I can’t get no... representation

By Shouacua Xiong  
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If you look up the word, “Hmong” on The Advance-Titan, only one article from each year pops up, usually highlighting Asian Heritage Month. Once you hit 2018, however, things get pretty interesting.

Racist rhetoric from a UW Oshkosh student targeting Hmong students received more coverage

than any other Hmong topic of the past three years combined.

As a Hmong student here at Oshkosh, I thought the immense support for us that came after this incident would lead to more representation on campus, and The Advance-Titan to show that we, as Hmong students, belong here.

But, when I saw that the lack of coverage resumed right after I thought this message was pertinent to share.

We are people with achievements and lives worth mentioning. Highlighting our struggles without giving us representation does nothing but make us feel like we are a story only worth writing about if there is adversity involved.

It gets tiring seeing our struggles as a community being highlighted as if our contributions to this campus are only newsworthy when someone attacks our

existence. Let us talk about our achievements and experiences. Interview us about our journeys and showcase our talents.

Writing articles about racist incidents and demanding justice while still not giving Hmong students a platform to speak feels like a missed opportunity.

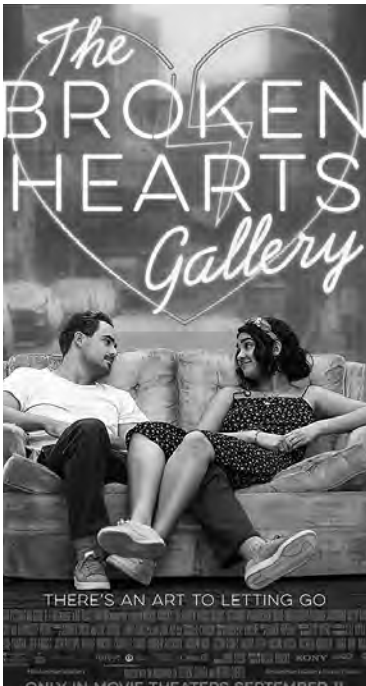
It’s like we are being listened to, but not truly heard. It’s like we are being seen, but not truly supported.

There are over 300 Hmong students attending UW Oshkosh today, but not one article that truly represents the individuality of them.

In order to keep the momentum of the support going, you must be willing to share our lives and our stories so others can see that we are meant to be here and that we are worthy of being heard.



# ‘The Broken Hearts Gallery’ is a feel-good film



**By Lexi Wojcik-Kretchmer  
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“The Broken Hearts Gallery,” produced by Selena Gomez, is a feel-good film that anyone can relate to, even if they’ve never been in a relationship.

The movie’s key takeaway is to cherish memories and not things. Who knows? Maybe it will be the next exhibit in the Allen Priebe Gallery.

The film focuses around Lucy, a woman in her mid-twenties, who has hoarded various items like a necktie, a hat, piggy bank, from all of her past relationships. When she meets Nick, a 20-some-year-old who seems to have his life together, who gives her a place to let go of these items and be free of her toxic relationships.

Lucy turns this idea into an art

gallery that she shares on social media, and it goes viral; hundreds of people from New York City bring their old keepsakes to the gallery and tell their stories about these random items.

Nick and Lucy start to fall in love while making the gallery, but are faced with plenty of obstacles, such as exes and money, which are quite predictable. But what romantic comedies aren’t?

They’re made to be predictable, but also made to make you laugh and smile, which is exactly what this movie does with it’s interesting characters, like Jeff who never says anything, and all of their witty interactions.

The cast of “The Broken Hearts Gallery” was chosen beautifully: Geraldine Viswanathan, who plays Lucy, and Dacre Montgomery, who plays Nick, had such

great chemistry during the entire movie. When they went through obstacles that don’t allow them to be together, it made my heart ache.

Lucy’s best friends Amanda (Molly Gordon) and Nadine (Phillipa Soo) also play their role perfectly as being best friends by knowing exactly what Lucy needs, and picking her up when she’s down. It’s easy to believe that this trio are best friends who have known each other for years.

Director and writer Natalie Krinsky knew how to create dialogue to make the audience believe and feel what her characters were. This production is Krinsky’s first film that she has directed and written on her own after working as a writer for shows like “Grey’s Anatomy” and “Gossip Girl.”

According to an interview with The Wrap, Krinsky wrote the first draft of the script over 10 years ago and is the longest relationship with one she’s ever had. During the interview, Krinsky also says that her favorite scene to film was the last scene, with 150 actors, because it gave her a “renewed appreciation” after seeing what COVID-19 has done.

Speaking of, it was great to go back to the theater and get some sense of normalcy, socially distanced and safe, so I would check it out as soon as you can.

It’s definitely better and less confusing than “Tenet.” The film is still easy to love with a great message of living in the moment and it would be a great date night film for girls, boys and nonbinary folks night-out movie.

# ‘The New Mutants’ doesn’t live up to expectations

**By Nolan Fullington  
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“The New Mutants” is the film that Disney doesn’t want you to see by changing its release date six times, then finally releasing it when nobody knows theaters are open and exactly one week before a long-awaited Christopher Nolan blockbuster.

Then conveniently, two projectors in the theater house I saw this at were not working. I finally saw it and it felt good to see a new release in a theater again.

However, it also felt like a cricket was chirping through the entire runtime, which reflects how I felt while watching it.

A handful of teenage mutants are the only patients in what looks like the location of a “Saw” movie. There is also one doctor in the entire facility and they’re trapped inside and can’t leave, because they’re being “trained” to become X-Men. I wonder what is going to happen.

It feels good to finally go to a theater to see a movie and know everything that’s going to happen from the beginning of the film. What was so odd about this film was that it feels like a blender movie, meaning someone put “The Breakfast Club,” “The Dream Warriors” and “Glass” in a blender and just shredded them

all together.

The result is a film where nothing happens for over an hour and then the last 20 minutes is complete schlock.

The movie as a whole isn’t that bad; it’s just very boring. And when I say nothing happens, I mean nothing happens.

It was surprising at how much this material was stretched out just to make it to 90 minutes. You could call that some kind of “escalation,” but it never felt like anything was building.

Things just sort of happen, and all of the scenes feel interchangeable until around the halfway point, where these characters begin to suspect that something is up.

The best part of the film was actually Anya Taylor-Joy. She felt like the only actor who really had a firm grasp on her character and she was the most entertaining to watch.

Everyone else, including the lead, were just boring to watch, because they all felt like the usual teenage characters you need in a John Hughes film, like the bad-boy character, the nice guy, the snotty girl, the innocent girl, etc.

The other main issue with the film is that it tries to be a horror film, but there isn’t much horror in the film to justify its genre. It also turns into a CGI extravagan-

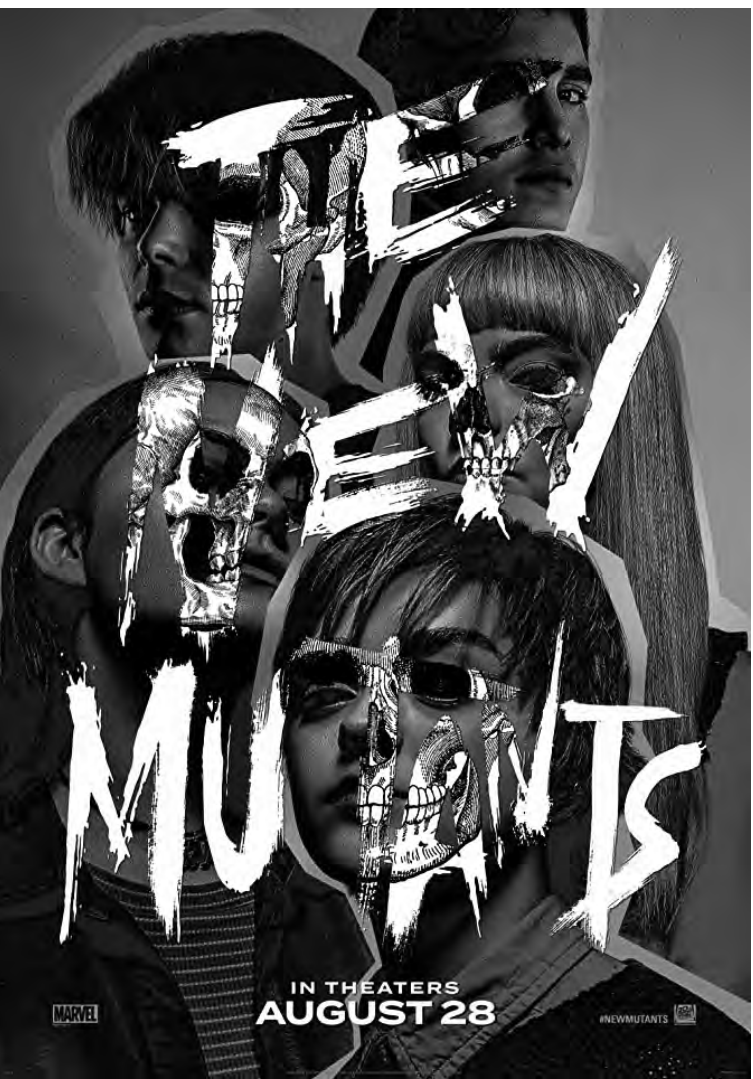
za at one point, so it’s also not quite a superhero/X-Men film in general. Everything in the film feels like it falls short of something.

However, this film’s premise is a great concept, which is taking the idea of developing superpowers during puberty and making it a horror story. “X-Men 2” briefly touched on that idea as well.

This film does try to follow through with that idea at the end, but for all the film’s subtextual mumbo-jumbo, the film itself is not good enough to justify its higher ideas — very reminiscent to “Tenet,” where everyone likes to discuss the film’s subtext and the intricate wirework of it all, but when you deal in genre, you must first deliver the goods. Then we can discuss its subtext and deeper layers.

So in the case for “The New Mutants,” if your horror movie doesn’t deliver on being a horror movie, then it fails at what it sets out to do regardless of the film’s deeper ideas.

The bottom line is that the film is fine, but quite boring. It’s not terrible and it’s certainly not as bad as “Dark Phoenix,” but it’s so middle-of-the-road that there isn’t much to like or be upset about.



“The New Mutants” follows five young mutants as they discover their abilities while being held against their will in a secret facility.

# Six people you might see in your online classes

**By Owen Peterson  
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**The Online Overachiever**

By the time the professor is done asking his or her question, this person has already had the “raise hand” button selected for 45 seconds. With an insatiable desire to prove their worth to a classroom full of students who probably aren’t even on their Collaborate Ultra tab, the Online Overachiever will stop at nothing to make sure they absolutely ace the participation part of the class. If you want to answer a question before this person, good luck, because you are going to need god like reflexes to raise your hand or type and answer before them.

**“Technical Difficulties”**

When the professor asks a

question to this person, the response is usually 30 seconds of absolutely deafening silence with a dash of awkward tension before they hit you with the “sorry my mic isn’t working today” in the chat. This would be forgivable if it wasn’t for the fact that they had used this exact excuse for the last 17 class periods. The quintessential cop out of the Collaborate Ultra age, “My mic isn’t working today” is no better than “My dog ate my homework.”

**The Noise Machine**

Unlike Technical Difficulties, this person actually turns on their mic, but you’ll wish they hadn’t. When they turn on their mic to answer a question, unleashed upon your ears are the sounds of the world’s largest vacuum cleaner, at least seven TVs at maximum volume in oth-

er rooms, pots and pans crashing from the top shelf and a tornado siren just for good measure. Instead of an actual answer, all you get is an earache and a confused professor, who is probably just going to ask them to repeat themselves for some reason.

**The Amnesiac**

The Amnesiac comes in two forms.

The first one is the person who forgets to lower their hand. Eventually, the professor will ask them what their question is. In a moment of panic, The Amnesiac will then ashamedly lower their hand, pretend that nothing ever happened and then wish that they never learned how to use a computer. At least if you forgot to lower your hand in real life, you would be getting a nice arm workout, but with online classes

all you get is shame.

The second, and more chaotic one, is the person who forgets to turn off their mic. As the professor tries to go on with their lecture, they are promptly interrupted by The Amnesiac having a lively discussion with their roommate, completely unaware that 20 other students are involuntarily also participating. There is seldom an experience more awkward than being forced to listen to a conversation between two unknowing parties while the professor’s futile pleas for them to turn off the mic echo in the background.

**The Pet Fanatic**

We get it, you have a pet. There’s nothing wrong with a cat just cluelessly meandering in the background, but it all gets out of hand when the pets take hold of

the attention. It only takes one student drawing attention to their pet to create a domino effect that derails everything. After one cat makes a cameo, every other student with a pet takes that as their cue to retrieve their animals and turn the class into a full-blown show-and-tell.

**The Early Bird**

It doesn’t seem to matter what time you enter the class; you will always be second to the Early Bird. Nobody is quite sure just how early they got there, but you get the sense that it could feasibly have been a few hours. This is the kind of person that also probably lines up at 6:45 a.m. outside of Blackhawk for breakfast, finishes all of their homework within a day of it being assigned and starts studying for finals in October.



# UWO students react to NBA playoffs

By Cory Sparks  
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As the NBA makes its way through the conference finals round of the playoffs, fans around the world, and around campus, watch as a thrill-filled pair of matchups unfold.

In the eastern conference finals, the fifth-seeded Miami Heat are taking on the third-seeded Boston Celtics. In the western conference finals, the first-seeded Los Angeles Lakers are taking on the third-seeded Denver Nuggets.

With only those four teams remaining, there was definitely a hometown favorite left out of the mix.

“I am a major Bucks fan, so obviously I wanted them to win the finals, but if I had to pick another team other than them it would have been the Portland Trail Blazers,” UW Oshkosh sophomore Carter Knutson said. “They were sort of an underdog going into the playoffs, and Damian Lillard was playing the best basketball of his career, so my dream finals would’ve been Bucks vs. Trail Blazers.”

The Trail Blazers ended up falling to the Lakers in a round one matchup, four games to one, thanks to the dominant duo of LeBron James and Anthony Davis.

The Bucks lost to the Heat in a second round matchup, four games to one, thanks to a show-out performance from four-time all-defensive team qualifier Jimmy Butler, 2020 “Most Improved Player” candidate Bam Adebayo, rookie standout Tyler Herro and Duncan Robinson.

In terms of some stellar performances throughout the playoffs so far, students have taken notice of a couple of players.

“Donte DiVincenzo [really



April Lee / Advance-Titan

Just like in the NBA, the D-3 Advance-Titan women’s season was stopped dead in its tracks because of COVID-19. Unfortunately, the women’s season did not resume play to finish up their season like the NBA has.

showed out] on the bucks. Without him, the Bucks wouldn’t have put up a fight against the Heat,” UWO sophomore Evan Donahoe said.

As for players who are still in the playoffs, there’s been one Marquette University alumnus in particular who has caught the attention of many people.

“I feel like I always see Jimmy Butler putting up great numbers,” UWO junior Cliff Yuma said. “He is a veteran player, [and] he

always helps the team win and seems to have really good chemistry with the young guys.”

Although it’s notable to mention the stellar performances, students took just as much of a notice when some big stars didn’t shine as bright with their seasons on the line.

“One player, who has been a big surprise to me, has been the play of Paul George,” Knutson said. “Most people would have picked a player that is playing

good, but Paul George never showed up in the playoffs and it essentially cost them. He was very inconsistent and just wasn’t himself.”

As the games wind down and the NBA finals approach, students narrow down the options and determine a new favorite to win out of the remaining teams.

“My favorite is the Lakers. I know [Dwight] Howard has been boosting up the team spirit and it’s working out well for the Lak-

ers,” Donahoe said.

When the NBA Finals does happen, and a team raises their trophy as they claim the 2020 NBA champions title, one thing is for certain: the on-court televised reaction will be something fans have never witnessed before.

“It’s weird watching someone hit a game winner with no fans, because I’m used to the whole stadium going crazy,” Yuma said.

# COVID-19 adds variables to fantasy football

By Cory Sparks  
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Fantasy football has always been an interesting entity. This year, however, fantasy football team owners have even more variables to consider due to the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the league.

With the elimination of an NFL preseason, some fantasy owners are adjusting their whole game plan.

“Fantasy football is definitely different this year. The elimination of the preseason made it so we had to draft completely based on what is assumed of the players,” UW Oshkosh sophomore Maxwell Lippert said. “We don’t get to watch our potential draft options perform beforehand.”

While some fantasy owners changed their entire approach going into the season, others decided they would hardly deviate from their original plan.

“Preseason never really means anything to me besides injuries anyway,” UWO sophomore Jackson Davis said. “But you need to have a good idea of positional depth charts in case someone were to go on the COVID list.”

A few UWO students have some tips to provide for beginners that could be especially useful during a season riddled with



Cory Sparks / Advance-Titan

adjustments made due to COVID-19 precautions.

“Keep track of injuries and bye weeks. The first year I did fantasy, I had half my team injured, and the other half had the same bye week,” UWO sophomore Sam May said. “Needless to say, I didn’t do very well. Watch your bye [weeks and] injuries and stay updated.”

Watching for injuries is especially important this year considering that in just the first two weeks of the NFL season, Saquon Barkley, Christian McCaffrey, Drew Lock, Sterling Shepard, George Kittle, Jimmy

Garoppolo and many more are currently hurt.

In this strategy game, large collections of bye weeks and injuries are not the only things beginners should avoid.

“I would advise against taking too many rookies. Yes, they may have great potential and upside, but they are also rookies,” May said. “They don’t play like veterans and can be inconsistent. For fantasy, consistency is key.”

As for what to do when it comes time to draft a fantasy team, there are a few different strategies to try depending on one’s personal preferences.

“In the early rounds, I always try to target a running back for my first pick. Realistically, only one [running back] will be used frequently during an NFL game,” Lippert said. “Target a really talented running back with your first pick, and even your second pick, unless there’s a really good player still on the board that would be considered a steal in the second round.”

There is also a term that floats amongst the fantasy football community called a “sleeper.” A sleeper is somebody who could be very productive despite the fact

that not many people talk about them or consider them talented.

Sleepers typically take off in performance due to an ideal scenario such as a good training camp or someone above them on the depth chart going to another team.

“Jarvis Landry is almost always good for a minimum of 10.5 points and rarely goes in the first 12 rounds if at all. Joe Burrow is also a good sleeper QB,” Davis said.

When getting into fantasy football, especially if money is involved, it is highly encouraged to do extensive research to ensure optimal performance. ESPN, NFL.com, CBS Sports and many other established news networks with reputable analysts will consistently report on different players with fantasy advice in hand.

Although there is a certain quantity of luck involved, fantasy football is just like anything else in that you must practice and complete research in order to have a great amount of success.

**“The elimination of the preseason made it so we had to draft completely based on what is assumed of the players.”**

- Maxwell Lippert, sophomore



# Green Fund addresses sustainability needs

By Kaitlyn Scoville  
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Students have until Nov. 20 to submit a proposal to the Green Fund, a student-run organization that promotes sustainable changes to the campus by those who want to help keep UW Oshkosh a green campus.

The Green Fund has approximately \$40,000 to spend on student-driven projects to create a more sustainable campus. Not every project has to use all of it; this leaves room for several proposals to be approved each semester.

According to Campus Sustainability Officer Bradley Spanbauer, projects can be anything related to sustainability from social justice and climate change to landscaping and food movements.

“Proposals can be written by any student or student groups and will be reviewed for approval and funding each semester,” Spanbauer said. “All it takes to submit a proposal is to fill out an application and email [it] to greenfund@uwosh.edu.”

Previous Green Fund projects include bike repair stations, the OZZI reusable salad container station in Reeve Memorial Union and wooden duck boxes along the Fox River.

Student Sustainability Director Lisa Marone explains why she wanted to be part of the Green Fund.

“I go to school here. I’ve lived in Oshkosh my whole life and I care about the environment,” Marone said. “So what can I do in my personal life to leave this place better?”

Marone’s job as student sustain-

ability director is to meet with students who have a sustainable project idea and help them through the process of submitting a Green Fund application, which, according to her, is incredibly easy.

“I’ll show them the application and highlight what’s important,” Marone said. “We go down the application, and I ask for some potential outcomes — what’s the ending, the final product — and we just keep going. Finally, once they have their draft complete, they turn it in to us. And maybe a month or so later, [you’ll] have the presentation.”

Because of the coronavirus, meetings are now held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and project presentations will also be held online.

Marone said that the Green Fund’s focus was not just mainstream wind and solar power, but other projects that still provide a sustainable change at UWO.

In the fall 2019 semester, the Green Fund received 10 applications and accepted seven of them. Proposals may be turned down because of budget restraints and incomplete detailing.

“Everyone submitting a proposal will have a chance to present it to the Green Fund committee,” Spanbauer said. “Once all of the proposals have been presented and reviewed, the Green Fund committee will vote on which projects to fund and how much to allocate to each project.”

Marone said students are also able to complete an unfinished project.

“If you see a proposal on the website that wasn’t completed or

funded and you want to go for it, you can,” she said.

Marone said that once an application is put through the Green Fund committee, only one additional budget request is allowed.

Green Fund Committee Chair Sarah Kleinschmidt said that she is excited to see what proposals come through, and that she enjoys having the opportunity to help bring students’ proposals to life to help make UWO more sustainable.

Marone said that it is up to young students to help keep the sustainable campus alive.

“We need younger classes to come up and take hold of the Green Fund,” Marone said. “I want to get more support from faculty; I want the Green Fund to be known. If you’re a student at UW Oshkosh, you should know what the Green Fund is.”

Kleinschmidt said that setting a good example on campus and keeping UWO’s campus environmentally friendly is the most important to her.

“I feel that influences our students, faculty, staff, our community and other campuses to reevaluate the way their current actions affect the environment,” she said. “Even if we’re unsuccessful in changing an individual’s mind, we’re still reducing our carbon footprint and laying the pathway for a more sustainable and viable future.”

For more information on meeting times and how to get involved with the Green Fund, email greenfund@uwosh.edu.

## Weekly Playlist

In many blockbuster movies, soundtrack composers begin with what’s called “temp music.” This is music lifted from another film and serves a rough edit as a mock-up, or a note on what the general feeling of the movie’s own soundtrack should be like.

As a result, the soundtracks to most blockbusters are based on soundtracks to other blockbusters. It creates a hall of mirrors, endlessly reflecting itself.

Don’t believe it? Listen to “Goosebumps” by Travis Scott, “Rockstar” by Post Malone, or any other Top 40-type American rap songs. They draw from the same elements — some snare, hi-hats,

808s and a bunch of bass. It’s very formulaic.

This kind of music is repetitive and insipid, blending together into one uninspired anthem of mediocrity.

In comparison to “Rockstar” or “Goosebumps,” the German rapper SSIO’s song “Nuttööö” has a completely different feel than American rap. That’s why foreign music is so refreshing. While it’s not completely original, and in some cases certainly pulls from similar motifs and techniques, it has a clearly distinct feel and style to it.

Listening to foreign music is an easy and passive way to be exposed to new cultures and musical styles.

**SSIO**

Nuttööö  
BB.U.M.SS.N. (Spezial  
Edition)  
2013



**Odezenne**

Nucléaire  
Au Baccara  
2018



**Buena Vista Social Club**

Chan Chan  
Beuna Vista Social Club  
1997



**La Femme**

Exorciseur  
Mystère  
2016



**Voyou**

Il Neige  
Les bruits de la ville  
2019



**Polo & Pan**

Pays Imaginaire  
Caravelle  
2017



Marissa Chamberlain / Advance-Titan

In the fall 2019 semester, the Green Fund received 10 applications and accepted seven of them.



# Faculty exhibition a treat for UWO campus

By Carter Uslabar  
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The Allen Priebe Art Gallery in UW Oshkosh’s Arts and Communication Center kicked off its year with its annual faculty exhibition.

The exhibition highlights the work of UWO art department faculty, covering a range of mediums and styles, ranging from photography, oil paintings, to experimental mixed media pieces.

The exhibition as a whole is punctuated with expert, yet playful work. The walls are dominated by paintings with strong, meticulously placed brushstrokes and shading that blends seamlessly from tone to tone.

Emmet Sandberg’s piece “iConstructors: Body Language” is a

fascinating piece of mixed media and found objects, guiding the viewer’s attention to various highlighted words or phrases through a selection of magnifying glasses. iConstructor’s placement against a background of mirrors reflects the artwork, expanding it and pushing the viewer to interact with it and consider the piece more deeply.

Trina Smith’s “Quarantine: Dining Room 1” illustrates a beautiful yet distorted vision of a dining room. Chairs, once stable, reliable objects, bend and blend out of shape and dimension, perhaps representative of the fragile nature of reality exposed during a life-altering pandemic.

The exhibit is on display until Oct. 29, 2020.



Carter Uslabar / Advance-Titan  
Clockwise from top right: Emmet Sandberg’s thought-provoking “iConstructors: Body Language,” Trina Smith’s reality-bending “Quarantine: Dining Room 1,” Tish Kopish’s “Beach Scene,” a calming remnant from summer, and Wendi Turchan-Martin’s clear, sharp “Opunita 1.”