

# The Advance-Titan

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## UWO honors Black History Month

### UWO holds events to show support with 'more than words'

By Cory Sparks  
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Black History Month is here, and UW Oshkosh will be celebrating, remembering and educating all month long with a variety of on-campus events.

The Black Student Union and African American Studies program are teaming up to organize these events.

The theme for UWO's Black History Month programming is summed up in a succinct yet powerful statement: more than words.

Starting on Jan. 31 and continuing through Feb. 28, UWO is holding a variety of online and in-person events meant to educate those attending.

Dr. Alphonso Simpson Jr., the director of UWO's African American Studies program, said the events are not only great in variety, but in interactivity as well.

He said that through these communal experiences that anyone can attend, so much can be learned about Black history and its significance.

"Students attending any of these events would get the opportunity to interact with many of the speakers, panelists, and/or organizers of these events," Simpson Jr. said. "This, in turn, would open up for them a greater understanding of why Black History Month is such a celebrated time for all people."

Dr. Damira Grady, associate vice chancellor for Academic Support of Inclusive Excellence and university diversity officer, said the importance of having educational outlets on Black history increases exponentially when considering the lack of education on the subject in some districts.

She also said it's important to spend Black History Month learning about successful Black figures in addition to the issues of slavery, racism and civil rights commonly brought up synonymously when the topic of Black history arises.

"We will have students who reach our doors that haven't had the opportunity to learn about important movements such as the civil rights movements and injustices that have impacted the Black/African Americans in our society," Grady said. "[There] is also an opportunity to go beyond stories of racism and slavery and



Courtesy of University Archives

Jesse Jackson, civil rights activist, minister and politician, speaking at Kolf Sports Center during his campaign for the democratic nomination for president.

spotlight Black achievement and contemporary Black social problems."

Jayla Ross, the president of the Black Student Union, said she sees Black History Month as a celebration of perseverance and complexity.

"Black History is about celebrating who we are and the obstacles we have overcome throughout the years," she said. "Our culture is highlighted through our style, music, talent and linguistics."

Simpson Jr. said he sees Black history as pivotal because without Black history, U.S. history and the world around us today are not the same.

"Black history is U.S. history," he said. "There are so many things that we take for granted today not really knowing that they were the inventions, discoveries or accomplishments of African Americans."

Simpson Jr. will be moderating a variety of events throughout the month. One of those will be on Feb. 10, where five Black leaders in police departments around the country give their experience as a minority in a predominantly white workforce.

On Feb. 23, Simpson Jr. will be monitoring a pair of discussions

with panelists traveling from around the nation.

The first discussion is called "The Imaginary Middle", and it'll be held at 5:30 p.m.

In this discussion, educating bodies from Wisconsin and Alabama will exchange anecdotes and information about teaching Black history in schools where the majority of the student body is white.

The second discussion of the day, called "The Struggle to be Recognized", will take place at 7:30 p.m.

During this discussion, church leaders talk about the historical importance of Black people in the Bible.

Simpson Jr. said he'll find "The Imaginary Middle" rather intriguing since he is in a similar situation, being a black professor celebrating Black History Month at a predominantly white institution.

"The roundtable discussion on 'The Imaginary Middle' is going to be quite interesting because in a sense it will mirror some of what I face here at UWO," he said. "Being that UWO is a predominantly white institution, it can sometimes be very difficult to celebrate African American Heritage if nobody sees it as worthy of serious academic conversation."

He also added that there are a few topics of discussion he'll be looking forward to in particular.

"Some of the topics I plan on discussing with the panelists are issues of scarcity of personnel, lack of resources and/or support, issues of sincerity within their own academic communities and how all of these things work together to make their teaching experiences more or less effective," Simpson Jr. said.

Grady, whose job description includes doing what she can to create an inclusive environment for all, emphasizes the importance of taking time to get to know others from different backgrounds.

She also said that an inclusive environment stems from the feelings of others, so the only way to assure that everyone feels as if they belong, everyone should work to learn about other perspectives and personalities.

"We must take the time to learn from each other; this means taking extra steps to learn from those who are different from ourselves, keeping an open mind, and reserving judgment," she said. "An inclusive environment means we all feel valued and equal; we must examine our vulnerabilities and understand other perspectives to

achieve this."

Ross believes that another way to continue creating an inclusive environment with diverse backgrounds is to continue to have different organizations come together to organize events.

Not only that, but she also stated that students can make a variety of connections with one another during these collaborations.

"This will create a space for students to recognize and learn more about each other," she said. "Collaborating with other clubs on campus will draw more people to put their networking skills to test."

As for what students should be doing in their free time in February, Simpson Jr. has a suggestion that will help educate students in many different ways. A plethora of effort was put into the planning of these events, especially considering that UWO has at least one event for every day of the month.

"Check out ALL of the events that are listed," he said. "Don't just check them out, attend them! A lot of effort has been put in place to see these events happen on our campus."

Students can go to [uwo.sh/bhm](http://uwo.sh/bhm) to see the entire list of events planned for the month.

Page 2



Swenson Found

Page 2



COVID Suspensions

Page 4



WI Herd Recap

Page 6



'A Sense of Space'

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# UWO professor aids in closing 39-year-old case

By Katie Pulvermacher  
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After the news of human remains being spotted by a pair of hikers at High Cliff State Park on Sept. 29, UW Oshkosh Associate Professor of anthropology Jordan Karsten was able to identify the remains of Starkie Swenson, a man presumed murdered on Aug. 13, 1983, who UWO anthropology students were in search of over the spring 2021 interim.

“It is miraculous,” Karsten said. “Cold cases are hard to solve. When somebody’s been missing for decades, the chance that you’re going to find and identify them is not impossible, but it’s also not great. It is an unlikely kind of event.”

Soon after the remains were found by the hikers, the upper part of the park was closed off to the public. Karsten received a message from a DNR officer who asked him to look at a bone to determine if it was human or not. After finding it was human, he was further asked to help in the search for any other bones in the area.



Starkie Swenson

Remains were identified by Karsten as those of an older man. Clothes and personal items found that belonged to Swenson include keys on a keychain, a wedding ring, pants matching the description and more.

DNA identification tests confirmed the found remains belonged to Swenson. Calumet County Sheriff Mark Wiegert announced DNA confirmations on



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Today

UWO student and Associate Professor of Anthropology Jordan Karsten work on a site in the Town of Rushford near Omro, WI in search of Starkie Swenson.

Dec. 22 after Swenson’s family announced in November that they believed the remains were his.

Karsten met some of Swenson’s family, including Swenson’s grandson Eric Tillman who aided in the effort, while he and his students were excavating in Rushford, WI in the three-week interim during May and June of 2021.

“The fact that we were able to contribute some kind of closure for the family who have waited decades for it is really great,” Karsten said. “I was happy to be able to play my little role in it.”

Karsten says the whole search was a team effort. Excavating in Omro, even as no remains were found, wasn’t a waste of time. That was the best information they had at the time, and dealing with these types of cases, you go with what you have to do your due diligence.

“We went out and dug that place completely,” Karsten said. “We were fortunate enough to find [Swenson] shortly thereafter.

Even though [the students] put in a lot of effort and we weren’t successful in Omro, all those efforts definitely were meaningful. It was all hard work and they all kicked butt.”

Swenson’s lover’s ex-husband, John Andrews, pleaded guilty to “negligent use of a motor vehicle” in 1994, according to prosecutors. Swenson and Andrews were in a love triangle with Claire Andrews, and it was believed that John Andrews ran over Swenson while he was riding a bike near Shattuck Middle School in Neenah, WI, and killed him.

The case was prosecuted without the recovery of a body, which is extremely rare. Andrews ended up taking a plea deal, called an Alford plea, which allowed him to reduce his sentence to 24 months.

Karsten said he would like to plan another excavation with students for a future semester or interim.

“I’ve got a couple things I’m looking into,” Karsten said.

“There’s a couple cold cases in the area where somebody has gone missing and never been found. I’d be interested in seeing if there’s anything I can do to try and help with those cold cases, but we’ll see.”

For now, his podcast, “Cold Case: Frozen Tundra,” with his friend Matt Hiskes is on hold.

“There will be more specific updates coming [on the podcast],” Karsten said. “We will, when it’s appropriate, update and talk about what happened in detail. We just can’t do it yet.”

The case remains a mystery on many ends. Karsten, as well as UWO, the family of Swenson and supporting communities are waiting for more details to be revealed.

“DNR, police, family, students ... all these people got involved in an effort to try and see this through,” Karsten said. “Luckily, we did. Honestly, it’s amazing.”

## UWO suspends students for COVID-19 violations

By Katie Pulvermacher  
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From Sept. 1, 2021 to Jan. 1, 2022, seven UW Oshkosh students were suspended and 861 disciplinary actions were taken against students for disobeying COVID-19 rules set in place, according to the Dean of Students Office.

“For students to be sanctioned for Covid reasons, they would have had to not meet the expectations outlined in the Chancellor’s Orders,” according to the Dean of Students Office. “These violations could include: not properly wearing a mask where required, not meeting mandated testing requirements, or violating isolation/quarantine requirements.”

As of Feb. 8, between the three UWO campuses there are 28 active cases compared to the 57 cases from the first week of spring semester, according to the Titans Return website. A small spike at the start of the semester is normal as positive rates quickly go down.

“The good news is we have not seen a surge in the past week in

the number of cases on campus,” UWO Police Chief Kurt Leibold said in an email sent to students and employees on Feb. 8. “We know this is in large part due to the high rate of vaccination among students, faculty and staff.”

Repercussions for violating COVID-19 rules depend on the extent of the policy violation and past conduct history of the individual.

“According to UWS Chapter 17.085, if a person is found responsible, the sanctions could range from a written reprimand to expulsion,” according to the Dean of Students Office.

If a student is suspended from one UW school, they are suspended from all UW system schools. According to UWS Chapter 17, a student may be suspended for up to 2 years, depending on the extent of the violation.

There is no set number of times for a student to face repercussions for violating the mask policy on campus.

Chancellor Andrew Leavitt put a Masking Order in place effective Jan. 1 through the end of



Advance-Titan File Folder

Student Sebastian Jefferson self-tests for COVID-19 by swabbing his nose in Albee Hall.

spring break on March 20, “unless extended, terminated or otherwise modified based on changing conditions related to the COVID-19 Delta (or other) variants, including but not limited to changes in CDC guidance, state and local public health conditions, and campus safety.”

“Students are expected to always wear their mask properly where required,” according to the Dean of Students Office. “Instructors may vary in their enforcement – some may choose to warn a student, and some may choose not

to give a warning. Once a Covid reporting form is submitted, the university will investigate the allegations.”

Reports of incorrect mask wearing are reported to the Dean of Students Office. The number of reports to the office varies from week to week. This number is not a clear indication of how many people are being reported, as reports can include multiple people.

According to the Dean of Students Office, the vast majority of students are complying with COVID-19 rules and sanctions.



# Sports

## Calendar



## WINTER WRAP-UP

**Women’s Swimming and Diving**  
1/22/22 - 84 to 155 V.S. UW-La Crosse  
2/5/22 - 139 to 103 V.S. Ripon

**Men’s Swimming and Diving**  
1/22/22 - 61 to 154 V.S. UW-La Crosse  
2/5/22 - 106 to 118 V.S. Ripon

**Women’s Basketball**  
1/19/22 - 66 to 56 V.S. UW-Platteville  
1/22/22 - 64 to 73 V.S. UW-River Falls  
1/26/22 - 60 to 53 V.S. UW-Eau Claire  
1/29/22 - 79 to 42 V.S. UW-River Falls  
2/2/22 - 59 to 47 V.S. UW-Platteville  
2/5/22 - 56 to 58 V.S. UW-Stout

**Men’s Basketball**  
1/19/22 - 83 to 67 V.S. UW-Platteville  
1/22/22 - 89 to 84 V.S. UW-River Falls  
1/26/22 - 72 to 74 V.S. UW-Eau Claire  
2/2/22 - 65 to 51 V.S. UW-Platteville  
2/5/22 - 84 to 57 V.S. UW-Stout

**Wrestling**  
1/28/22 - 29 to 14 V.S. UW-La Crosse  
2/4/22- 16 to 22 V.S. UW-Platteville

**Gymnastics**  
1/20/22 - 187 to 180 V.S. UW-Eau Claire  
1/28/22 - 4/4, 191.650  
2/3/22 - 191 to 179 V.S. Hamline

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, Feb. 10**  
**Gymnastics**  
at Winona State University 6:00 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 12**  
**Track and Field**  
ELITE Invitational at UW-Whitewater 11:00 a.m.

**Men’s Basketball**  
UW-La Crosse 8:00 p.m.

**Women’s Basketball**  
at UW-La Crosse 3:00 p.m.

**Wrestling**  
WIAC Championship 9:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 16**  
**Swimming and Diving**  
at Brown Deer - Schroeder Aquatic Center 5:00 p.m.

**Men’s Basketball**  
at UW-Whitewater 7:00 p.m.

**Women’s Basketball**  
UW-Whitewater 7:00 p.m.

## Women’s b-ball locks down on defense

By Cory Sparks  
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The UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team split last week’s games with a 59-47 win against UW-Platteville on Wednesday and a 58-56 loss against UW-Stout Saturday.

Winning three of their last five games to improve to a 15-5 record, the Titans have made it a priority to make every opportunity count.

The Titans’s 4-4 conference record currently puts them behind UW-Whitewater (10-1), UW-Eau Claire (8-3) and UW-Stout (7-3) in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC).

Sophomore guard Kennedy Osterman said that as the conference and March Madness tournaments approach, playing as a unit is becoming increasingly important.

“Basketball takes the whole roster to win games,” Osterman said.

The Titans are a veteran-led team, with seniors Leah Porath (14.4 points per game) and Nikki Arneson (12.4 points per game) leading the team in scoring.

Arneson said the team is focusing on breaking the upcoming schedule down game by game and improving between each one.

“The main focus with the WIAC tournament coming up is just taking

everything one day at a time [and] really trying to keep getting better each practice and game,” Arneson said.

Among other priorities for Oshkosh is staying focused on defense.

Last year, the Titans allowed a WIAC low 58.0 points per game.

The Titans are in position to claim that title again, as they’re allowing just 48.6 points per contest this time around.

They hold a 5.2 point margin over UW-La Crosse, who is allowing 53.8 points per game.

Osterman, who has 10 steals on the season, stated the importance of having a solid defense. Which creates opportunities on offense and boosts morale on the bench.

“Our defense is what gives us energy on offense,” she said. “Not only from who is on the floor but our bench energy is a major factor in our success.”

“We just have to stick together and keep getting better these next few weeks.”

- Nikki Arneson

That very defense is a huge reason the Titans are winning their games by an average of 18.5 points (second best behind UWW at 18.7).

Arneson said preparation is a huge factor in being able to execute at such a high level. Taking practice reps as seriously as possible and having a defensive-minded plan going into each game has made a



April Lee/Advance-Titan  
Jenna Jorgensen attempts to get a teammate the ball past two UW-River Falls players.

world of a difference for this team.

“Defense is one of the main things we work on at practice every day, and that is our main focus going into every game,” she said.

Conversely, UWO has been able to take care of the basketball extremely well. The team turns the ball over less than any other team in the WIAC at just 10.7 turnovers per game.

Osterman said that by doing all of the little things right and staying technically sound, the team has been able to take good care of the ball this season.

“We have focused on the fundamentals this year,” Osterman said. “Handling pressure and taking care

of the ball are part of those fundamentals.”

The Titans’s most recent conference game was played on Wednesday at home against UW-Stevens Point, and the results can be found on the UWO athletics page.

Their next game is in La Crosse where they’ll take on the Eagles on Saturday with a 3 p.m. tip-off time.

The conference tournament will start on Feb. 18, and Arneson made her thoughts on the team clear.

“The sky’s the limit for this team,” Arneson said. “We just have to stick together and keep getting better these next few weeks.”

## Men’s basketball batters 2 conference rivals

By Jacob Link  
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The UW Oshkosh men’s basketball team won back-to-back home games against UW-Platteville and UW-Stout on Wednesday Feb. 2, and Saturday Feb. 5, respectively.

This was the first time Oshkosh played Stout this year as the Jan. 15 game was cancelled due to COVID-19 protocols.

Led by Junior guard Eddie Muench, who scored 19 points to go along with five rebounds, the Titans (17-3, 7-2 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) defeated the second ranked Pointers (18-2, 7-2 WIAC) 65-51. UWO followed up with an 84-57 win on Saturday against the Blue Devils (14-7, 5-5 WIAC) in a game the Titans controlled from start to finish.

In Wednesday’s win against the Pioneers, UWO fell behind early but overcame the deficit thanks to strong defensive play.

Junior forward Levi Borchert put the Titans ahead 21-20 with a layup with 4:27 to go in the first half, sparking a run of 11 unanswered points for Oshkosh. Muench was on fire from deep, draining three three-pointers in 32 seconds during the 11-point run.

UWO went on to lead the game by at least eight points for the remaining 23 minutes of play. By halftime the Titans led by 10 and would see that number increase to 16 with less 15 minutes to play. Platteville cut the deficit to nine

temporarily, but could not get a run together, shooting just 32.8% from the floor and 15% from three. The 59 points the Pioneers scored are the lowest for them since they scored 58 in a win against Whitewater on Feb. 13, 2019.

“After our loss to Eau Claire, we didn’t have the defensive presence we wanted to have, so we really had an emphasis this week in practice to be better defensively, and I think it showed tonight,” Borchert said.

The Titans finished the game shooting 47.1% from the floor and 43.5% from deep. With his 19 points, Muench posted his 14th game in double figures this season. Borchert finished with 16 points and 13 rebounds, recording his 10th double-double on the year, a WIAC best. Sophomore Cole Booth scored 12 points of his own, going three of four from deep, while recording his fifth double-digit game this year. Booth has scored over 10 points in three of his last four games.

With the win, UWO swept the season series against Platteville and ended the Pioneers’ eight game road win streak. Attendance for the game was 1,094, the most at a UW Oshkosh men’s basketball game since 2014.

In Saturday’s win against the Blue Devils, UWO took the lead early and never looked back. With under 12 minutes to go in the first half, Oshkosh went on a 19-4 scoring run, building the Titan lead to 38-21. Senior guard Hunter Pla-

mann scored seven points during the scoring run which saw UWO score on seven straight possessions.

Oshkosh maintained a double-digit lead for the remainder of the game. At the break the Titan lead was 44-31. Oshkosh would continue to build a larger lead throughout the second half. For most of the game UWO shot over 65% from the field, and at one occasion was shooting 72%. Conversely, Stout’s shots would not fall as the Blue Devils shot under 40% most of the way throughout the first and second halves.

The biggest lead for the Titans was 84-54 with 1:56 remaining in the game. The white flag was raised by Stout soon after, and both teams gave their benches playing time. The game would finish 84-57 UW Oshkosh.

Plamann led the team in scoring, putting up 19 points, six assists and went 3-5 from deep. Booth had a career night, scoring 18 points to go along with three assists and shot 67% from three-point range. Muench and Borchert both had 15 points for the Titans. The starters for Oshkosh outscored the entire Stout team 69-57.

When asked about how the Titans are able to dominate the paint Borchert said, “In practice we always talk about getting it in the paint. It’s such a big emphasis that I feel like we can do it any night we want but it’s just when we decide [we want] to and tonight we decided to pound it in the paint.”

Once again, the game was won on the defensive side of the ball as UWO forced a Stout team that averages 89.8 points a game to just 57 points. The Titans also held Stout, who leads the WIAC in three-pointers made, to a measly 3-13 (23%) from three-point land. The 27-point win margin was the largest for Oshkosh against Stout since Feb. 25, 2003, when they defeated the Blue Devils 103-70. UWO has now won nine consecutive games against Stout and have won 17 of their last 18 home games.

“We just talk about [defence] all the time. That’s what we pride ourselves on, the defensive end. We talk about defence basically every day,” said Muench on the team’s strong defensive play this year.

Both Muench and Borchert said the addition of the Titan Thunder marching band has proved to be important for the team.

“[The band] is awesome. We got them cheering during the game, playing during halftime, playing during the pregame, it’s awesome. It brings a lot of electricity to the game and [we’re] absolutely grateful for them,” said Muench.

With the back-to-back wins, Oshkosh moved up to number three in the D3hoops.com Top 25 rankings. The Titans will look to win three straight as they face UW-Stevens Point on Wednesday, Feb. 9, in Stevens Point.



# Herd rookie spends time with Bucks

By Jacob Link  
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Wisconsin Herd rookie forward Sandro Mamukelashvili has enjoyed time with both the Herd and Milwaukee Bucks, under whom he is signed as a two-way player. A two-way player is someone who is allowed to play on both an NBA team and that team’s G League affiliate.

“Coming here [to the Herd] gives me that boost. [It gives me a chance] to improve on some things I want to improve on,” Mamukelashvili said. I just love being with the guys.

Born in New York City on May 22, 1999, Mamukelashvili, or “Mamu” as his Herd teammates call him, grew up in Tbilisi, Georgia. Tbilisi, a city of 1.1 million people, is the capital of Georgia, a small country that borders Russia. Mamu was introduced to the game of basketball by his older brother David, but his family connection to the game goes back further. Mamu’s grandmother, Ira Gabashvili, was once the captain of the Soviet Union women’s national team.

Mamu said, “[I] feel like we’re a really small country, so every time I can put them on the map [is great]. I played for them [at the 2019 FIBA World Cup]; I work to make them proud.”

Mamu grew up idolizing the Georgian basketball legend Zaza Pachulia, who had two different stints with the Milwaukee Bucks and won two NBA Champion-

ships with the Golden State Warriors in 2017 and 2018. Eventually, Mamu would be mentored by his idol Pachulia, who instilled the skills necessary to compete in the NBA.

“It was tough [starting in Georgia and making it to the NBA]. It’s a very small country, only a few NBA players have ever made it out here, so I feel like I always had to challenge myself and be more mature than the other kids,” Mamu said. “I had to leave my family at an early age and go through the struggles to get here. I’m not even halfway where I want to be. There is so much more to prove, so much more to work on.”

At 14, Mamu moved to Biella, Italy to pursue his dream of going pro. In Italy, he played for Angelico Biella and helped the U17, U18 and U19 teams finish third in the national finals.

Mamu became fluent in Italian and now speaks four languages fluently: Georgian, Russian, Italian and English.

In 2016, Mamu moved to the U.S. where he joined Montverde Academy in Florida, a private K-12 school known for basketball. At Montverde, he played alongside NBA star RJ Barrett of the New York Knicks.

Mamu committed to play at Seton Hall University, where he would gain national attention. In the summer after his sophomore season, Mamu worked with Pachulia to improve his jump-stop and three-point shooting. The



Photo: Thomas Savoja, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons  
Sandro Mamukelashvili averaged 17.5 pnts and 7.6 rebounds at Seton Hall University as a senior.

results of these sessions showed in his senior season at Seton Hall, where Mamu averaged 17.5 points per game and 7.6 rebounds. He was named co-Big East player of the year, Haggerty Award Winner for best player in the New York metropolitan area, an AP All-American Honorable Mention and finalist for the Karl Malone Award, given to the best collegiate power forward.

In the 2021 NBA draft, Mamukelashvili was selected as the 54th pick by the Indiana Pacers. He was then traded to the Bucks for the draft rights of Greek forward Georgios Kalaitzakis. The Bucks signed Mamu to a two-way contract, allowing him to play with the Wisconsin Herd. “It’s amazing [playing for the Bucks]. Zaza bought an old Bucks court and now we got it in

Georgia. I remember just working out on the court and telling my friends, ‘Damn, I hope I play for the Bucks one day’. It’s just crazy how in two or three years everything just came along and I’m a Buck now. Hopefully it will just stay like this for a long time.”

Mamu has already made an impact with the Herd going 5-1 when he is a starter with the team. In four regular season games he averaged 19.5 points and 8.5 rebounds a game. Because of injury and COVID-19 problems the Bucks have had, Mamu has been spending more and more time in Milwaukee. On Oct. 19, 2021, he appeared in his first NBA game. Over 29 games with the Bucks, Mamu averaged 3.3 points per game and 1.9 rebounds.

Mamu said he sometimes feels like a rookie. “Playing with the Bucks is such an opportunity. Sometimes when you feel like you don’t want to mess up, things happen. So, I feel like I need to free my mind and realize that I’m a rookie and I might mess up and just stay calm and things will build up to success.”

For the young 6-foot-11-inch man out of Georgia, the future looks bright.

“I feel like that’s the best thing, coming from a little country. You get that heart and focus where ‘I will make it’ and ‘I will do it’. I got this far from my family, friends and teammates and now I just got to keep working to make myself better.”

# Losing streak reaches 4, fall to 7th place

By Jacob Link  
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After returning from a two-game road trip, the Wisconsin Herd, the NBA G league affiliate of the Milwaukee Bucks, fell to the Fort Wayne Mad Ants (5-7) 113-110 on Feb. 6.

The Herd (6-7) have now lost four straight and sit in seventh place in the Eastern Conference of the G league, one game behind the Long Island Nets for the final playoff spot.

Herd forward Rayjon Tucker and guard Jalen Lecque scored 26 and 18 points, respectively, but it was not enough as the Mad Ants came from behind to win.

The Mad Ants took the lead early in the game, but the Herd cut the lead to just five by the end of the first quarter with Fort Wayne up 32-27. Wisconsin would pull to within one after scoring four straight points to open up the second quarter. With under seven minutes to go in the half, the Herd took a 46-45 lead from a Tiwian Kendley layup. This sparked a 12-2 scoring run that saw the Herd take an 11-point lead with 3:12 to go in the half. At the break, the Herd led 66-57 with Tucker scoring 18 of his points in the first half.

Lecque had the highlight of the game in the third quarter when the 6-4 guard put Fort Wayne’s 6-7 forward Stephen Domingo on a high-flying poster dunk.

Lecque said about his dunk, “Yeah, it was pretty crazy. I thought he was going to jump,



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan  
The Herd’s Jalen Lecque hangs on the rim after a dunk on Sunday’s loss to the Fort Wayne Mad Ants.

[but] he tried to set a charge [so] I’m like, alright it’s over with. But that’s my guy though, we’re good though. But that was a bad, bad dunk.”

The Mad Ants slowly cut down the Herd lead, and the score was 90-84 by the end of the third quar-

ter. Fort Wayne began the fourth quarter on a 7-0 scoring run to take the lead. Both teams would trade baskets, as there were five lead changes in the final 10 minutes. The Mad Ants would take the lead for good after guard Justin Anderson converted on his two-point

free throw (in the G League, teams only attempt one free throw every trip to the line except with under 2 minutes to go in the game).

Fort Wayne increased the lead to 111-105 with 1:17 to go, but guard Tremont Waters responded with a three-pointer. With seven

seconds to go and the score at 113-110, Waters missed a three-point-er that would have tied the game. The Mad Ants grabbed the rebound and ran out the clock to get the 113-110 win.

After the game, Tucker said, “They just wanted it more. At the end of the day, that’s what happened.

“We got lackadaisical with the ball, we got complacent with the lead. [We] stopped beating them as hard on defense. We gave up the lead and made the game tough on ourselves in the last couple minutes.”

The Herd are without three of their starters, as center Wenyen Gabriel recently signed a 10-day contract with the New Orleans Pelicans. Forward Sandro Mamukelashvili and guard Lindell Wigginton are currently up at the Milwaukee Bucks.

“We’ve had a lot of changes to our roster, so I think that’s what we’re going through right now,” said head coach Chaiison Allen. “We lost Wenyen Gabriel, which is great. He got a 10-day, we just traded Jemerrio Jones, and then Lindell, who has played a big part on our roster, so we’re going through some changes right now. We have to figure out a way to kind of get it going and play the right way offensively and then continue to get stops defensively.”

The Herd will look to snap its four-game skid against the Maine Celtics (5-7) at 6 p.m. today in Portland. The game will be televised on ESPN+.



# Reeve’s art gallery focuses on flowers

**By Mattie Beck**  
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Currently at the Gail F. Steinhilber Art Gallery located in Reeve Union is the “Floral Focus Stacks” exhibit from photographer Thomas L. Eddy.

This exhibit consists of a wide variety of photographs of many different flowers with the technique “focus stacking” being utilized.

“Focus stacking” is the process of taking multiple photos of the same subject and putting them together to create one cohesive image.

Photographer Eddy did this throughout his exhibit “Floral Focus Stacks” which he began working on during the pandemic.

“When the COVID pandemic

was first announced I was determined to schedule a daily routine,” Eddy said, “Collecting, arranging and photographing plants was a scientific deliberation and artistic endeavor.”

Eddy began pursuing photography with flowers after his interest was piqued by a friend.

“A friend and fellow researcher introduced me to wild plants and patiently answered my ceaseless question: what flower is that?” Eddy said.

After wondering this question, Eddy went out to seek his photography on his own to capture the flowers for his own research.

“I bought a Pentax Spotmatic film camera to capture the images on Kodachrome 64 ASA film and archived the slides to aid plant identification. I was

hooked,” Eddy said.

His passion for photographing flowers can be seen throughout the exhibit, as there are 24 portraits and 8 close-up and macro photographs of flower portraits.

With this many portraits in the exhibit, it was hard for Eddy to pick a favorite, but he was able to decide on two pieces.

“For this exhibit, there are two photos I am drawn to: Queen-of-the-Prairie (*Filipendula Rubra*), a member of the rose family and the common lily, Solomon’s seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*), a member of the asparagus family (formerly the lily family),” Eddy said.

The “Floral Focus” exhibit runs from Feb 7 to March 17.



Mattie Beck / Advance-Titan  
“Chicory” is one of many photos from the exhibit in Reeve Union.

# New exhibit shows beauty in the mundane

**By Mattie Beck**  
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The Annex Gallery welcomed a new exhibit “A Sense of Space,” a collection of artwork by Frank Juárez that documents the space around us and the beauty of it.

Juárez is an award-winning art educator, artist, author and former art gallery director who found a way to translate his life experiences into his artwork.

In his exhibition, Juárez displays the beauty of life and the spaces around us even in the most mundane.

‘A Sense of Space’ is a summary of my life experiences, which is translated into collages, paintings, mixed media, and photographs,” Juárez said.

Juárez had a lot of different experiences to inspire these pieces, some of this inspiration

was even found during the pandemic even though life had been halted.

“As an artist, one thing I

“A Sense of Space’ is a summery of my life experiences, which is translated in collages, paintings, mixed media and photographs

- Frank Juárez

Juárez said.

This is represented through photographs and other mixed media artworks that show things, such as still nature scenes.

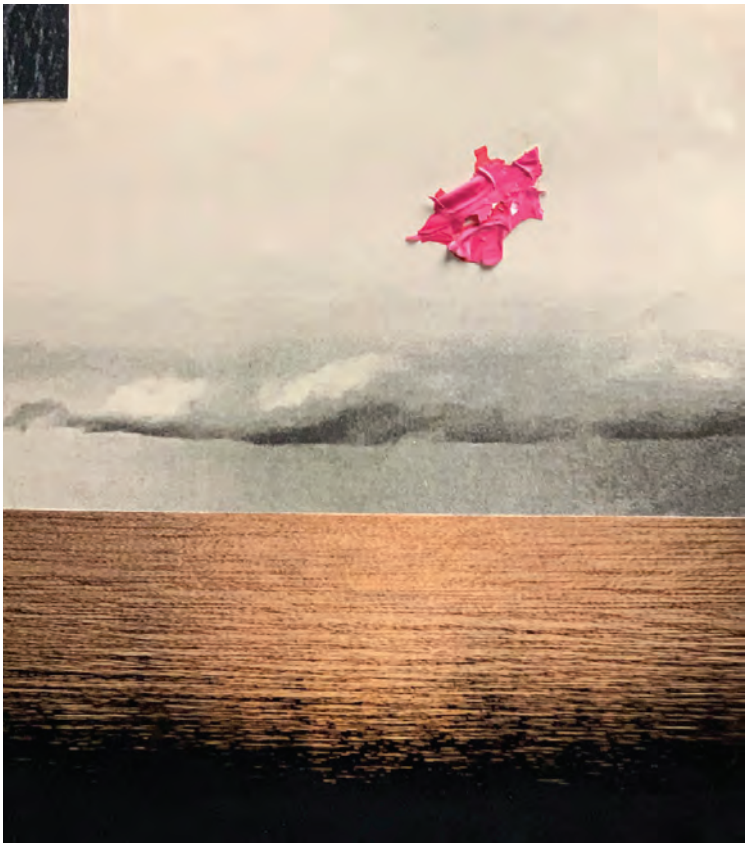
The pieces featured in the exhibit, such as “Sunday Morning” and “I Am Here” present a snapshot of different experiences.

Juárez said how there are different pieces with different meanings throughout the exhibit that reflect his experiences.

“‘Soon Enough’ and ‘Sunday Morning’ are the two that embrace the meaning of this exhibition,” said Juárez.

“Whereas ‘Yellowbar’ and ‘In Tandem’ are polar opposites of self-discovery and being comfortable in my own skin.”

Juárez’s exhibit “A Sense of Space” will be in the Annex Gallery through Feb 24.



Mattie Beck / Advance-Titan  
“Soon Enough” is a piece currently in the Annex art exhibit.

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4. Slow Show- The National
5. At Last- Etta James

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Tom Antrim / Advance-Titan

The Exclusive Company is located on Main Street in Oshkosh and will be hosting Record Store Day again on April 23 and has a wide variety of records available in store.

# The Exclusive Company remains media hub

By Tom Antrim  
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The Exclusive Company is a chain of record stores located in Wisconsin, specializing in a variety of different physical media ranging from horror movies to jazz records. Media enthusiasts will be sure to find something they like due to the wide array of genres in movies and music present at The Exclusive Company. The location at 318 N Main St. in Oshkosh also has an area in the back of the store where they sell stereos, speakers and various re-

cording equipment. The Exclusive Company offers 99-cent record bins, Record Store Day exclusives, eccentric pins, sunglasses and other accessories. Near the front of the store, various boxsets are displayed like Nirvana’s “Nevermind” super deluxe CD set and “Width of a Circle” by David Bowie. The store used to be located farther down on Main Street, but the founder, Mr. G., switched building locations in 2005. Ian Schneider, an Exclusive Company employee, said the store changed locations to fill a vacant spot downtown and expand the record store’s storage.

“Mr. G. bought out this location from the city; it used to be an old mall,” he said. “It was vacant for a while. Now that current location is used as a warehouse and office space.” Record Store Day continues to be successful for The Exclusive Company, despite the economic crisis created by COVID-19. Schneider said The Exclusive Company is continuing to have success on Record Store Day, despite the drawbacks of the pandemic. “For the area I would say it’s successful every year,” he said. “In the beginning it was a little dire, very strange, but people love

their media.” The Exclusive Company is known for selling Kenwood and DD audio products. “We sell Kenwood speakers still and DD Audio,” he said. “The interesting thing about DD audio is that we’re certified sellers; you can’t just buy it off of their website.” The demand for physical media, especially vinyl records, has increased in recent years. “You look at a cover compared to a CD. It’s got the gatefold with the inner liner notes, and people like that kind of thing,” he said. “With it being analog it’s got a better sound quality than a digital

format.” Schneider said people should listen to “In the Court of Crimson King” by King Crimson if they are looking for music recommendations. “You can’t go wrong with King Crimson’s ‘In the Court of Crimson King. It’s a pretty heavy record.” The record store is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The Exclusive Company will be hosting Record Store Day again this year on April 23.

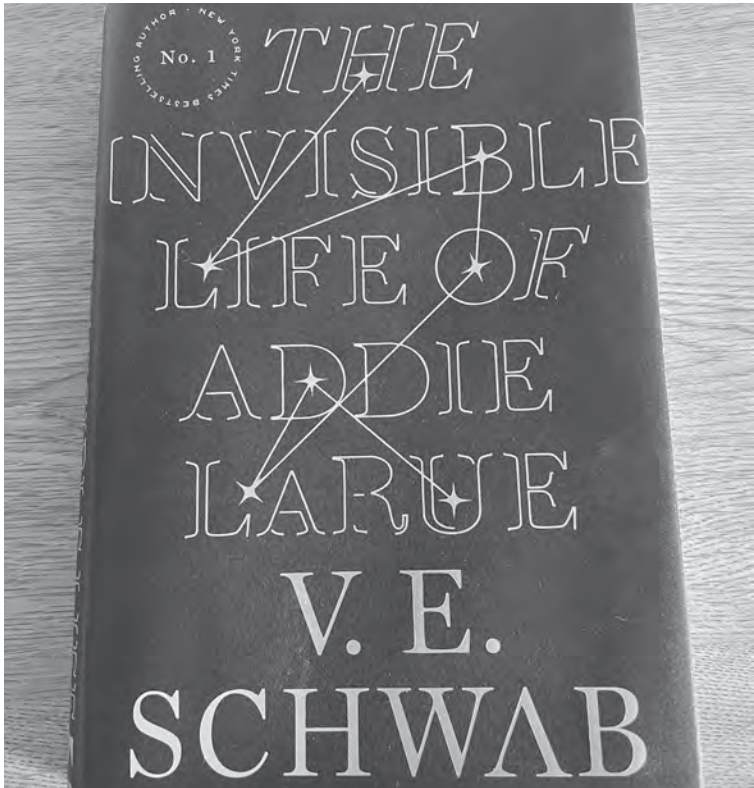
# ‘The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue’ is full of mystery

By Kylie Balk-Yaatenen  
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New York Times best seller “The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue” written by V. E. Schwab is a story about a young girl who makes a deal with a god to live forever, but it comes with a catch—no one will ever remember her. The story starts in France in 1714 and follows Addie LaRue, a young girl who is reaching the age where her family wants to marry her off. However, she does not want to give up her freedom. She makes little offerings to the old spirits of the Earth. In return they keep her from being married off. An old woman who also practices this type of magic told her to never make offerings in the night because otherwise something dark might answer. Her parents plan to marry her off and the night before her wedding, in a desperate moment she goes out to make an offer and calls out for someone to answer her. Something does answer her and agrees to give her everlasting life free from being tied down. She finds out she wasn’t clear enough in what she was asking when she goes to talk to her mother, who doesn’t know who she is. She was given everlasting life, but no one remembers her. But 300 years later, she walks into a bookstore and tells a man her name is

Addie and the next day, he remembers her. The book immediately sucks the reader in with the magic and mystery of it all. The timeline switches between the beginning of Addie’s story and modern times. You get to see her struggle with the burden of living forever but never making an impact on anything. In an interview with The New York Times the author V. E. Schwab said “The Invisible Life

of Addie LaRue is a tale of stubborn hope and defiant joy, about how far we will go to leave a mark on a world that is intent on forgetting us.” There is love, art, joy, pain and sorrow all woven into this book, and it is an interesting look into what life means and how we all want to leave an impact on the world.



Kylie Balk-Yaatenen / Advance-Titan  
‘The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue’ by V. E. Schwab.



Courtesy of Visit Oshkosh  
Downtown Oshkosh will host first ever Chocolate Stroll this Saturday. If you wanted to go it is too late as the event is sold out.

# Downtown Oshkosh Chocolate Stroll

By Kyra Slakes  
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Get ready, chocoholics! It’s time for the first Downtown Oshkosh Chocolate Stroll. The Downtown Chocolate Stroll takes place this Saturday, but it is now sold out, so you’ll have to wait for another year to get your chocolate fix. The event involves strolling down Oshkosh’s Main Street while doing a little bit of shopping at the lovely boutiques that line the streets. According to Melissa Stoeckert, owner of The Turquoise Door, “his event is sure to satisfy every sweet tooth

as each stop will have a delicious chocolate treat for you to enjoy.” There have been similar events in the past like Oshkosh’s Cocoa Crawl which was solely focused on hot cocoa to drink. According to Jessica Meidl, Downtown Business Improvement District Manager, “With the Chocolate Stroll we can have more sweet options and participants can save them for later in the buckets we provide. It’s a fun way to get out and do something to celebrate Valentine’s Day or Galentine’s Day and support our local businesses!”



# Should social media be used for news?

By Owen Peterson  
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As young Americans increasingly turn away from traditional media such as TV, radio and print in favor of getting their news through social media, concerns should be raised regarding how this may impact their perceptions and opinions.

48% of U.S. adults reported that they got news from social media “often” or “sometimes” in a 2021 Pew Research Center poll, which is down from 53% in the 2020 Pew poll, but a significant amount nonetheless.

Looking at political coverage specifically, 18% of U.S. adults use social media as their primary source of political news according to another 2020 Pew poll, a percentage only trumped by the amount of U.S. adults who use news websites/apps for political news (25%).

That same poll also shows what most would have already assumed: that most of the people who use social media as a primary source of political news are between the ages of 18 and 29 (48%). Not only that, but the 18-29-year-old demographic also makes up the smallest percentage of users of traditional media, such as print (7%), radio (12%) and network TV (5%).

This shift to social media for news comes not only as a result of the ever-rapid integration of technology into society (particularly by that younger generation), but is likely also a result of the overall distrust of the media, with only 37% of U.S. adults trusting the media to report the news “fairly” and “accurately” according to 2021 Gallup poll.

Whatever the causes for this shift, concerns arise over the usage of social media as a primary news source, including the creation of echo chambers and the lack of fact checking/gate-keeping.

In an environment where one dictates what they are shown and who they wish to receive information from, it’s easy to accidentally (or purposely) create an echo chamber — an en-



vironment in which one only encounters beliefs that concur with their preexisting ones, reinforcing prior beliefs and ignoring alternate ones.

Echo chambers aren’t unique to social media, but the design of the platforms lends itself to their creation, giving users the ability to receive more of a certain perspective (following, liking) and filter out others entirely (blocking, muting or even simply not interacting).

Beyond a user’s direct influence over what they see on social media, the algorithms of social media platforms function to send users similar content to that which they already see/like, further solidifying their schemata.

Even when not done intentionally, it’s not hard to see how these echo chambers can be created over time as a result of seemingly inconsequential decisions. A few offhand likes and follows, combined with the odd block or two, and the feedback

loop has already started. From there, all the offered perspectives become uniform under the guise of being a true consensus, leading the user to a false sense of reality.

This, of course, places the onus on users to carefully curate the content they consume in order to get balanced and unbiased coverage.

In addition to this, social media hosts a large amount of misinformation, making it all the more important for one to be vigilant about what they believe.

In the 2020 Pew poll, those who used social media as their primary source of political news were exposed to conspiracy theories much more than any other group, with 26% of them being exposed “a lot” and 54% “a little.” On top of this, the social media group also showed some of the lowest amount of political knowledge, with 57% displaying “low political knowledge” and only 17% displaying “high

political knowledge (only the “Local TV” group performed worse).

While the results of that second set of figures could reasonably be due to a general lack of interest in politics (as is often characteristic of the younger generation that makes up a lot of the social media group), the first set is more revealing, as such exposure to misinformation can alter one’s perception of what is true (especially under the false pretense of viewing balanced and accurate coverage).

Traditionally, media outlets act as gatekeepers of information, regulating the flow of information and what viewers see, and while this is not a flawless system by any means, whatever protection that it does offer is diluted in an environment where people can post whatever they want.

This is not something likely to be stopped, either, as moderation of information on social media platforms to that extent

is a massive undertaking, and, cynically speaking, the platforms profit from increased usage, and nothing drives engagement quite like controversy.

On a positive note, a study done by PR firm DKC showed that 48% of Gen Zers (despite getting most of their news on social media) said that they generally do not trust social media.

All of this is not to say that everything on social media is false and you should delete all the apps immediately, but to contend that more scrutiny is required when receiving news on platforms where information is less moderated than it would be coming from a traditional media outlet.

Steps as simple as actually clicking links (not just reading the headline), seeing if other sources are reporting the same information and double-checking if the account that posted is authentic can help anyone avoid misinformation.

# My bone to pick with New Year’s resolutions

By Cory Sparks  
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Seeing that this is the first issue of The Advance-Titan of 2022, I figured this would be a phenomenal time to address my issue with New Year’s resolutions.

Before you page over, this is not (entirely) the typical rant critiquing the world’s innate need to “become a new person” when the ball drops in their time zone.

While I do think it’s silly to pick a specific day to start chasing after a new goal or pursuing a transformation into a better version of oneself, I will not shut down someone who wants to improve their life.

What I will shut down is the strategy and pressure involved with the idea of a New Year’s resolution.

Let’s take “working out more” as an example. On Jan. 1, nearly every fitness machine in every gym is occupied from open to

close.

Most gyms will remain in that crowded state for the next couple of weeks, with fluctuations in between, but after a couple of months, the number of people going to the gym drops off significantly.

Why is this? I believe it’s because once someone gets too busy and skips a workout or eats poorly for a day, they convince themselves that they’ve ravaged their entire year’s goals and are doomed.

This can lead to binge eating, going months without working out and waiting for the next New Year to roll around to begin this monotonous process all over again.

This example, which is reflective of the way most resolutions go, is why I have a proposal for anyone reading this who makes New Year’s resolutions.

Instead of having a New Year’s resolution, why not have a “New Day’s” resolution? This mentality challenges you to be-

come an improved version of yourself every day, but it’s not as exhaustive as expecting perfection for a year.

The best part?

If you mess up, you get to start over tomorrow.

Instead of expecting a 365-day lifestyle change from the get-go on Jan. 1, understand that mistakes happen, and there is always an opportunity to chase after your goals tomorrow instead of next year.





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