

The Advance-Titan

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Student jumpstarts Ukraine supply drive

By Nolan Swenson
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Many Ukrainians have stepped up to aid their country by taking up arms, preparing defenses or attempting to help those affected by the Russian attacks, but the movement of supporting Ukraine is not exclusively regulated to citizens of that country. One UW Oshkosh student knows this feeling better than most people as he has friends in Ukraine.

“My initial response to the invasion was my heart sinking,” said senior Raiden Montero who went on a wrestling and mission trip to Ukraine in 2019. “The first thing I thought of was all my friends. Did they make it out of Ukraine safely? Did they stay to fight? Then I thought about the country itself. The beautiful country in which I left a piece of my heart was under attack.”

Montero said he decided to take steps to aid those hurting from the current conflict and create a drive for clothing and necessary supplies. The drive continues through Friday. People can drop off non-perishable food, new clothes, blue and yellow painters tape (to tape windows from shattering), first aid kits, tents and sleeping bags at drop boxes around campus, such as one at Reeve Union’s Titan Central. On Saturday, supplies will be loaded into a transport during a rally at the Opera House Square from 1-3 p.m..

Montero’s experience with Ukraine began when wrestling coach Efrain Ayala informed him of the opportunity to travel, wrestle and preach as a member of Athletes In Action, a Christian athlete organization. Montero had to choose between traveling to Mongolia or Ukraine. Due to his interest in eastern and Slavic countries, he chose Ukraine.

“After getting the money together, I left and met all of my teammates leaving with me in Chicago,” he said. They traveled to London and then Kyiv, and before beginning a one-week cultural journey that took him to all corners of the country and led him to meet all kinds of people.

Montero said the first week was spent practicing mixed martial arts and exploring the country. He said he spent much of his exploration of the country learning about religion, as he was intrigued with Eastern Orthodox culture.

“We spent a lot of time doing church and Bible study,” he said. “We visited prisons and preached



Cory Sparks / Advance-Titan

Senior Raiden Montero has friends who reside in Ukraine. As Ukrainian refugees flee to Poland, Montero started this drive with the intention of helping his friends and other civilians. The supply box is located by Titan Central in Reeve Union.



Courtesy of Raiden Montero

Raiden Montero traveled to London and Kyiv during his 2019 trip.

and played soccer with inmates. After the prisons, we visited an orphanage and preached there.”

It was then that he had one of his most memorable moments in the country. Montero happened upon a Spanish child who had no one to share her native tongue with. Being Thai-Latino, Montero said he felt the importance of presence and began talking with her in ways that no one else could.

The second week was an athletic marathon of wrestling workouts and eating, which concluded with a massive wrestling tournament that included Americans, Turks, Armenians, Ukrainians and Russians.

“At the end of the weeklong

camp, there was a lot of preaching, food and love,” Montero said.

Since the end of his trip, he has kept in touch with his foreign friends via social media.

“I have only been able to stay in contact with three of my friends in Ukraine,” Montero said. “One is currently a refugee in Poland. Two others, both of whom I grappled and feasted with in Fastiv, are now decked out in makeshift military gear and AK-47s, fighting for their freedom.”

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee agency reports that over 2 million Ukrainians have fled the country since the beginning of the Russian invasion (as of March 8).

Montero said he was moved by the harrowing stories he saw on social media and in the news. Upset at the comments calling the invasion a “European problem,” he decided to step in. At an Oshkosh Student Association (OSA) meeting earlier this month, he proposed a food drive to help refugees fleeing the war-stricken country.

“My pitch mainly consisted of my personal connection with Ukraine to show people how much the media isn’t truly capturing the horrors of what is going on, and then bringing up the staggering amount of Ukrainian refugees that have been forced to flee their homes,” he said.

Montero said he explained to the OSA board members that these refugees need new clothes and supplies.

This pitch succeeded, and within a week, the food drive was underway.

“When Raiden started talking about this initiative, I was proud to see his passion and desire to help others,” Associate Director for Student Involvement Missy Burgess said. “One of my favorite parts of working with students is seeing ideas like this one come to fruition, with the hard work and knowledge we have with pro-

fessionals on campus.”

OSA club president Jacob Fischer also voiced OSA’s full support for Montero’s food drive.

“Raiden is an exceptional person,” Fischer said. “He has a vision for this, and we want to let him steer this event in the way he wants.”

Montero said the initial response was positive.

“People were interested, their hearts were in it for the refugees and defenders, but we were tasked with the ‘how’ of this project,” Montero said. He is also working with Wisconsin Ukrainians, a local group helping to expedite the donations heading overseas.

Montero said his trip to Ukraine made him realize the pride Ukrainians have in themselves as a people. “They respect and appreciate each other ... and it has brought them together through thick and thin,” he said.

While some people think pride is a negative thing to have, it can mean something grand. “Pride is great for me because I’m Thai-Latino [and] I don’t see faces like mine,” Montero said. “Being able to relate with people like that and understand that we share a culture that goes deeper than genetics is amazing.”

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Shelters Over Mills

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

Algoma Boulevard reconstruction project starts this week with utility installation

By Kelly Hueckman
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The reconstruction of Algoma Boulevard and Vine Avenue will begin this week with utility installation in the vacated Blackhawk Street right-of-way, while Algoma Boulevard will be closed to traffic from the beginning of April through June.

Sanitary sewer, water main, storm sewer, and corresponding laterals will be installed, replaced, or repaired, as needed, and electrical work will be completed prior to placing new concrete pavement.

At a recent informational session, City of Oshkosh Engineering Division Manager Justin Gierach said the entirety of Algoma Boulevard will be closed to traffic, but will allow mail deliveries and garbage pickup units to the campus buildings.

“We’re changing High Avenue into a temporary two-way to help traffic run from the campus out of the area,” Gierach said.

The project will affect Algoma from Wisconsin Avenue.

Following the project, there will still be a northbound two-lane one-way street as well as a bike lane and a loading zone.

An initial bid of \$8.6 million for the project is mainly funded by storm, sanitary and water utility fees, as well as the general tax levy fund, which is used for lighting and pavement construction.

“With all of the ancillary costs and engineering fees included, we are currently up over \$10 million,” he said.

Gierach said that the goal is to complete the pavement and



Josh Fannin / Advance-Titan

landscaping construction by the time the fall 2022 semester starts. However, students should not expect Algoma to be open until the end of November as the city finalizes the project.

Gierach said that the biggest concern from the university is people wondering how they will get to work and where they will park.

Gierach said that the university and the city of Oshkosh are keeping in contact with how life on campus will continue during the

construction period.

“It’s going to be a work in progress,” Gierach said. “We will try to address concerns as they arise.”

Still, Gierach said that the university can expect most parking lots to remain open for the majority of construction.

According to the March 4 City Manager weekly newsletter, other expected phases of construction include:

- High Avenue (Vine Avenue to Osceola Street) – Starts the week of March 14, with three

weeks anticipated for utility installation.

- Vine Avenue (High Avenue to Algoma Boulevard) – Starts the week of March 21, with an anticipated six weeks for utility installation.

Students, staff and faculty can expect construction and traffic restriction email updates from the university as the project nears and can also subscribe to the City of Oshkosh distribution list to stay informed.

Go Green for Menstrual Hygiene

By Anya Kelley
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In five years, undergraduate students at UW Oshkosh will use more than 6.8 million tampons with plastic applicators, all ending up in the landfill. The cost to the environment and individual students is staggering, yet many don’t even realize it.

As part of Womxn’s HERstory Month, Brianna Storino presented the Go Green for Menstrual Hygiene workshop at the UWO Women’s Center on March 7.



Storino, a geology major, has a love for nature and all things sustainability, which led her to running the menstrual equity project after doing a work study at the Women’s Center.

The workshop was started by the Oshkosh Student Association in 2018 in hopes of decreasing menstrual products’ environmental impact and working to make menstrual products financially sustainable. The overarching theme of the night: destigmatize the talk about menstruation.

Storino’s lighthearted approach to the topic of menstruation helped the group loosen up and feel comfortable sharing their personal experiences with menstruation.

Over five years, the average student will use somewhere around 900 tampons with plastic applicators and 225 panty liners or pads with plastic lining and adhesive, all of which will eventually make its way into the waste management system.

In five years, the average number of tampons with plastic applicators used by undergraduate students will be somewhere around 6,874,200, Storino said. When you add the amount of tampons used by graduate students to the undergraduates total, the UWO campus will add 7.2 million tampons/applicators to the waste management system.

Plastics like polyethylene require an intensive energy process to produce. This process results in a vast amount of CO2 emissions, ramping up the average menstruator’s carbon footprint to 5.2kg through menstrual hygiene products alone.

By switching to sustainable hygiene products, the carbon footprint drops to 3.2kg. “That’s about a 30% reduction,” Storino said.

The average menstruator will spend \$6,360 on menstrual products in their lifetime.

Storino said sustainability isn’t just about making a positive impact on the environment. Reusable menstrual hygiene products can be more cost effective for those experiencing period poverty, which is inadequate access to menstrual hygiene tools and education. Products like the Diva Cup, a reusable silicone cup used

for catching menstrual blood, can last anywhere from 8-10 years if taken care of properly.

That’s a one time purchase every 8-10 years as opposed to buying a new box of tampons every month.

Jasmine Anderson and Mackenzie Navis are doing their Community Health Certificate placement with the Women’s Center.

Anderson and Navis are working together to pilot a program that will place menstrual hygiene products in all academic buildings on campus. As this project is currently a work in progress, keep an eye out for bulletin boards and flyers throughout campus.

“Anyone can get free or low-cost hygiene products on campus,” Anderson said.

The Cabinet, UWO’s food pantry, allows for students to come and take as many products as they need free of charge once a week with their Titan ID. The Cabinet is always looking for products to be donated.

By attending a Go Green for Menstrual Hygiene workshop, students can receive a free Diva Cup, reusable pad and/or organic tampons. The Women’s Center also always has menstrual hygiene products free of charge for anyone who might need them.

“Many people are being impacted by the issues related to menstrual hygiene and I don’t think it’s OK for this to be an issue for a single person, so something needs to be done,” Navis said. “I think spreading awareness is the first



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
Switching to a menstrual cup is one way to prevent waste in menstrual products.


step to fixing these problems.”

Anderson said she wanted to spread awareness because she only recently realized there was an insecurity on menstrual hygiene. “[It’s] something that individuals who menstruate often struggle with monthly,” she said. “Having a period isn’t really something individuals can choose when to have. Financial insecurities can lead to poor menstrual hygiene. I wanted to spread awareness because I also didn’t realize the lack of resources that were promoted to campus individuals.”

The Women’s Center is working hard to create awareness and positive change for those who menstruate. The Go Green for Menstrual Hygiene workshop runs two to three times per month, with an option to schedule a time that works for you. The full schedule is found at uwosh.edu/womenscenter/programs/whm/.

Sports

Calendar



Scoreboard

Friday, March 4
Women's Basketball
UW Oshkosh - 48
Wisconsin Lutheran College - 42
Men's Basketball
UW Oshkosh - 92
Blackburn College - 74
Baseball
UW Oshkosh - 0
Millikin University - 3

Saturday, March 5
Women's Basketball
UW Oshkosh - 64
Simpson College - 56
Men's Basketball
UW Oshkosh - 74
Case Western Reserve University - 77
Baseball
UW Oshkosh - 2
Coe College - 5
Softball
UW Oshkosh - 0
Concordia University (WI) - 5
Softball
UW Oshkosh - 3
Lawrence University - 0
Gymnastics
1/8, 192.300

Sunday, March 6
Softball
UW Oshkosh - 6
UW-Superior - 7
Softball
UW Oshkosh - 9
College of St. Scholastica - 0
Baseball
UW Oshkosh - 9
Coe College - 1

Upcoming Events

Friday, March 11
Track and Field
vs NCAA Division III Indoor Championship at Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Wrestling
vs NCAA Division III Championship at Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Women's Basketball
vs Baldwin Wallace University at UW-Whitewater 5 p.m.

Saturday, March 12
Track and Field
vs NCAA Division III Indoor Championship at Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Wrestling
vs NCAA Division III Championship at Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Baseball
vs Transylvania University at Transylvania University 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Sunday, March 13
Baseball
vs Transylvania University at Transylvania University 11 a.m.



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

The gymnastic team poses after their away victory at Whitewater. UWO has been the defending champions of the WIAC title.

UWO flipping out in WIAC

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh gymnastics team won back-to-back Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) titles Saturday at the Kachel Fieldhouse in Whitewater.

Sophomore Emily Buffington won two events at the conference.

The Titans scored 192.3 points, a new school record, to narrowly edge UW-Whitewater by less than a point. The two teams entered the final exercise tied at 144.55 until Oshkosh put up 47.75 points on the balance beam to capture its 16th WIAC Championship in program history.

“We were not able to look at the scores at all besides our individual scores when the judges would flash it up, so we didn’t know we were tied,” Buffington said. “We just went into it and hoped for the best.”

UWO established a school and NCAA Division III record by scoring 48.8 points on the uneven parallel bars. Buffington finished first in the event, receiving a 9.85 score from the judges to win her first WIAC individual title on the bars. Three gymnasts were tied for second in the event, as Oshkosh’s Kaylie Berens, Rahdea Jarvis, along with UW-La Crosse’s Kerrie

Legault, scored a 9.775.

“It was insane,” Buffington said. “I didn’t think that would happen, but we had a really good bar rotation, so the energy from the team really helped everyone do their best.”

Jarvis said it felt good to win the conference title, especially being able to do it back-to-back in the year after COVID-19 shut the season down.

“We started out the season not really knowing what was going to happen,” Jarvis said. “So being able to actually do it and achieve our goal of winning [the conference] was really nice.”

Oshkosh scored 47.775 in the Vault event, coming in third behind UWL and UWW. Buffington won another individual title, receiving a 9.875 score from the judges for her routine. Senior Emily Gilot tied for second with four other gymnasts, scoring 9.775 points on the vault for the Titans.

“The vault [routine] was so crazy,” Buffington said. “I don’t know how I stuck that landing. We had a good warmup, but we had a couple of falls, so to come out and have a high score to help the team was really great.”

The Titans came in third as a team on the floor exercise, receiving a 47.975 score from the judges,

finishing behind Whitewater and La Crosse. Trinity Sawyer scored a 9.700 for her routine, tying for fourth with Andrea O’Connel from UW-Eau Claire and Jenna Danning from UWL. Sawyer was the highest scorer for UWO in the event. Oshkosh’s Olivia Keller tied with two other gymnasts for seventh on the floor exercise with a score of 9.675. Rachel Chesley from UWL received a 9.825 for her routine as she took home the individual title for the event.

“We have had a lot of adversity this year, so to come back and be back-to-back champions is awesome,” Buffington said. “This was my first conference, so to come out on top as a team is really cool.”

Anna Zoromski led the way for Oshkosh in the balance beam by scoring 9.625 points in her fourth-place finish. Kaira Hammond finished fifth in the event, receiving a 9.600 for her routine, as UWO took first place as a team with a score of 47.750. La Crosse’s Emma Grant won the individual title on the balance beam with a score of 9.750.

Emily North from UWW won the all-around competition with a score of 38.325. There were no Titans competing in the all-around event.

The WIAC championship meet was also the National Collegiate

Gymnastics Association (NCGA) West Regional. Behind Oshkosh in the championship standings was Whitewater, La Crosse, UW-Stout, Eau Claire, Winona State, Gustavus Adolphus and Hamline University. The top three teams, along with several qualified gymnasts, will move on to the NCGA Championship meet.

“Going to the National Championship is really exciting,” Jarvis said. “I think we’re going into it like we go into every other meet with the hope that we bring home a trophy at the end and add another year to our national championship banners.”

Buffington said the team is going to work hard on fixing the little mistakes they made, and thinks the team will hit the ground running in the NCGA Championship.

“This is redemption for two years ago when we were champions and never got the opportunity to play,” Buffington said. “So I think we are going to try our hardest and prepare the best we can.”

UWO, which is ranked second in Division III by RoadToNationals.com, went unbeaten against its Division III opponents this season and will compete in the NCGA Championship on March 26 at the Ithaca College Ben Light Gymnasium in Ithaca, New York.

Wishing womens b-ball a Sweet 16

By Nolan Swenson
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UW Oshkosh women’s basketball made a comeback after their loss in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) semifinals, with back-to-back wins Friday and Saturday in the NCAA Division III championships. Those wins last weekend have elevated them to the Sweet 16. The upcoming third round will be Friday against Baldwin Wallace University at UW-Whitewater.

Last Friday, UWO faced off against Wisconsin Lutheran College, which resulted in a score of 48-42. Head coach Brad Fischer described the game as “a freaking battle,” and he attributed it to their opponent’s great defense and ability to create jams in the court. Senior Abby Kaiser knew what this chance to play meant to her when



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Nikki Arnesen moves in for a shot, scoring 20 points that game.

she said, “When we got sent home two years ago. We’ve spent every moment trying to get back here [in the NCAA D-III tournament].”

After facing off against the Wisconsin Lutheran, UWO moved to take on Simpson College the following night. Their game resulted in a score of 64-56. The game fea-

tured a strong UWO defense, with Simpson College having its lowest scoring output since the 2017-18 season.

“This was one of the best teams in the country,” said Fischer. “They are a final four level team, if not national champions.”

The game paved the way for

UWO’s third straight Sweet 16 run and Kennedy Osterman’s first.

She summed up her response to this run with three words when she said, “Incredible, awesome and unbelievable.” She then continued to talk about the current senior class, “I wouldn’t want to do this with anyone else.”

On Friday, UWO will face Baldwin Wallace University, an Ohio team with a six-and-a-half hour trek to Whitewater. Some pregame stats to note before Friday are that BWU has a 23-4 record, an average of 67.6 points per game and an average of 15.4 turnovers per game.

The matchup is sure to be challenging, but head coach Fischer is confident.

“We’ve had some years where we’ve played better, but I don’t know if we’ve had many years where we work tougher,” he said.

Titans fall to CWRU 77-74 in shocker

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh men’s basketball team fell to Case Western Reserve University 77-74 on Saturday at the Kolf Sports Center in the second round of the Division III Men’s Basketball Tournament.

The Spartans (20-6) stormed back from 16 points down to advance to the Sweet 16. Cole Frilling, who scored just four points in the game, scored the go-ahead basket with nine seconds to go to put Case Western on top 75-74. CWRU is playing in their first NCAA Tournament in program history.

After the game, Titan head coach Matt Lewis said the team did a phenomenal job in the loss.

“It’s after losses like this that it’s kinda hard to comprehend fully what just occurred,” Lewis said. “Obviously they played a great game. We just came up one possession short. Unfortunately in the world of sports, that’s what happens sometimes.”

UWO (23-4), ranked third in the country by D3hoops.com, was led by senior Eddie Muench who scored 21 points in the loss. The WIAC player of the year Levi Borchert was held to seven points and 11 rebounds. Hunter Plamann, a WIAC First Team selection, scored 16 points and grabbed four rebounds for the Titans.

“I just let the game come to me and my teammates got me open,” Muench said. “This has been the



Kyra Slakes / Advance-Titan

Senior Eddie Muench scored 21 points in the Division III Tournament second round loss to Case Western Reserve.

best year of my life, so I’m so grateful for these opportunities. I’ll never take it for granted. I’m just grateful for all that has happened.”

CWRU guard Mitch Prendergast led the Spartans with 15 points. Prendergast went into the game as the second-best free-throw shooter in the nation, shooting 93.4% from the charity stripe. CWRU domi-

nated in bench points, outscoring UWO 44-21. Off the bench, Ryan Newton and Hunter Drenth scored 21 and 19 points, respectively, in the win.

“I honestly don’t know what just happened,” CWRU head coach Todd McGuinness said after the game. “When they went on a 7-0 run I thought we were in a little

bit of trouble, but this team battled back. I didn’t even have to say very much at halftime. It was just a great effort, these guys just don’t want to lose.”

The Titans took an early 7-5 lead after Plamann converted on a three-point play, and UWO would lead the game until the 7:13 mark of the second half. Oshkosh slowly built

their lead to 41-27 by the end of the first period.

Cole Booth scored 14 seconds into the second half to give the Titans a 16-point lead, their largest of the game. The contest quickly took a bad turn for the Titans, who saw their lead cut to just one point with 7:38 remaining. The Spartans claimed their first lead of the game since the opening two minutes after a pair of Frilling free throws. Oshkosh responded with points from Plamann and Muench as the Titans went up 68-62 with 2:30 to go.

UWO was up 74-70 with 30 seconds left but gave up the final seven points to CWRU. Prendergast was fouled on a three-pointer and converted all of his attempts. On the in-bounds pass, Plamann was trapped in the corner and the referees called a jump ball, giving the possession back to the Spartans.

Frilling scored the go-ahead shot with nine seconds after he grabbed an offensive board and scored off a layup. The Titans turned the ball over and were forced to commit a foul on Prendergast with 1.1 seconds to go. Prendergast was perfect in his trip to the line, increasing the Case Western lead to 77-74. Muench threw up a wild shot at the buzzer but hit the side of the rim as the Titans fell to CWRU.

Five Titans received all conference recognition last Wednesday as Borchert, Muench and Plamann were selected to the All-WIAC First Team. Lewis was named WIAC Coach of the Year.

Herd’s Gabriel joins the Los Angeles Lakers

By Jacob Link
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The Los Angeles Lakers signed Wisconsin Herd forward Wenyen

Gabriel to a two-way contract on March 2, the fourth NBA team that has signed Gabriel this season.

A Two-way contract means that Gabrielle can play on both the Lak-

ers and their G League affiliate, the South Bay Lakers.

The 6’-9” forward played in eight games this season for the Herd, the NBA G League affiliate

of the Milwaukee Bucks, and averaged 16.3 points, 9.5 rebounds and 2.4 assists per game. Gabriel, from South Sudan, has had eight double-doubles and five 20+ point

games this year in the G League.

Gabriel said that moving up and down between the NBA and G League is part of the G League experience.

“We get called down here so we can get called back up to the NBA,” Gabriel said. “I think it’s great that a lot of our guys got the opportunity to play in the NBA this season.”

Gabriel was signed to 10-day contracts with the Brooklyn Nets, the Los Angeles Clippers and, most recently, the New Orleans Pelicans this season. He appeared in six NBA games with the Clippers, averaging 2.3 points and 2.3 rebounds in 7.7 minutes per game.

“Moving up to the NBA also opens up a lot of opportunities for people down here [in the G league], and much of the game is about opportunities,” Gabriel said. “I think just being up and down and being ready for whatever the game throws at you is important.”

The former five-star recruit played at the University of Kentucky for two seasons, averaging 6.8 points and 5.4 rebounds per game in his sophomore season. Gabriel led the team in blocks with 40, as the Wildcats made it to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA Tournament.

The Herd will play the Maine Celtics at home on March 13.

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Arts & Entertainment



Mattie Beck / Advance-Titan

The annual Womxn Leading UWO exhibit is located on the second floor of Reeve Union and is available until the end of March. The exhibit displays UWO’s women.

New exhibit celebrates women

By **Mattie Beck**
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Currently located on the second floor of Reeve Union is the annual Womxn Leading UWO exhibit, formerly known as the Titan LeadHERship exhibit. The exhibit features women leaders from the three different campuses and shines a light on them and their inspiring stories. Darinka Lechuga, an intern at the Women’s Center, put together this year’s exhibit and was inspired by achievements and

awareness. “As it promotes women’s leadership experiences and achievements, it also shows awareness on gender leadership gap by inspiring the women-identified students to see themselves as a women leading UWO,” Lechuga said. The exhibit shows women in leadership roles throughout the universities, and while some were nominated others were sought out by Lechuga and other employees. “Besides nominations, the Women’s Center used Titan Connections to look for presidents

and advisors of a student organization on all three campuses,” Lechuga said. Though the exhibit does a great job of highlighting women in leadership roles, the exhibit is also meant to raise awareness of a lack of leadership. “Our biggest hope that people take away from this exhibit is showing the awareness of the gender leadership gap on all three campuses,” Lechuga said. The exhibit is also meant to have another takeaway, which is to inspire those who see it. “Last but not least, the Wom-

en’s Center hopes to continue to inspire individuals as they move forward in their leadership paths,” Lechuga said. Along with this exhibit, there was a leadership conference that opened to women across the campuses to come and interact with one another. For Lechuga, her favorite part was the opportunities that were provided by this conference that the exhibit went along with. “The conference portion of this gave the opportunity to the campus community to come together and celebrate the women

on campus who hold leadership positions,” Lechuga said. The conference was held on March 4 and 5 and provided those who attended with networking opportunities, a chance to talk with other leaders and breakout sessions. “I also thought the breakout sessions were a great way to integrate leadership with education and how they connect to being a successful leader,” Lechuga said. The exhibit will be running until the end of Women’s Month and can be found on the second floor of Reeve.



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by Lauren Gunderson
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Adopt, don't shop: Shelters save lives

By Kyra Slakes
slakesky39@uwosh.edu

There are an estimated 10,000 puppy mills in the United States and more than 2 million puppies are bred in mills each year. In addition, an estimated 1.2 million dogs are euthanized in shelters yearly.

These statistics are large and alarming.

Many puppies that are found at puppy mills are not taken care of. They may have bleeding and swollen paws from the wire cages they're in, severe tooth decay, severe ear infections, suffer from dehydration or have a plethora of other health issues.

In most states, puppy mills are legal as long as the owners go through training and get the proper permits. But there are the "backyard breeders" who decide to have some dogs to make money off them. According to the Humane Society of the United States, in 2009 Wisconsin became the 10th state to adopt legislation cracking down on puppy mills, "requiring licensing, inspection and basic standards of humane care at large-scale dog breeding operations."

But all too often, puppy mills will overbreed dogs despite the dogs having some kind of genetic defect or other kinds of health issues. Again, some of the breeders don't care. As long as they can make money, they're going to keep doing what they're doing.

Once a mother dog is no longer able to produce puppies, the mill owners often kill her



Kyra Slakes / Advance-Titan

Adopting from animal shelters is a great way to expand your family while saving abandoned animals in need of a loving home.

because she is no longer useful to them. Sometimes, they will kill the mother dogs by starving them, shooting them, drowning them, beating them or a number of other cruel and heartless ways.

While there are a number of no-kill shelters across the United States — including the Oshkosh Area Humane Society — those shelters only have so much room and if they run out of room, it's

more likely that those other dogs will end up at a shelter that does euthanize them.

Laws vary from state to state about how long a dog must be in a shelter before it can be euthanized. Some shelters have a five to seven day period before they'll do anything; others only give 48 to 72 hours.

In Wisconsin, the person that has custody of an animal may have the animal euthanized if

there are reasonable grounds to believe that the animal is hopelessly injured beyond any reasonable chance of recovery or the animal poses an imminent threat to public health or safety.

The Wisconsin Humane Society never euthanizes animals for reasons of space or time. All animals in their adoption program have as long as it takes to find a new home.

We all enjoy having our pets

in our lives, and we treat our pets like family, so if you're looking to expand your family in this manner, adopt, don't shop. To learn more about animal adoption, go to the Wisconsin Humane Society website at wihumane.org.

UW Oshkosh deserves a hockey rink

By Jacob Link
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For some, hockey is synonymous with winter in Wisconsin. But the city of Oshkosh, the ninth largest city in the state, does not have a single public hockey rink.

Oshkosh has just one public skating rink, located at Roe Park, but the rules of the rink state that there is no hockey allowed. Those interested in playing hockey for fun must either trek out the Oshkosh YMCA on 20th Avenue or play on Lake Winnebago. This would force students at UW Oshkosh to travel almost two miles to reach a pickup game of hockey.

At the YMCA, visitors who want to play hockey must pay for ice time. Currently, it costs \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members to play hockey on the ice. The YMCA also requires full pads and helmets for playing a friendly pickup game. According to newtohockey.com, a full set of new pads and a helmet cost between \$500 and \$1,000. This is a ridiculous price for anyone who just wants to play a casual game of hockey.

I don't know many people who play pickup hockey that have all the "required" equipment. For the average outdoor hockey player, a stick, puck and



Courtesy of Oshkosh YMCA

The Oshkosh YMCA requires hockey players to pay a fee to utilize the rink as well as wear full gear.

skates are all that are needed. The YMCA does not rent out pads for users but rents skates for \$1.50 for members and \$3 for non-members.

The other option for hockey lovers is to play on Lake Winnebago. This can be dangerous because the ice is not monitored by anyone and can crack or shift at any time. Ice conditions also vary from day to day, and it's

usually only early in the winter that you find the smooth ice without snow on top that makes for good skating. Plus, if there was a recent snowstorm, you'd need to shovel first.

My recommendation for UWO is to put up an outdoor hockey rink on campus. There would be plenty of interest for hockey since most of the student body comes from Wisconsin

and Minnesota, which is known as the hockey state. It would also provide an opportunity for people not from the Midwest to learn about the cultural significance of hockey to the people of this area.

The cost of operating a hockey rink is not as steep as you would think. According to Pat Baye, recreation supervisor of the Green Bay Parks, Recre-

ation and Forestry Department, it costs \$3,545.28 to run one hockey rink over the winter season.

"We averaged 45 people per night at each hockey rink [this season]," Baye said. "The length of the season varies greatly from year to year, depending on the overall temperature and sun."

The cost may look significant, but students would pay just over 23 cents each if the university divided its cost equally among the 15,209 students enrolled at UWO for the fall semester. The university already forces students to pay for the Student Recreation and Wellness Center as well as the Rec Plex in their bill each semester. If UW Oshkosh can raise its tuition every few years, it can afford to add 23 cents to the bill.

UWO has a field that, for as long as I have been here, has not been utilized. East Hall Park contains a flat, large open area that would be perfect for a hockey rink. It would finally give the university a use for a park that is forgotten about. What is the point of UWO owning land that they do not use?

UWO already has special facilities for basketball, soccer, tennis and lacrosse for students to use. It is time the university added a hockey rink to the mix.



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