

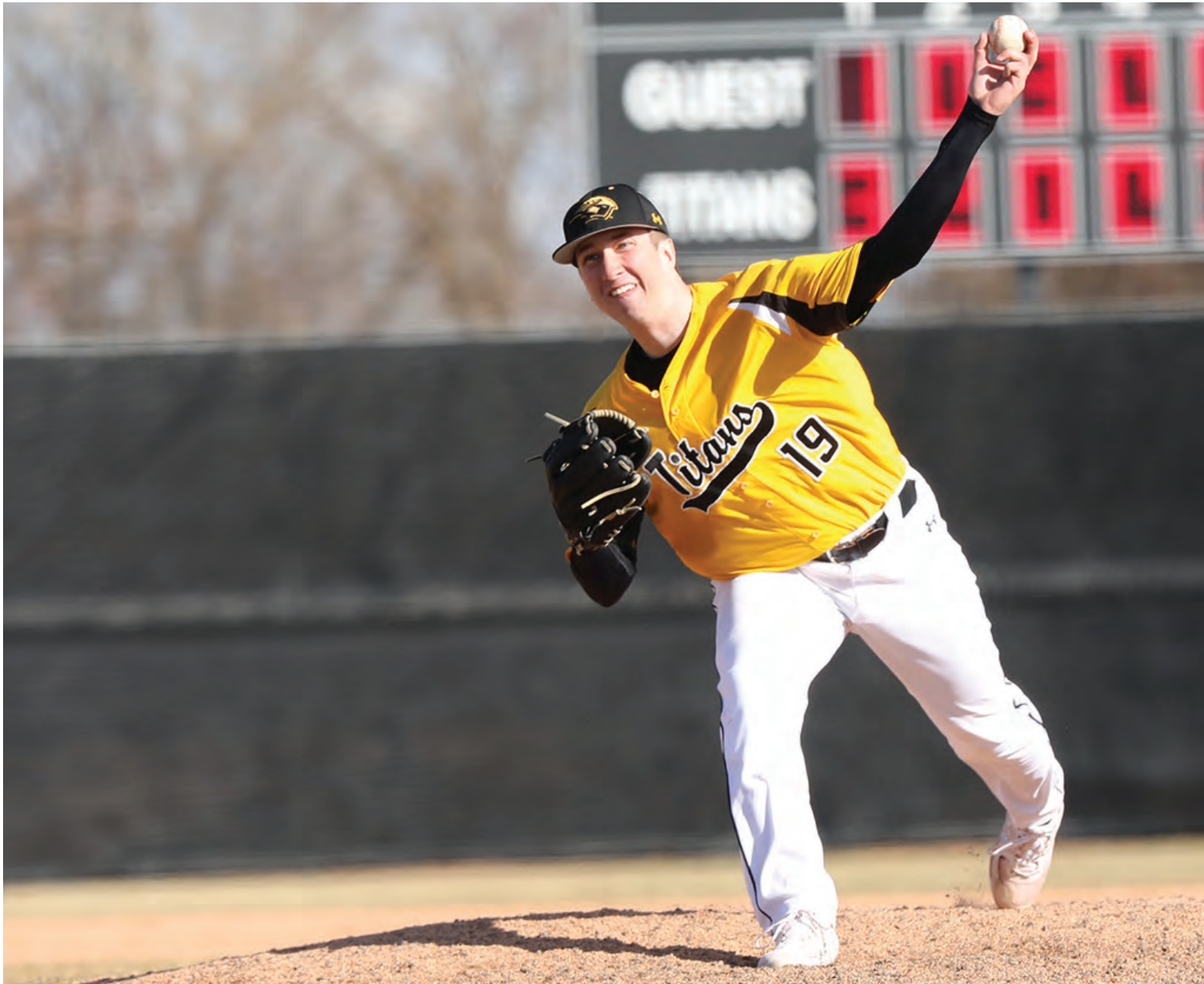
# The Advance-Titan

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Courtesy of UWO Baseball Twitter

Brinkman pitches in a game where he went six innings, struck out 10 batters and gave up two earned runs in 16-5 blowout over Finlandia University on April 15.

## On the 'Brink' of perfection

### UWO pitcher leads WIAC in multiple categories

By Cory Sparks  
sparkc21@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh freshman pitcher Connor Brinkman has been nothing short of outstanding this year, as he has been essential to the Titans' nine-game winning streak.

The New London native has a 5-2 record with a 1.40 ERA and 60 strikeouts so far this year.

Brinkman had a notable performance of 16 strikeouts and just one earned run given up over eight innings in a 5-4 win over the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) on March 13.

While Brinkman has experienced some success as a starter for the Titans, he said his love for the game is what got him into the sport to begin with.

"I started playing baseball when I was pretty young, and ever since I started I've always loved the game," Brinkman said. "I grew up watching my brothers play, my father was my coach and I always thought that it was fun to play."

Brinkman has a competitive nature that drives him to improve his game.

The left-hander said the competition between him and his



Connor Brinkman

brothers always pushed him to be better. He also said he was lucky enough to have the right people teaching him the ins and outs of baseball.

"I got to compete with my brothers while I was young," he said. "All throughout little league and up to high school my coaches were all great and always teaching me something new."

According to the Prep Baseball Report (PBR), Brinkman topped out with an 82-mph fastball in high school as a member of the New London High School baseball team.

He also played for the Legion

Baseball travel team in high school.

Brinkman said he has noticed a significant increase in competition from high school to college.

While some players in high school are there because their parents would like them to be involved in a sport or similar outside influences, Brinkman said everyone playing in college has their own motives.

"The biggest difference from high school to college I would say is competition," Brinkman said. "Everybody who is playing ball in college is playing for a reason."

While Brinkman loves the game of baseball itself, he said his favorite part of playing baseball at Oshkosh is the guys he gets to share the diamond with.

He said he has already formed relationships with guys where there is a support system on and off of the field.

"My favorite aspect of being a Titan is the friendships that I have gotten through the baseball team," he said. "All of the guys are there for each other, and always will be."

One of his teammates, infielder Jackson Broom, has given Brinkman plenty of run support

this year. He currently has two home runs, eight RBIs and is batting .426 on the season.

Broom said he has plenty of confidence in Brinkman whenever he steps on the mound.

"We know we're getting a quality outing every time and know we're putting a guy out there who's going to compete every pitch," Broom said.

While Broom is confident in Brinkman's abilities, he said the left-hander has just as much confidence in himself and never backs down from a challenge.

"He doesn't fear anyone or anything," he said. "You could throw him against major leaguers and he'd still have the same amount of confidence."

While Broom said Brinkman believes in himself, he also said that the ace isn't very verbal when it comes to his confidence.

Broom said Brinkman goes out and does all of his leading on the field. He isn't the guy screaming at the team to get them riled up, but he will go out on the mound and strike out the side when the team needs a 1-2-3 inning.

"He's quiet but he leads by example," Broom said. "He goes and gets the job done quietly."

One aspect Brinkman said he

has improved upon is his ability to place the ball right where his catchers, primarily Jake Andersen and Eli Davila, want it.

"Something I have improved on this year is locating pitches better and perfecting my mechanics," he said.

Broom said he sees Brinkman's demeanor as one that is similar to an MLB pitcher known to be quiet and reliant on pitch location himself.

"In the way that he carries himself he reminds me of a left-handed Kyle Hendricks," he said.

While Brinkman has a 1.40 ERA, the best of any pitcher in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC), he said there is still room for him to improve.

"A couple of things that I am going to improve on are my speed, different pitches and locating my pitches," Brinkman said.

With a games left against UW-La Crosse, UW-Platteville and UW-Stevens Point making up the remainder of the Titans' schedule, Brinkman will look to finish the regular season strong before attempting to be a large contributor in the WIAC tournament.

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The Advance-Titan is committed to correcting errors of fact. Messages regarding errors can be emailed to atitan@uwosh.edu.

# Don't you dare mow your lawn

By Mackenzie Seymour  
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Over 100 crops grown in the United States require pollination, but with the significant decline in pollinator populations over the last few decades foods such as avocados, almonds, apricots and blueberries may experience shortages in the coming years.

"During the past 30-plus years, our nation's pollinator populations have suffered serious losses due to invasive pests and diseases such as mites and viral and fungal pathogens, exposure to pesticides and other chemicals, loss of habitat, loss of species and genetic diversity and changing climate," according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In an effort to increase local pollinator populations, the city of Oshkosh has implemented a No Mow May initiative to encourage residents to not mow in the month of May. Long grass provides a place for bees and other pollinators to forage.

Last year, the group "pollen-able" reached out to the City of Oshkosh Sustainability Advisory Board to present the initiative. The group, which is based out of the Fox Cities, is an environmental conservation organization that educates the local community about the importance of pollinators.

"The goal of No Mow May is to provide early season forage [opportunity] for native pollinators by reducing our mowing intensity during a month when foraging resources are limited," said Andy Radig, the city communications coordinator. "Allowing lawns to grow longer, without treating them with chemical pesticides or herbicides, leads to an increase in the number and types of native plants, which are a great source of food



## No Mow May aids pollinators

Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

No Mow May encourages people to avoid mowing their lawn for the month of May. By not mowing, there is a hope for pollinator populations, such as bees, to increase.

for pollinators, such as bees and butterflies."

Residents, including businesses, can register their property for No Mow May to avoid long grass and weed city code violations. However, UW Oshkosh will not be participating this year due to the continuing stigma surrounding non-traditional landscaping.

The university's grounds crew has faced previous complaints regarding the new direction towards non-traditional landscaping, which includes planting native prairies and letting them grow out, Brad Spanbauer, the university's sustainability director, said.

"I think the university could, at least in some places, reduce its mowing in spring to help raise

awareness of the decline of pollinators, and allow spring grasses and other flowering plants to sustain these pollinators," Spanbauer said. "[The university] reduces adverse effects on them by mowing less at the beginning of the season."

Spanbauer hopes that the university will be able to participate in No Mow May in the future.

"I think this is a teaching opportunity, and that is what we are supposed to be doing – teaching our next generation about better ways of doing things and informing our broader community by serving as a well-informed example."

But Oshkosh resident Jen Ainsworth doesn't need any convincing about the benefits of delaying to mow her lawn until June 1.

"As executive director with Wild Ones, a national organization committed to promoting the use of native plants in landscaping, I was elated to see the No Mow May resolution pass in Oshkosh," she said. "I go to work everyday to help communities see how native plants bring back wildlife and pollinators. Participating in No Mow May will be an opportunity to catch a glimpse of some of the many benefits of using native plants at home. I hope that seeing native bees and pollinators over the next month will inspire many to make permanent installations in their gardens to support these populations throughout the season."

## Model UN success goes beyond awards

By Josh Lehner  
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With all the conflicts around the world, it can be hard to think that everything's under control. Sometimes we believe that there's no good solution, while other times, we wonder what the people in charge are thinking. That's why programs such as Model UN (MUN) are so pivotal, because they actively shape the politicians and leaders of the future.

For more than 60 years, UW Oshkosh has provided students the opportunity to participate in MUN conferences across the country. There, real-world situations and catastrophes are simulated and solved, with teamwork serving as the critical component in solving the task afoot.

The National MUN Conference was held in Manhattan, New York from April 10-14, where UWO participants played as delegates of the countries of Botswana and Singapore.

Perhaps the most impactful world event right now is the conflict in Ukraine, where Russian forces continue to attack key Ukrainian cities. Peter Herrmann, who served on MUN's General Assembly First Committee and won an Outstanding Delegate Award in his representation of Botswana, believes that the knowledge and experience he's gained helps him visualize the Russia-Ukraine conflict differently than the average person.

"Having participated in MUN," Herrmann said, "I feel like most of my peers would have a very similar

approach to what's been happening [in Ukraine]." He clarified that, while many people in the Western world want to supply Ukraine with military support and other equipment, he understands the delicate line that every country has to walk.

"Being in Model UN, you learn that every action has a very specific reaction," Herrmann said. "In this case, the West is stuck between helping defend a sovereign democratic state and angering a regional power with nuclear capabilities." He said, "Model UN would definitely love to help solve this, but there is no clear solution to this issue [besides] humanitarian aid, improving logistics and getting civilians out."

Calculated and precise action, like Herrmann's, awarded the Botswana team delegation the Outstanding Delegation designation, the most prestigious award handed out at the conference. The Singapore delegation consisted of five students new to MUN, with Mason Sada being picked as an Outstanding Delegate in the General Assembly Second Committee, while Taeyeon Kim and Danielle Sawyer received Outstanding Position Paper Awards. This recent success marks the 38th consecutive Outstanding Delegation for UWO.

"We won a total of 14 awards," Herrmann said.

He also expressed his excitement about participating in person, a practice suspended during the pandemic.

"Beyond the awards," he said. "MUN has had tremendous success being able to shift our standard operations online and still perform



Courtesy of Tracy Slagter

UWO's Model UN team won their 38th consecutive Outstanding Delegation award.

excellently, which is much harder to do than one would suspect."

"I was a member of the Economic and Social Council," said Savannah Bartelt, who represented the Botswana delegation. She said she "worked with other delegates to get [their] ideas down on paper by negotiating, problem solving and ensuring that everyone's voices were heard."

Herrmann echoed her sentiment, adding that "MUN has helped me a lot in growing my negotiation skills ... It has also made me more persuasive and enabled me to find common ground much easier."

He said that negotiation and finding compromises are some of the best skills that MUN teaches people.

Herrmann said MUN has had a profound impact on his college career. "I came to UWO as a nursing major; instead, I graduated with a degree in political science and am now getting a masters in public administration," he said. "[Through MUN] I acquired friends who be-

came my family and who I will talk to for the rest of my life. I was able to continue a tradition of winning, success and teaching new members what exactly Model UN is."

Herrmann said he was able to teach three first years on the particulars of the political field. They discussed terrorism, preventing arms in outer space, improvised explosive devices and nuclear danger.

"I learned a lot by myself on these topics," he said. "Teaching these new members, I became more knowledgeable while also improving my skills as a teacher moving forward."

Bartelt was glad that her team's hard work paid off.

"I'm overjoyed that the team did well after all of our work preparing for the conference," Bartelt said. "We've spent months researching, participating in discussion and doing simulations and it all paid off in the end. It was a great experience, and I'm glad that I had the opportunity to attend."

# Sports

## Calendar



## Scoreboard

### Saturday, April 23

**Track and Field**  
Men's - 1/18, 171.5  
Women's - 6/18, 52  
**Women's Golf**  
UWO - 9/16, 348

### Sunday, April 24

**Baseball**  
UWO - 6  
UW-Platteville - 4

UWO - 12  
UW-Platteville - 2

### Tuesday, April 27

**Baseball**  
UWO - 8  
Ripon - 3

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, April 28

**Track and Field**  
at Drake Relays at 4:30 p.m.

### Friday, April 29

**Track and Field**  
at Drake Relays at 8 a.m. & at UW-Whitewater Drake Alternative Meet 12 p.m.

### Saturday, April 30

**Track and Field**  
at Drake Relays at 8 a.m.  
**Baseball**  
at UW-La Crosse at 12 & 3 p.m.  
**Softball**  
at UW-Eau Claire at 2 & 4 p.m.

### Sunday, May 1

**Baseball**  
at UW-La Crosse at 12 & 3 p.m.  
**Softball**  
at UW-Platteville at 2 & 4 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 27

**Baseball**  
at UW-Platteville at 12 & 3 p.m.

### A-Trivia

**How many UWO baseball players have signed professional contracts?**

Answer: 52, five were Brewers



Courtesy of Hannah Ritter

Hannah runs to home base while playing against UW-River Falls. Against UWRF, UWO won 17-0 and 9-1 with her scoring four of the runs.

# Ritter named player of week

By Nolan Swenson  
swensonno56@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh softball player Hannah Ritter was named by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) as the NCAA's National Division III Player Of The Week for April 4-10.

During that week of play, Ritter was able to rack up a slugging percentage of .957, as well as 13 runs, five doubles and 10 RBIs.

Coach Scott Breyer said that she achieved it due to her mindset.

"Hannah is very disciplined and consistent," he said. "And that's what makes her a great hitter. No moment is too big for her to control herself, which really helps her."

Ritter was one of UWO's returning players and has established herself as a skilled player as last year she was a Third Team All-Ameri-

can. She said that she is aware of the reputation that she has generated, as pitchers are able to recognize her and have started to try and outplay her.

She said, "I've had to change my mental approach to become a smarter batter, so I don't get out as often. I've even been facing speeds around 55-62 mph for my pitches."

Ritter's mentality is the base of what makes her ideal as a player. She doesn't swing emotionally and does not let the environment get the best of her, which makes her a good role model for her teammates, especially the underclassmen. Breyer said that Ritter's kind of mentality is what he wants from his underclassmen.

"For the freshman, it's a learning process," he said. "They're young and hungry, and so when the season starts, it's actually eas-

ier for them with that hunger. Once they've been punched in the mouth, we scoop them up and show them how to better themselves. We try to focus on what worked, what didn't work and how to stay calm. We work on that as a team a lot, how can we trust the process instead of just focusing on hits. Just mental things like trigger words, smiling or where we swing."

Ritter said it's important to practice game mentality.

"We talk a lot at practice about playing with intent," she said. "Practicing how we play and little stuff because we're all good at softball, but we can always improve. We need to consistently work to notice and improve all that we can. The support from my coaches and team has been insane."

Ritter is the first UWO player to be recognized by the NFCA since



Hannah Ritter

Whitney Tornow in 2010. The UWO softball team will next face off against UW-Eau Claire Saturday in an away double-header at 2 and 4 p.m.

# UWO football assistant coach leaves for UWSP

By Jacob Link  
linkj13@uwosh.edu

Former UW Oshkosh assistant football coach Luke Venne was named the head coach of the UW-Stevens Point football team on Monday.

"I'm very honored to have the ability to lead a group of men into a great sport of football and a great conference in the nation," Venne said in a press conference Monday. "[This is] something that I'm extremely excited about."

Venne, who also played for the Titans, coached at UWO for 19 years, including the last six years as Oshkosh's offensive coordinator. He is a two-time winner of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Assistant Coach of the Year award.

With Venne at the helm of the



Luke Venne

offense, UWO set school records in scoring, rushing, passing and total offense. He coached the two-time WIAC Offensive Player of the Year Brett Kasper and led the Titans to a school-record 550 points in 2015.

In 2016, Venne helped lead UWO to its first Stagg Bowl appearance, as the Titans set a school record in rushing yards along the way. The offenses that Venne coached produced the three highest scoring seasons in school history.

Venne coached multiple national award winners during his time at Oshkosh including a Gagliardi winner, a Gagliardi finalist, a Remington Award winner and two Division III Offensive Player of the Year winners.

As a player, Venne was a four-year letter winner as an offensive lineman for UWO from 1998-2001. Venne also earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from UWO.

Titan quarterback Kobe Berghammer said he was thankful to be able to spend time with Venne

over the last few years.

"My time with coach Venne was awesome and he helped me grow as a player as well as a person," he said. "I am happy for him to be able to pursue this dream of his."

UWO head coach Peter Jennings said that he wishes Venne the best of luck at his new position.

"Coach Venne deserves to be a head coach," Jennings said in a meeting with his players Friday. "I know Coach Venne will be a great head coach."

Venne takes over for Greg Breitbach, who stepped down as the head coach of the Pointers on March 10. Breitbach was just 9-21 in his three seasons at UWSP, and the Pointers did not win a conference game last season, going 0-7.



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# UWO win streak up to nine

By Jacob Link  
linkj13@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh baseball team stretched its win streak to nine games after they defeated Ripon College Tuesday and swept UW-Platteville in a doubleheader last weekend at Tiedemann Field.

"We came out hot, they were must win games, and we were looking forward to beating them," Zach Taylor said. "They brought the heat, which motivated us to hit back and we performed really well."

Tuesday, the Titans defeated Ripon 8-3 at Tiedemann Field to continue their win streak. Taylor hit two home runs in the game to put Oshkosh on top after they fell down early. UWO built a five-run lead and never looked back in the comfortable win.

Taylor said he's been working on swinging harder to drive the ball.

"I have been watching highlights of Javier Baez, and he always swings hard, so that's something I have been trying to do," he said. "I'm always hunting for fastballs, and I look to make pitchers pay when they do throw one."

Saturday's doubleheader had to be rescheduled for Sunday in Oshkosh after field conditions at Kendall Murray Field in Platteville were determined to be unplayable. The Pioneers were the home team in both games of Sunday's Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) doubleheader.

With the wins over the weekend, the Titans (18-10, 13-5 WIAC) sit in third place in the WIAC, two games behind first-place UW-Stevens Point (24-4, 15-3 WIAC).

Taylor said the team started out slow in the regular season but is now making a run to the top.

"We faced a lot of good competi-



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

Junior Matt Scherrman hits a double against Ripon College. The Titans out hit the Red Hawks 11-9 in Tuesday's game at Teidemann Field.

tion in the beginning of the season, but we found our groove and started to hit the ball really well," he said. "Now we are just a few games back from first place in the WIAC."

The Titans, who have not lost at Tiedemann Field against Platteville since 2009, fell behind early in the first game of the doubleheader, but they scored six runs in three innings to win 6-4. In the fifth inning, Matt Scherrman hit a two RBI double to left-center field to pull UWO ahead 4-2. Platteville (10-13, 8-8 WIAC) responded in the bottom of the fifth with a two-run home run from Ross Krist to even the score.

Oshkosh pulled ahead for good after Jake Andersen singled to left

field, scoring Nicholas Shiu and advancing Ethan Schreier to third base. Schreier scored on a Pioneer fielding error as UWO took the 6-4 lead. Shiu went 5-5 in the game, one hit shy of tying the school and WIAC record. Will Michalski won his fourth game of the season for UWO, and Connor Brinkman recorded his second save of the season.

In the second game of Sunday's doubleheader, Oshkosh was held scoreless for five innings before exploding for 11 runs in the seventh inning to force the NCAA's 10-run-rule into effect. Neither team scored a run until the sixth inning, when Jake Surane hit a home

run to left field in windy conditions at Tiedemann Field. Surane nearly hit for the cycle, hitting a single, double and home run in the game.

Surane said he was looking to hit the ball into the gaps and it worked out.

"I was just selective with the pitches I got, and I looked to drive the ball," he said. "I feel like I'm always a tough out at the plate."

In the seventh inning, UWO forced four UWP errors en route to increasing their lead to 12-0. Eric Modaff, who stole a base in seventh, and Schreier both had two RBIs in the inning. The Pioneers scored two runs in the bottom half of the seventh inning, but it was not

enough to prevent the game from ending in seven innings 12-2. Harry Orth recorded his sixth win of the season, striking out 10 batters and allowing two earned runs.

Taylor said the team got hits when they needed them, which was key to sweeping Platteville.

"Our pitching has been lights out, and we have been hitting baseball hard," he said. "We have been getting guys on base, and that leads to more runs getting scored."

Oshkosh will take on UW-La Crosse (14-13, 9-9 WIAC) Saturday and Sunday in back-to-back WIAC doubleheaders at Copeland Park in La Crosse.

# Titan football holds spring practices

By Jacob Link  
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The UW Oshkosh football team has been hard at work preparing for the upcoming season at J.J. Keller Field throughout the month of April during what is known as spring football.

Spring football is a period where the NCAA allows Division III football programs to conduct 16 full-team practices. In all of the 16 practices, players are allowed to wear a helmet, and in four of the practices, players are allowed to wear pads.

"Spring football is an opportunity for us at the Division III level to work with our young men in a way that doesn't allow for a ton of hitting," head coach Peter Jennings said. "It does allow us to do a lot of football-specific drills that can help us grow as a football team for the fall."

The Titans use spring football as a time to prepare for training camp, which starts in August. UWO practices nearly every part of the game in its spring ball practices, including offense, defense and special teams. In addition to the practices, UWO football players attend meetings with coaches six days of the week to go over new plays and to break down film from previous practices.



Courtesy of Jaylen Hill

UWO's Jake Leair hands the ball off to a running back during a spring football practice at J.J. Keller Field.

Jennings said he wants to on work urgency and intensity with the team during spring football.

"I want us to have total mastery of what we're trying to do offensively, defensively and with special teams," he said. "I want us to perform in an urgent and detailed man-

ner, and I want our guys to come together closer with their teammates and coaches."

Every practice starts with a team warm up and is followed by a competition between two position groups. These competitions range from offensive linemen attempting

to catch punts to wide receivers and defensive backs going one-on-one against each other. Sometimes even the coaches and equipment managers get involved with competitions of their own, like 40-yard dashes.

After the fun is over, it's right down to business for the Titans.

Players work with both their position coaches during "indie periods" and with the full team during the "team periods". Special teams get sprinkled between periods where UWO will go over punt, field goal and kickoff formations. Each period lasts five minutes, and there are about 22 periods every practice.

Once the last period is over, the team stretches together and listens to Jennings go over what went well in the practice and what still needs to improve. After that, the players hit the showers and move on to the next practice.

Jennings said there's a lot of time where coaches don't see the players in the offseason, which is why spring football is so important.

"We're a team that spends all fall and, if we're lucky, some of the winter months, together," he said. "This is an opportunity for us to help coach, help mold, help lead, help guide and just help grow our program for the future."

Jennings said he couldn't be happier with the way the team looks.

"I think we're doing a great job of focusing on daily growth," he said. "I think we're doing a great job of focusing on being the best versions of ourselves, and I think it's only going to lead to great things moving forward."

# Arts & Entertainment



Courtesy of Shelby Edwards

The show centers around Agnes Evans, played by Sydney Pomrening, and her journey that leads to the love and understanding of her little sister Tilly.

## ‘She Kills Monsters’ makes its debut

By **Kylie Balk-Yaatenen**  
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The UW Oshkosh theater department will debut its last show of the semester, “She Kills Monsters,” at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

“This dramatic comedy offers a thrilling, heart-warming story about the ‘geek’ and the warrior within all of us,” said Director Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft.

Written by Qui Nguyen in 2011, the play centers on Agnes Evans, a girl whose parents and little sister Tilly die in a car accident. Agnes struggles when she realizes she didn’t know much about her sister.

She later finds Tilly’s Dun-

geons & Dragons notebook, and Agnes sets out to learn more about her sibling. Agnes and her sister’s friend, Chuck, go on an action-packed adventure in an imaginary world.

“Agnes ultimately fulfills a journey that leads to love and understanding of her sister that she will carry with her the rest of her life,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said.

Sydney Pomrening, who plays Agnes Evans, said “I think ‘She kills Monsters’ touches on some serious topics like loss and grief that follows [the loss of family], but it’s also placed in a fantastical and amusing setting.”

She said her favorite part of

the show was learning stage combat because she had never done it before. She also enjoys her character’s dynamic with other characters in the show.

“I get to interact with Max Benitz’s character, Chuck, who guides Agnes through the game; I find their dynamic super funny,” Pomrening said. “Every scene I have with him tests my ability to stay in character when I have the urge to laugh.”

Purse-Wiedenhoeft said that her favorite part of the play is the character growth of Agnes.

“She starts out the play as an average person who learns to make bold choices and fight monsters,” she said. “The play

bounces back and forth from the present of 1995 to the game of D&D being played.”

She said that directing the play was a bit challenging, as there are so many different places in the story.

“The play takes place in a variety of locations, and finding ways to use the set and actors to help make this journey from place to place clearly took some time,” Purse-Wiedenhoeft said.

Pomrening said that she thinks students should see the show because there is something in it for everyone.

“I think the play tackles subjects that anyone and everyone can relate to,” she said. “It’s

also a hilarious production, so if anyone is looking for a good laugh, ‘She Kills Monsters’ will provide.”

Purse-Wiedenhoeft said that she thinks students will like the many tropes in the show.

“It is a story of good over evil, redemption, geeks winning out over the bullies,” she said. “But ultimately, it is a story of love and friendship that conquers all.”

Tickets can be purchased on the theater department’s website. The cost is \$5 for students, faculty and staff, \$11 for alumni and senior citizens and \$14 for the general public.



## She Kills Monsters

by Qui Nguyen  
Directed by Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft

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Courtesy of Lexi Chmielewski

Thrifted It! Fashion Show was planned by Lexi Chmielewski, a senior in the College of Business, and it consisted of thrifted clothing for the models to wear.

# Thrifted It! Fashion Show a success

By Mattie Beck  
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Thrifted It! Fashion Show featuring clothes available from consignment stores, not only helped a UW Oshkosh senior learn about event planning, but it also educated others about the sustainable fashion movement.

All proceeds raised throughout the show held at Reeve Memorial Union on April 20 went to an Oshkosh local thrift store, St. Vincent de Paul.

The show included a performance by local band The Astronomers and included raffle baskets as a fundraiser.

Lexi Chmielewski, a senior and the one who organized this event as her capstone project for the College of Business, was inspired by her dream of running a fashion show.

"I have always wanted to run my own fashion show but needed a way to incorporate the com-

munity," Chmielewski said "St. Vincent de Paul was my first choice to partner with due to their efforts within the community."

She said inspiration was also drawn from the sustainable fashion movement, which is a form of climate justice.

Chmielewski was in charge of everything from the planning to the hosting of the event.

"This included late nights having my roommates try on clothes, hours of phone calls with my mom and making as many lists as possible to make sure the event runs smoothly," Chmielewski said.

With all the planning needed throughout, there were good and bad days of the process. But, with help, Chmielewski said she was able to pull everything together to make the event run smoothly.

"The amount of communication to make this event a success



Courtesy of Lexi Chmielewski

Thrifted It! Fashion Show required lots of planning with different people.

was more than I ever thought it could be," Chmielewski said. "However, despite the process of ups and downs, the project was so fun to work on, and I had great volunteers who helped me along the way."

Chmielewski said she tried to incorporate people from all different organizations to be models for the show.

"I really wanted an array of people in different clubs, Greek life, etc. This was a way to make

sure as many people as possible heard about the event. I also knew some friends that just had to be in my show — or were forced to because they are my best friends," Chmielewski said.

The models weren't the only part of the show that Chmielewski enjoyed.

"I don't think my smile left my face! The models and MCs did a fantastic job and made my whole vision come to life," Chmielewski said.

Chmielewski was behind the scenes for the most part and didn't get to see much of the show, but she said she was pleased with the positive reaction afterward.

"I think the event went very well," she said. "Since I was backstage handling the models and operations side, it was hard to get a good look at the audience's faces, but the hugs after the show proved a positive reaction. "With amazing support from my friends, family, professors and Greek Life, the Thrifted It! Fashion Show is one for the books."

"Hopefully, another fashion show will be in my future."

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## Opinion

# Netflix isn't dying, it's already dead

By Kelly Hueckman  
hueckk24@uwosh.edu

With the overwhelming proliferation of on-demand streaming services, it was bound that at least some would fall.

Still, I think it's safe to say that it was unexpected to see Netflix, the mighty forefront of the streaming service craze, dig its own grave.

The company's stock had already fallen 40% from the beginning of the year to April 19, but the ongoing war in Ukraine and recent announcement of subscription price increases caused an additional 35% decline from April 19-20.

After losing hundreds of thousands of subscriptions along with major investments, it's clear that Netflix is taking its final desperate shots in the dark to stay afloat. Frankly, it's too late.

As other streaming services such as HBO Max, Hulu and Disney+ entered the game, Netflix's only grip on its subscribers were Netflix Original movies and series.

For a bit, it worked. For proof, look at the Netflix Original giants, "Stranger Things" and "Orange is the New Black."

However, for the past couple of years, Netflix has been swinging the cancellation axe a little too carelessly, pulling the rug out from under viewers of gone-too-soon shows like "The Society," "The OA" and "I Am Not Okay With This".

It seems that if a series is not an immediate titan-tier show, it gets sent to the chopping block.

Although I've been rooting for Netflix since its DVD rental days, the amount of cancellations that have taken place make me weary of starting to watch a new Netflix



Courtesy of Netflix

"Stranger Things," one of Netflix's most popular original series, will leave large shoes to fill after it completes its final two seasons.

original just to be left with more loose ends.

Social media posts surrounding Netflix show that I am not alone in this frustration.

"Maybe Netflix lost subscribers [because] it keeps raising prices while canceling viewers' favorite shows after like [two] seasons," Twitter user Wagatwe Wanjuki (@wagatwe) posted on April 20.

Some users also noted Netflix's lack of concern about how engaging a show is and how long it lasts.

"They're not bothered about the longevity or quality of their shows," Twitter user Eric Slapton

(@Dodge\_10) posted. "They just want it to be trending on Twitter for a few days [like] Tiger King and Squid Game [were]."

This frustration, combined with the recent announcement that Netflix will be raising subscription fees and cracking down on password sharing, will probably be enough to slowly yet surely drive customers away.

Although Netflix currently still has the most subscribers of any streaming service, these major losses and the expected loss of two million subscribers between April and June are sure to put the future

of the company in question.

Furthermore, the biggest attraction the company has, "Stranger Things," is set to end in two seasons without any foreseeable series of the same magnitude to replace its reign.

Investors and content providers are also likely to see the risk of investing or selling licensing rights to Netflix in this time of uncertainty and move on to other services.

Netflix's new subscription models, including the higher rates of the standard model as well as a cheaper subscription that features ads, might be able to squeak by.

Still, it's going to be clear whether that's actually attainable within the next few months.

However, increasing subscription fees alone isn't enough to save the company. For a company that is mainly dependent on its original content, Netflix needs to focus on creating series that are quality and can remain engaging over several seasons.

The window for redemption is already short, but only time will tell if the cancel-crazy reputation Netflix has made for itself means it's already too late.

## Letters to the Editor

### Commuting students need more ways to get to campus

By Fisher Franzen  
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It is evident that the number of commuter vehicles located around Oshkosh parking lots has decreased substantially over the years.

This is causing both positive and negative effects.

Although this may be a recent issue caused by the 841-student decrease from the years 2020 to 2021 at UWO, I believe it is most likely due to the supply decrease in vehicle availability and parts.

This is an issue for commuters due to the supply of parts that are used to maintain vehicles taking longer to arrive at repair shops.

This results in longer wait times for vehicles to be repaired.

Longer wait times cause student attendance to drop when students' vehicles break down and they don't have alternate ways to travel

to campus.

The shortage of vehicle parts has also led to a decrease in incoming commuters due to the insufficient output of both new and used vehicles.

This is a result of demand for vehicles being greater than the current supply of them.

This causes commuters to struggle even more when it comes to attending our university due to financial struggles of buying cars and the longer timeframe for them to obtain them.

On the other hand, the lack of commuter vehicles in campus parking lots have also yielded positive results.

One example is how commuters no longer have to search the campus looking for a single parking spot before they go to their classes, resulting in a better turnout for classes regarding student attendance.

Another positive effect is that commuters are starting to carpool more often, leading to a decrease in carbon emissions around the campus.

UWO should help commuters who need assistance during the difficult times of vehicle maintenance and availability.

I believe we as a campus should further promote other modes of travel to commuting students in order to help them maintain their regular attendance.

### Blame gas prices on supply and demand

By Kaitlyn Melville  
melvilleka24@uwosh.edu

Getting from one place to another is important in today's economy, so it is no surprise that the rise in price per gallon of gasoline has sparked conversation among many.

People have taken to social media to discuss opinions on who or what is to blame.

Many people blame big oil companies and the policies of the Democratic party.

However, could it all be

"blamed" on the concept of supply and demand?

Reasons the gas prices are so high could be the post-pandemic demand for gas, the war in Ukraine and the cuts to oil production.

These issues are affecting the price of fuel because when the demand for gas is greater than the supply, the prices will rise.

The price increase cannot simply be blamed on one person, because if resources are costing the companies more money, then the companies are going to sell their product for a higher price.

#### Letter guidelines

The Advance-Titan welcomes and reads all letters. Timely, well-written, provocative opinions on topics of interest at UW Oshkosh are given first preference.

All letters are subject to editing; not all letters can be published. Letters exceeding 300 words may be edited at the discretion of the Advance-Titan staff. Name, position, address and daytime phone number are required, although only name and email will be published along with the article.

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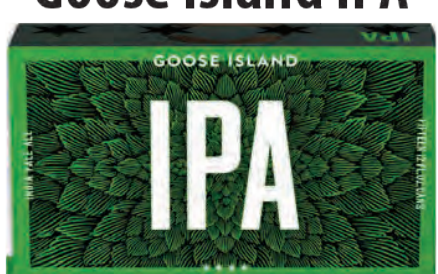
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