

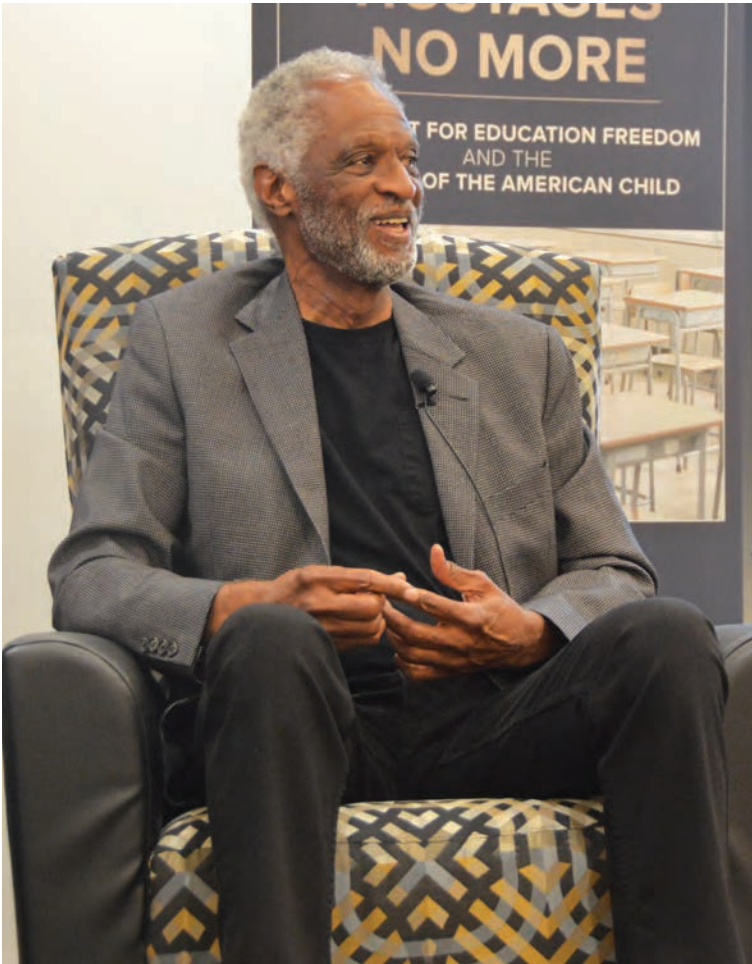
The Advance-Titan

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Liam Beran / Advance-Titan
Howard Fuller, Marquette University professor emeritus.



Liam Beran / Advance-Titan
Betsy DeVos, Former U.S. Secretary of Education.

Future of education debated

By Liam Beran
beranl88@uwosh.edu

“There’s a distinction between public education and the system that delivers it.” That statement by Howard Fuller, Marquette University professor emeritus, embodied the conversation between himself and Former U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos Tuesday night.

The event, titled “In Conversation with Betsy DeVos and Howard Fuller: The Future of Education” was presented by UW-Madison’s Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership at UW Oshkosh.

DeVos served as Secretary of Education for the Trump administration from 2017-2021; she resigned shortly after the Jan. 6 insurrection and before President Biden took office. Fuller is a long-time civil rights advocate and the former superintendent of the Milwaukee Public School district. He is well known for his 2014 novel “No Struggle, No Progress: A Warrior’s Life from Black Power to Education Reform,” which details his pursuit of education reform, especially among Black students.

The event, which was moderated by Gerard Randall, an associate of the Thompson Center, devoted the first

hour to questions posed by Randall to both DeVos and Fuller.

Fuller and DeVos share a belief in the value of parental and school choice in education. DeVos characterized policies furthering these values as “education freedom.”

“The money for the child follows the child to where the family decides is the best fit and the best environment for him or her,” DeVos said. “With education freedom will come a lot more creativity with the kinds of schools and the kinds of learning environments that kids can access.”

Fuller affirmed his support for school choice, but qualified that support, saying that the material needs of families have to be met in addition to “the right of people to choose a school.”

DeVos and Fuller addressed a variety of other topics, including school safety, political polarization, school boards and President Biden’s student debt relief program.

On debt relief, DeVos made her position evident.

“I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again: it’s a horrible policy and it’s illegal,” she said. “An executive cannot take the role of Congress and shift the cost of billions and billions of dollars onto two out of three of American taxpayers who did not attend college

or who have faithfully paid off college loans.”

Fuller understands that concern, but said the issue is more complex.

“I actually get the concern that people who have never gone to college have,” he said. “[They think] ‘why should I have to pay ... taxes for people who went to college [when] I never had the chance to go. I would then say, let’s talk about a whole bunch of other things that you pay for with your taxes that do not benefit you.’”

Fuller added, “I don’t know that I necessarily disagree with every aspect of [what DeVos said]. For people who are having enormous debt by virtue of going to college, I would try to figure out ways for people to give service to our community as a way to help eliminate some of that debt.”

Both DeVos and Fuller’s ideas on education have provoked controversy. The Hechinger Report, a publication covering “inequality and innovation in education,” wrote Fuller’s dedication to Black-led, Black-majority schools “has created unlikely alliances with deep-pocketed conservatives and has put him at odds with mainstream civil rights advocates.”

Meanwhile, in an NPR article, “How Education Secretary Betsy DeVos Will Be Remembered,” reporter Cory Turner wrote DeVos was alternately a “hero” to “Christian conservatives” and a “stone-cold villain” to her critics. As Secretary of Education, DeVos rolled back Title IX sex discrimination protections in education and removed Obama-era instruction intended to discourage racial disparities in school disciplinary measures.

UW-Green Bay Associate Professor and the Vice President of the American Federation of Teachers-Wisconsin’s Higher Education

Council, Jon Shelton, says that the choice to feature DeVos in particular is troubling without providing further context about her position as Secretary of Education.

“DeVos should absolutely be allowed to speak on campus,” Shelton said prior to her appearance. “We are troubled that this conversation is occurring without any additional viewpoints that might be able to contextualize DeVos’s tenure in the Department of Education.”

Shelton criticized DeVos as being an inappropriate choice as Secretary of Education due to her “heading a federal department that she did not believe in.”

DeVos reiterated that she would dismantle the Department of Education if she regained her position.

“The education department was created to advance federal support for education, on equal terms, for every citizen in the United States,” Shelton said. “Instead, after confirmation she did the opposite of what she was tasked to do.”

Although he and AFT-Wisconsin do not oppose school choice, Shelton also desired to provide additional context to the school choice programs favored by Fuller and DeVos.

“The problem is that DeVos wants to subsidize private school education with taxpayer money, undercutting the premise of a common school education for all students by siphoning money away from public schools,” Shelton said. “So ‘school choice’ as she means it is a wolf in sheep’s clothing designed to critically weaken the sustainability of an institution critical to our democracy and public schools.”

UWO Political Science Professor David Siemers also criticized DeVos prior to her appearance.

“DeVos has led the charge to

privatize schooling, she defends for-profit education and the defunding of public schools through voucher programs,” Siemers said. “Wisconsin has had a long tradition of support for public schools and understanding that the state University System benefits the whole state. Secretary DeVos’ vision seems to run counter to that tradition.”

Jean Erdman, retired professor for UWO’s College of Education and Human Services, also had criticism for DeVos and stood outside the Culver Center doors before and after the event holding a sign saying “We support public schools.”

“I think that people need to know that she is an advocate of charters with no strings which has the potential to kill public education,” Erdman said. “Public education brings us together and helps us learn to live with one another and get along. She could fund charter schools out of her billion dollar checkbook if she wanted to. To take the money for charter schools out of public education is just wrong.”

According to a 2019 fact-checking article from The Washington Post, DeVos’ proposed Education Freedom Scholarships would force taxpayers to “be footing up to \$5 billion of the cost in lost revenue from the new tax credits. That means foregoing revenue that could have been used on building roads or paying teacher salaries.”

Both Fuller and DeVos ended by emphasizing the importance of sharing debate.

“I’m glad to call the Madam Secretary a good friend of mine, but we don’t have to agree on every single thing,” Fuller said. “What is important is that we’re able to figure out some things that we do agree on and that we can work to try to figure out how to get that done.”



Jean Erdman

Advance-Titan

Phone: 920-424-3048
Email: atitan@uwosh.edu
Website: www.advancetitan.com
Facebook: @theadvancetitan
Twitter: @atitan
Instagram: @theadvancetitan

Editor-in-Chief Owen Peterson
petero84@uwosh.edu

Managing Editor/News Editor Katie Pulvermacher
pulvek45@uwosh.edu

Assistant News Editor Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

Arts & Entertainment Editor Mattie Beck
beckm88@uwosh.edu

Opinion Editor Kelly Hueckman
hueckk24@uwosh.edu

Sports Editors Jacob Link
linkj13@uwosh.edu

Nolan Swenson
swensonno56@uwosh.edu

Photo Editor Kyra Slakes
slakesky39@uwosh.edu

Web Editor Cassidy Johnson
johnsonca51@uwosh.edu

Social Media Manager Ellie Ramsay
ramsayel01@uwosh.edu

Copy Desk Chief Kyiah Nelson
nelsok45@uwosh.edu

Graphic Designer Josh Fanin
fanij41@uwosh.edu

Reporters/Writers
Trent Allaback, Liam Beran, Bill Brush, Kylie Gapko, John Lehner, Cory Sparks

Copy Editors
Savannah Bartelt, Michael VanDenElzen

Photographers
Morgan Feltz, Jaylen Hill, Charlie Bruecker, Kayla Curtis, Willem Flaugh

Faculty Adviser Barb Benish
benish@uwosh.edu

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Pushing for sustainability

UWO leads higher ed kit challenge

By Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is currently leading in the Higher Ed Kit Challenge, a race between the UW System schools to see who can get the highest number of individuals to sign up.

The kit challenge brings the opportunity to all students and staff of the UW System to receive one free kit full of products aiming to improve energy and water efficiency in their home.

The kit challenge was developed by Focus on Energy, an organization dedicated to helping Wisconsin residents and businesses make smart energy choices, and each sign up gains the university one point.

“This kit challenge was developed by Focus on Energy and was offered to all UW System schools as a way to engage students and employees across the state via their institution about energy efficiency,” said Bradley Spanbauer, the sustainability director at UWO.

These kinds of opportunities have been run before as a way to offer individuals a way to lower their bills as well as their carbon footprint.

Signing up for a free kit offers things like LED light bulbs,



Focus on Energy and sustainability director Bradley Spanbauer encourage students to go green for free.

weather stripping, low-flow faucet heads or aerators for sinks and showers.

“This lowers their water and electric bills, reduces their emissions and saves them money! It is a win-win-win situation!” said Spanbauer.

Spanbauer’s hope is that the

kits will provide relief from “increased energy costs” going into winter and also bring “an awareness about energy and water efficiency improvements” that Focus on Energy is providing for free.

Focus on Energy is also providing \$5,000 in Focus on En-

ergy incentive dollars for the school with the most entries by Oct. 31. The \$5,000 will go towards energy efficiency projects for campus.

To sign up for a free higher ed kit visit, focusonenergymarketplace.com/free using promo code HE-UWO.

Centennial Band is ‘fired up’

By Kelly Hueckman
hueckk24@uwosh.edu

With UW Oshkosh’s 2022 Homecoming rapidly approaching, Titan Thunder Marching Band will celebrate 100 years of UWO bands with its Centennial Band.

Titan Thunder has invited students, current and past staff and alumni to join the band during halftime of the 2022 Homecoming football game vs UW-Stout on Oct. 22. The invitation has also been extended to high school marching band students.

The Centennial Band will perform UWO’s alma mater and new fight song, “Go Mighty Titans” under the conduction of Director of Athletic Bands Joseph Scheivert.

“The Centennial Band is a way to gather folks together who have common interests in music and the university, even if they don’t share the athletic band experience,” Scheivert said.

After 42 years without a marching band, Scheivert said that the resurgence of UWO athletic bands has sparked conversation of the inclusion of alumni who didn’t have the same musical opportunities.

“Throughout the development of the marching and pep band program, many alumni have reached out to me, wishing that they had this opportunity during their time at UWO,” Scheivert said. “We’re continuing to try to reach all these Titans about this event.”

UWO fourth-year and clarinet section leader of Titan Thunder Hannah May said the Centennial

performance is a great way to capture the school spirit that comes with Homecoming.

“I think a true Homecoming this year would include playing alongside some of the members from UWO’s original marching band,” May said. “Homecoming is all about school spirit and support, and I think the Titan Thunder along with those who join us will perfectly embody that.”

Musicians interested in signing up can choose between original or simplified sheet music arrangements depending on their playing comfort level in order to include all musicians.

“Musical inclusion was a big part of the planning process,” Scheivert said. “By taking out some of the trickier passages, I’m hopeful that [musicians] will take this opportunity to get their horns out... or use ours!”

Including the entire UWO community will create stronger bonds between musicians and the music program, Scheivert said.

“Many collegiate marching bands include their alumni in Homecoming performances annually, which helps create and maintain ties to the program for generations,” he said.

May said she hopes the Centennial Band halftime show will inspire future generations to participate in Titan Thunder.

“I hope the band’s energy rubs

off on those who decide to perform with us for the day, and it then rubs off on their families and friends as well,” May said. “I think this will really show the community that the band is here to stay and wants everyone to join.”



By inviting high school students to participate, Titan Thunder can encourage upcoming UWO students to join the marching band, according to May.

“Hopefully getting the chance to play with our group will encourage them to apply to UWO to march with us in the fall and to tell their friends [about it],” she said.

May said she hopes musicians of all backgrounds and levels will participate in supporting the school during Homecoming.

“The band right now brings a lot of spirit and energy to the games; we hype up one another and the team,” she said. “I’d love to see more of that energy spread within the crowd, especially for our homecoming game.”

So far, 20 musicians have signed up to perform in the Centennial Band. Musicians interested in signing up can visit uwosh.edu/marchingband/event/homecoming-performance to witness school spirit first-hand. Sign-up is available through Oct. 16.

“One of the sayings we can’t help but scream from the sidelines is ‘fire it up’ to get everyone excited,” May said. “I don’t think anyone’s going to bat an eye if the crowd shows up a little more fired up than usual.”

Kayla Curtis / Advance-Titan
Drum major Chandler Sumner-Gehrig leads at the marching bands inaugural performance.

Arts & Entertainment

Police Department holds Run with the Cops

By Mattie Beck
beckm88@uwosh.edu

Last Thursday, Special Olympics Wisconsin and the UW Oshkosh Police Department and other Wisconsin law enforcement agencies came together for Run with the Cops.

Run with the Cops was a 5K event held throughout campus and was open to students and the community to join.

The event also had a kids run, an interactive vehicle display including squad cars and officer vehicles and a donut eating contest.

Christopher Tarmann, the acting chief of police, explained that it was planned by a large committee to make everything run smoothly.

“There is a committee of law enforcement volunteers, Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) members and Special Olympics employees who meet regularly to plan and prepare for LETR events like Run with the Cops,” Tarmann said.

Tarmann himself is on the committee and helped with the planning process for the event this year.

“I am a member of that committee and because UWO is a host site for this event it takes a lot of planning on our part to coordinate everything necessary to make the event a success,” Tarmann said.

“It also takes a lot of local volunteers and volunteer police personnel to make this specific event happen because of how this event is designed,” he said.

Tarmann had a few goals planned for the event, all of which were in different areas of the event.

“My goal each year is to staff the course with the proper amount of personnel, see a great turnout at the event and raise a sizeable amount of money for Special



Courtesy of UWO Flickr

Runners were able to run alongside police officers and see visual displays made with different law enforcement vehicles along the way.

Olympics Wisconsin,” Tarmann said.

The intended fundraising goals for the Special Olympics were met according to Tarmann.

“This year we raised nearly \$30,000 for Special Olympics Wisconsin, which I think is great,” Tarmann said.

Larmann estimates that 300-400 people participated in the event and were able to enjoy many different activities there.

“At the event, attendees can check out different vehicles like tow trucks, fire trucks, command vehicles, SWAT vehicles, DNR equipment, corrections vehicles and equipment,” Tarmann said.

“People can climb into these vehicles, try on gear and interact with law enforcement personnel from all over Wisconsin,” he said.

There are also multiple activities for kids at the event, with a special shorter race and a donut eating contest.

“There’s a kid’s run which is just short of a half-mile long, there’s a kids and cops donut eating contest,” Tarmann said.

The kids run is one of Tarmann’s favorites due to seeing the kids participating.

“I also love the kid’s run because the kids are so full of energy and they still have that exciting passion and interest for police officers,” Tarmann said.

Along with interacting with kids at the event, police officers are also able to interact with the general public.

Officers are able to talk with members of the community in a more genuine sense, Tarmann said.

“People can interact with law enforcement members, get to know them a bit, and then when we need to work with each other to solve problems there’s a trusting relationship built with the real people who give their lives to this profession.”

Another group at the event that are able to meet with the commu-

nity on a more personal level is the Special Olympics athletes who come out to the event.

Tarmann has gotten to meet with them throughout the years and is always glad to see them.

“Because I’ve been so involved with this group over the years, I’ve gotten to know the athletes very well and it’s like a reunion to see them each year!”

To sum up the event, Tarmann was happy with the turnout and seeing everyone come out to support the cause.

“I always want to see smiling faces interacting with our local law enforcement personnel and I definitely saw that taking place!”

It’s unlike any other fish store you’ve seen

By Katie Pulvermacher
pulvek45@uwosh.edu

Walking into Sanctuary Aquatics is an experience unlike entering any other fish and aquarium store.

LED lights adorn the fish tanks and a 10,000 gallon saltwater reef, creating a whimsical environment. The fact that people commonly ask the owners if they need to pay to be there is a dead giveaway to how unique the shop is.

“If you want to see something you’ve never seen before, if you want to experience the aquatic beauty of the fish and corals, it pays to stop in and give us a look,” Co-Owner Dean Akavickas said. “It’s the whole experience, it’s the art, it’s the uniqueness. We create an experience and we’re also a store.”

Sanctuary Aquatics, located at 2923 Jackson St., held its grand opening on Oct. 1, welcoming over 1,000 impressed customers, according to Akavickas.

South American cichlids, African cichlids, platies, mollies, tetras, plecos, discus, angelfish, freshwater stingrays, zoanthids, mushrooms, saltwater coral frag system and clown fish are a few of



Katie Pulvermacher / Advance-Titan

Sanctuary Aquatics has a variety of displays with all kinds of fish.

the many fish and species habitatting in Sanctuary Aquatics.

“This is a really cool store that shows a bit more of what it’s like to keep fish,” customer Christy Nau said. “When you go to Petco or PetSmart, they don’t have nearly as much. It’s good to see a variety of fish. It’s insane.”

Nau said that co-owner Steven Lund has come to her salon

for quite some time. He told her about the progress they made on the shop during their five years of development.

“It’s unlike any other fish store you’ve seen,” Lund said. “It should participate in elevating the hobby from the mom-and-pop ghetto 1960’s fish store to where it can be a trendy and valid hobby.”

Lund said various companies do

wholesale distribution for fish and corals. The shop orders various fish and plants which show up via FedEx, they are unboxed, transitioned and placed in-store.

“We’re trying to be as self-sufficient as we can, so we don’t have to buy as much out of here,” Akavickas said. “We have the initial investment of buying the colonies, and from those as they grow we can take pieces off and make what we sell over here. Then we don’t have to keep buying and buying.”

Lund and Akavickas met when Lund was in school at UW Oshkosh, making filtration for aquariums as a side hustle. He worked at a pet shop in Appleton and ended up installing a fish tank at Kyria Child Daycare Center in Oshkosh, a business Akavickas owns with his wife Kathy.

“I was helping [Akavickas] install that tank and one thing led to the next and I was the only one there putting the tank together,” Lund said. “From there, we developed a pretty good relationship. I kept coming in and helping take care of the tank. Now we’re putting a coral farm in his basement. It kept snowballing from there until we were like ‘Let’s open a store.’”

Akavickas said before becoming co-owner at Sanctuary Aquatics, he worked at a factory. He is glad to be where he is now.

“It’s a labor of love,” Akavickas said. “We’ve seen it all grow from the beginning. For about four years, it was just Steve and I. [I’m proud] of all we’ve done with just a few people.”

One might be shocked that Lund’s favorite thing in the store is the stylophora corals.

“It’s very difficult to get them happy and stay happy for a long time,” Lund said. “They are super happy because they’re fully extended and super soft. That means they’re loving life. That’s an indicator of good health. As long as those continue to do good, then everything’s good.”

Nau said she hopes customers take advantage of the resources in front of them and is excited for the future of the shop.

“Don’t be afraid to ask about proper fish tank set up and maintenance,” Nau said. “There’s a lot of science that goes into it. Some people think they can get a goldfish and shove it in a tank when there’s a lot that goes on. I’m sure they’d be glad to help out.”

Sports

Calendar



Scoreboard

Friday, Oct. 7
Tennis
UWO - 0
UW-Stevens Point - 9

Saturday, Oct. 8
Football
UWO - 24
UW-River Falls - 27
Women’s Soccer
UWO - 1
UW-Stout - 1

Monday, Oct. 10
Women’s Soccer
UWO - 4
St. Norbert College - 0

Tuesday, Oct. 11
Volleyball
UWO - 3
Wheaton College - 2
UWO - 3
Edgewood College - 0

Upcoming Events

Friday, Oct. 14
Football
at UW-Whitewater at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15
Swimming and Diving
at UW-Eau Claire at 1 p.m.
Men’s Cross-Country
at UW-La Crosse Jim Drews Invitational at 11 a.m.
Women’s Cross-Country
at UW-La Crosse Jim Drews Invitational at 11:50 a.m.
Tennis
at UW-Eau Claire at 12 p.m.
Volleyball
UW-River Falls at 3 p.m.
Women’s Soccer
UW-Platteville at 4 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 16
Tennis
at UW-Stout at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 19
Volleyball
at UW-Eau Claire at 7 p.m.
Women’s Soccer
UW-Whitewater at 7 p.m.

A-Trivia

How many career touchdown passes does Kobe Berghammer have?

Answer: 47, 14 so far this year.

A-Trivia

How many more volleyball matches until the WIAC Tournament?

Answer: 8 matches



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Trae Tetzlaff barrels down the field, evading River Falls defenders. Throughout the game, Tetzlaff had two grabs for 41 yards.

UWO falls to River Falls

By Jacob Link
Linkj13@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh football team turned the ball over three times as the Titans fell to UW-River Falls 27-24 Saturday at Smith Stadium in a battle between nationally-ranked Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference teams.

UWO, who entered the game ranked 16th in the nation by d3football.com, kicked off the scoring with a 34-yard field goal from Nolan Mobley with under six minutes to go in the first quarter.

The Falcons, who entered the contest ranked 17th in the nation by d3football.com, responded with a touchdown on their next drive as Kaleb Blaha found Mason Van Zeeland for the 20-yard score to take the 7-3 lead.

River Falls scored again after the Titans turned the ball over after a D.J. Stewart fumble, with Blaha rushing for a four-yard touchdown as UWRF extended their lead to 14-3.

The Falcons were given prime field position once again after a blocked punt, but UWO’s defense limited River Falls to just a field

goal to increase their advantage to 14 points.

With just over a minute to go in the half, UWO quarterback Kobe Berghammer found an open Stewart, who juked two defenders en route to the 17-yard touchdown. The Titans added a two-point conversion to narrow the UWRF lead to 17-11 after the swinging-gate trick play was successful for the third week in a row.

Stewart said on his touchdown catch, the Falcon defense gave away their coverage at the line of scrimmage.

“I knew I had to get my eyes back to Kobe as I could,” Stewart said. “Once I had the ball in my hands I saw a gap between the two defenders and split it after I shook them off and it was just a foot race.”

Berghammer found Clayton Schwalbe in the endzone for the four-yard passing touchdown on the first possession of the second half, but Mobley missed the extra-point, keeping the score tied at 17.

After stopping the Falcons on fourth down, UWO marched down the field and scored once

again from a Berghammer pass, this time a four-yard touchdown to Tony Steger as the Titans took the 24-17 lead.

At the end of the third quarter, UWRF tied the game after Blaha scored on a three-yard rushing touchdown, his second rushing score of the game.

The Falcons took the lead with just over eight minutes to go in the contest after kicker Justin Scheberl connected on a 23-yard field goal.

UWO had numerous opportunities to tie or take the lead in the fourth quarter but continued to turn the ball over. With just under seven minutes to go, Berghammer threw his first pick of the game, but Oshkosh’s Bryce Edwards recovered a Blaha fumble a few plays later.

Stewart said the team’s execution played a role in Saturday’s loss.

“We didn’t play the cleanest game whereas River Falls did,” he said. “The cleaner team more likely than not will be the one that comes out on top.”

The Titans drove down the field on their next possession, but Berghammer threw another inter-

ception on 4th and 15, allowing UWRF to run out the clock as the game ended 27-24.

Berghammer finished the game 17-34, throwing for 216 yards, three touchdowns and two picks with 26 rushing yards. Running back Peter MacCudden was UWO’s leading rusher with 54 yards, while Trae Tetzlaff finished with a game high 41 yards receiving.

On the defensive side of the ball, defensive lineman Jhe’veon St. Julian had the lone Titan interception while linebacker Tory Jandrin led both teams in tackles with 13.

On the other sideline, Blaha went 18-32 with 172 passing yards, one passing touchdown, one interception and a game high 143 rushing yards to go along with two rushing scores.

“We need to clean up our execution and play cleaner ball for next week,” Stewart said. “We also have to limit our penalties no matter the team we’re up against.”

UWO, who dropped to No. 20 in the recent d3football.com poll, will travel to Perkins Stadium to take on UW-Whitewater Friday at 7 p.m.

The Sister Act of the Damkots

By Nolan Swenson
Swensonno56@uwosh.edu

Sisters Cordelia and Louisa Damkot have both entered UWO tennis as strong singles. As doubles players, they are getting exactly what they were hoping to get out of playing together at UWO.

Since they can remember, the sisters exclusively played singles, and since joining, they have opened their skill repertoire to playing doubles together under coach Francour.

According to the Damkots’, their accomplishment of this change in how they’ve played since they were eight, is a hands-off approach from Coach Francour which allowed them to feel their chemistry.

The Damkots said this transition worked because of Francour’s hands-off approach, which allowed



Louisa Damkot

them to feel out their chemistry.

Cordelia said that “Instead of playing one up one back in our doubles, he’s let us compensate for our lack of experience by both being back row.”

Before their time at UWO, both

had a successful career at Sheboygan North High School; Louisa went to state for #1 singles three out of her four years, and Cordelia went to #2 singles once.

This success led them to UWO where they have leaned on each other as teammates, partners and sisters.

“It’s nice having such a close family member when I left home,” both Louisa and Cordelia said.

Currently on doubles, the twins have a strong record of 5-3; and on singles, Louisa has a record of 5-6, and Cordelia 8-3.

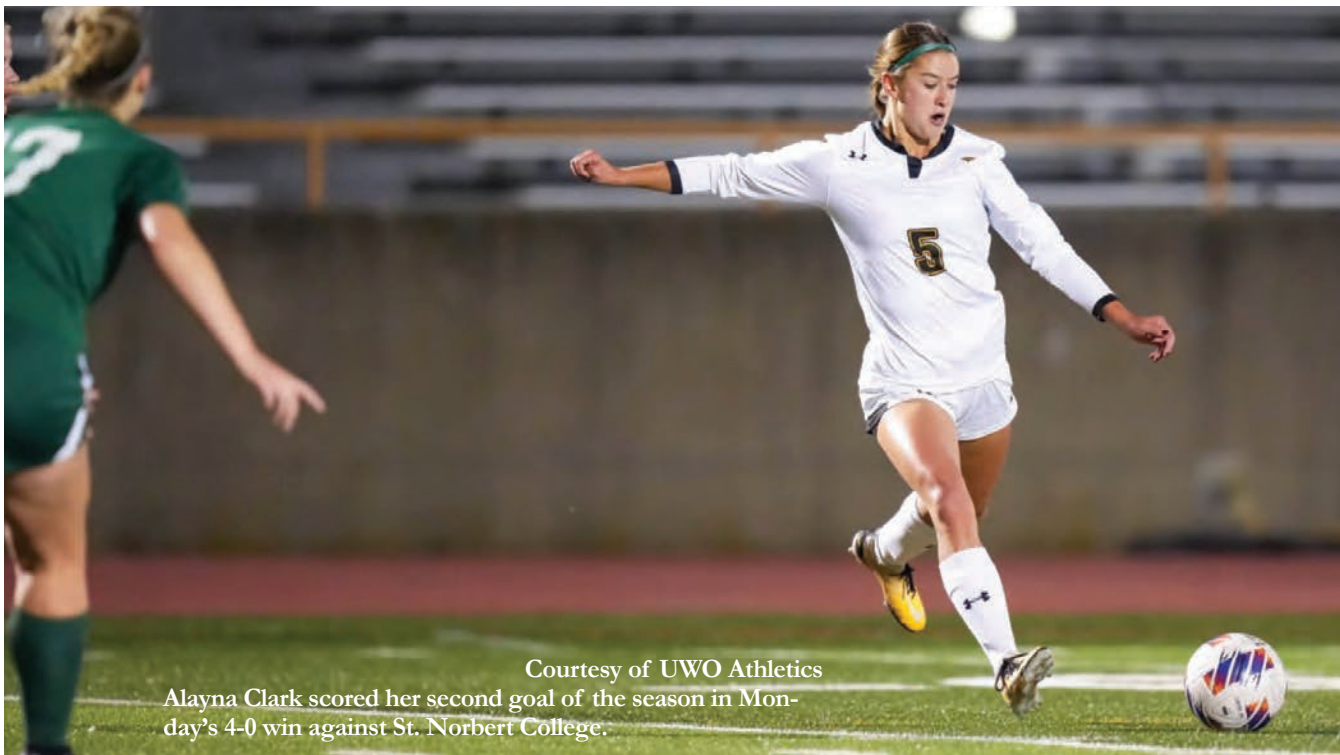
The sisters have been making the most of the season and each other’s company, appreciative of the opportunity to play with each other again.

“We’re grateful to be able to play tennis together at Oshkosh and



Cordelia Damkot

have really enjoyed this experience together,” they said. “Tennis has been a component of our relationship because we’ve played together for a really long time, and we’re getting more time now.”



Courtesy of UWO Athletics
Alayna Clark scored her second goal of the season in Monday's 4-0 win against St. Norbert College.

UWO soccer triumphs at home

By Aubrie Selsmeyer
selsmeyer72@uwosh.edu

Monday's matchup against St. Norbert's Green Knights resulted in a long-awaited 4-0 home field win for the Titans.

Coming into the match, the Titans knew that this was a game against a respectable team in search of a big win, assistant coach CJ Dwyer said.

"Coming out and setting the tone early is a necessity if we plan to stay in this game," he said.

Within the first five minutes of the game, UWO's Maris Huen struck hard and early, drawing a hand ball just outside of the penalty box. Mackenzie Bennett stepped up to take the kick, sailing the ball into the awaiting

arms of the Knight's keeper, Lily Collins.

Two minutes later, another opportunity for the Titans arose on a beautiful through ball played by Grace Herrmann to the foot of Rylie Kaufmann who pulled it just wide left of the goal.

UWO came out with a high intensity, fast-paced game that hasn't been seen yet this season at home. The energy on the field was undeniable and contagious.

In the 21st minute, UWO's Alexia Poulos drove the ball down the right side of the field and connected a beautiful cross to the head of Molly Jackson to make it a 1-0 game.

The Knights struggled to connect in the offensive third of the field, and the Titan defense was

pressed high and heavy, intercepting all attempts at the net.

Before the conclusion of the first half, the Titans capitalized on their lead with a stunning, unassisted goal by Alayna Clark in the 37th minute.

The Titans came out at half-time with a fire under them to secure the first home game win of the season. In the 73rd minute, UWO's Alayna Clark buried another ball in the back of the net off a savvy cross by Gabby Born earning herself a brace for the match.

In only the 72nd minute, UWO's Greta Steines put the fourth goal on the scoreboard from 30-yards out assisted by Anika Roush. By the 73rd minute, the Titans were up 4-0 over the

Knights.

Late in the 84th minute, the Green Knight's Michelle Piro sent a shot just wide of the net.

The Knights managed to get two more shots off before the 90-minute mark, both secured safely in the arms of UWO's Emma Sauriol who put another shutout under her belt.

The Titans dominated the game from start to finish with a total of 26 shots compared to St. Norbert's nine.

The Titans also led in corner kicks, drawing seven throughout the 90 minutes.

When asked how important this win at home was for the team, UWO's Alayna Clark emphasized that it was a turning point for their season.

"I think at this point in the conference, having this win really gives us the confidence we need going forward," she said.

Midfielder Mackenzie Stein stresses the importance of continuing to work hard in practice for the remainder of the season and looks ahead to another home game against UW-Platteville this Saturday October 15th.

"We have to continue our one-two-touch passes and keep our pass accuracy up and, again, having this win today is really going to help boost our confidence in conference," Stein said. We will be sure to come out on Saturday."

The Titans enter their next matchup with a conference record of 0-1-2 and overall record of 4-5-4.





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Opinion

‘Anything but country’

By Kelly Hueckman
hueckk24@uwosh.edu

“Anything but country.”

Whenever surveying musical tastes, this is the typical response I’m given, and hardly anyone shares any disagreement.

The genre has taken over charts, and break-out country stars like Morgan Wallen, Luke Combs and Kane Brown have dominated Billboard Year-End charts and sold out arenas.

Meanwhile, Nashville, the heart of country music, is one of the biggest tourist destinations in the world, roping in roughly 14 million yearly visitors clad in cowboy boots and shiny buckles.

Still, the genre remains under harsh criticism from many, from casual Spotify-users to music junkies.

A 2015 study conducted by a University of Notre Dame professor found that the dislike for country music has increased while their dislike for other genres decreased.

But is all this bitterness warranted?

One of the most common qualms people have with country music is that it’s centered around only three topics: girls, beer and trucks.

This is true of a subgenre of country I like to call “Bro-Country,” which, admittedly, doesn’t stray too far from this stereotype.

Bro-Country is what turns people wrongfully away from country music with songs like Toby Keith’s “Red Solo Cup” or Luke Bryan’s “Country Girl (Shake It For Me)”.

From the track titles alone, you can already nearly guarantee that there is a very specific audience this music is targeted for, and I can’t say I blame people for being turned off by it.

Throughout the decade or so, these are the songs that have taken over country radio, giving a false sense of the genre’s true essence.

The genre historically has its roots in folk and blues, often written and sung by the working-class looking for a creative way to share their struggles.

It wasn’t uncommon for early

country music to include themes of struggling with alcoholism, poor mental health and, of course, heartbreak.

Merle Haggard’s 1973 hit “If We Make it Through December” narrates the story of a factory worker who was laid off before the holiday season and is wracked with guilt because he can’t afford a Christmas present to his daughter.

The story was reflective of the tanking economy at the time as unemployment and inflation rates increased.

In 1979, Hank Williams Jr. released “Family Tradition,” a song about rebellion and substance abuse that still lives on as one of country’s biggest middle fingers to everyone — even itself.

During this time, the war on drugs had successfully stigmatized people with issues of substance abuse, and this song let them know they weren’t the only ones struggling.

Even into the ‘90s, female artists like Martina McBride and Shania Twain shared songs covering a multitude of topics from domestic abuse to taking pride in femininity.

Songs like these reflected the rise of the third wave of feminism that erupted in the mid ‘90s.

Listeners resonated because these songs were written from a genuine place and gave solace to those with a similar experience.

But this doesn’t mean that the only country music worth listening to was created nearly half a century ago.

Sure, contemporary country radio hits may be off-putting to music fans who crave something with a bit more substance, but there are many gems released every day.

A few years ago, it may have taken a bit of digging to find such gems.

Now, it seems as though the country music industry has recognized people’s desire for authentic storytelling with a wider range of themes.

It can be nauseating to listen to Bro-Country’s biggest stars pander and spout buzzwords to the working-class knowing the artist



Kelly Hueckman / Advance-Titan

Country music, while garnering massive amounts of tourism in Nashville, continues to be disliked by many music fans.

has never even done their own grocery shopping.

This is why artists like Zach Bryan, Sturgill Simpson and Tyler Childers have erupted in popularity over the past few years.

Swapping out recaps of yesterday’s tailgate, these artists write everything from stories of finding their identity to odes to the dead.

Zach Bryan’s 2019 break-out hit “Heading South” tells the tale of a young outcast rebelling against his family and hometown in search of peace.

The song’s raw, emotional vocals on top of only an acoustic guitar stood out effortlessly

against a mass of over-produced country hits that just tried too hard.

Other artists are following suit, even challenging country music’s historical stubbornness to popularize the music of marginalized groups.

Modern Black country stars include Jimmie Allen, Mickey Guyton, Kane Brown and Willie Jones.

Similarly, more light is being shone on gay country artists, including Lil Nas X, T.J. Osbourne and Chely Wright.

Sure, country music is still far from perfect, especially when it

comes to representation of diversity. This is true of most, if not all, genres of music.

However, the industry seems to be listening to the audiences’ demand for music with more substance, and it looks like a shift is coming.

By the looks of it, this may bring music that more closely resembles the roots of country music through a modern lens.

So, before you immediately write off a whole genre, dig deeper than Billboard’s Top 100 — you might be pleasantly surprised.

Letter to the Editor

Recognize the signs of human trafficking

By Lindsey Rihn
rihnl56@uwosh.edu

Sex trafficking is a large issue today in local communities, states and globally.

Just like an organization uses recruitment techniques, so do human traffickers to engage their victim. This is why it is so important to understand and protect yourself against their techniques.

Human traffickers use certain tactics to lure their victims in.

Those who are more susceptible to human trafficking are those who have faced historical discrimination such as those of color, those who identify differently than their

birth gender, immigrants, women and children.

Often a trafficker will use psychological tactics over physical. Things to watch out for in a family member or friend may include isolation from family and friends and someone posing as a loved one, mentor or friend.

Using manipulation tactics may cause emotional trauma for victims and send them into an endless cycle of love and violence.

Another tactic that may be seen are employment opportunities.

The traffickers know that individuals nowadays are looking for higher paying jobs, so they may lure their victim in with the temp-

tation of money.

Using physical tactics are less common but equally important to be aware of.

One tactic is placing a zip tie on the side mirror of your car to ‘mark’ you as a target.

To keep yourself and others safe, you can report any suspicious activity to your local police, raise awareness with your friends and family, keep yourself informed by watching out for warning signs and volunteer to support anti-trafficking efforts in your community.

You can also contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

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.

The Advance-Titan does not publish anonymous or open letters and letters printed elsewhere.

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