

The Advance-Titan

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Liam Beran / Advance-Titan

(Top) Students vote at Culver Family Welcome Center. (Bottom left) Poll workers assist students before they cast their ballot. (Bottom right) An observer watches to ensure the election's integrity.

Titans cast a vote for their future

By Liam Beran
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It was a first-time experience for some UW Oshkosh students. Nov. 8's Election Day marked an entry to voting for much of the student population.

"Midterm elections tend to be less popular than presidential elections," said James Krueger, a political science professor at UWO. Speaking prior to the election, Krueger said student turnout tends to vary on the visibility and perceived closeness of an election, but that the closeness of many races this fall made it a "high visibility election."

"Students tend to turn out a little less commonly than the average population," Krueger said. He noted that students are typically younger, less experienced with voting and may feel like voting doesn't affect them. Yet Krueger also recognized that organizations on campus have been pushing the importance of voting and that these efforts may increase a student's likelihood to vote.

Politics affect students, Krueger said. "Their rent is determined on

taxes, the cost of their tuition and the deals that they get in terms of tuition remission or forgiveness of student loans is dependent on who is in office both in Madison and in Washington, D.C."

He added, "Whether they care about their pocket book, social or moral issues – all of these things are something they're empowered to have a choice about."

A variety of issues were on students' minds. Lily Slivinski, a third-year RTF major, said reproductive rights and climate concerns were the two main issues she was voting for.

"I've voted since I was able to vote," Slivinski said. "But for this election, in particular, I think it's important for everyone to vote because it's such a tight race in every race."

This year's voting took place among a national conversation about the role of election observers, who have ignited fierce ideological and legal debates in recent weeks, with some accusing election observers of practicing voter intimidation. In Arizona, a district court judge issued a temporary restraining order on open-carry-

ing election observers at ballot boxes, as reported by the New York Times. In Green Bay, Fox 11 News reported that the Republican National Committee and four individuals filed a lawsuit "seek[ing] a temporary restraining order and injunction" against city clerk Celestine Jeffreys, alleging Jeffreys "refused to let election observers be in a public hallway where voters fill out their ballot, have witness certification performed and deposit the ballot into the ballot box."

The city of Oshkosh did have election observers on sites, even in City Hall for those who chose to cast their ballots early. An election observer was watching over the voting process at the Culver Family Welcome Center, where on-campus students cast their ballots.

Winnebago County Clerk Sue Ertmer said that issues were minimal, but that in the city of Neenah, an individual was escorted out by the police for becoming "unruly" toward election observers watching him. According to Ertmer, the individual wanted to become an observer after voting and had the

police called on him by election officials for being "too rambunctious."

According to a March 2022 election brochure distributed by the Wisconsin Elections Commission, election observers are allowed to observe polling places so long as they do not engage in electioneering, defined by Wisconsin statute § 12.03 as "any activity which is intended to influence voting at an election."

While unofficial results were available Tuesday night, the outcome of the election isn't official until a certification process occurring Thursday evening, said Oshkosh City Clerk Jessi Balcom.

Late Tuesday night, Winnebago Deputy County Clerk Julie Barthels said they were waiting on a call from one polling place, which had more than 100 people still in line at 8:30 p.m., to complete the county's tally.

Though votes were still being counted at the time, Ertmer was enthusiastic about turnout. "Just preliminary numbers; some of [the wards] were thinking they had presidential numbers." Ertmer said that numbers were still up in

the air late Tuesday night, but that she could see a 75% or 80% turnout for Winnebago County.

In unofficial results, Democratic candidate Lori Palmeri, the current mayor of Oshkosh, will represent the 54th Assembly District, winning her race against Republican opponent Donnie Herman, an Oshkosh businessman. Palmeri accrued 12,124 votes or 53.1% of the total votes cast. Herman had 10,382 votes or 45.6% of the total votes cast.

Turnout was slightly lower compared to the November 2018 election, according to the Winnebago County unofficial results. About 75,000 people voted this Tuesday, down 1,100 people or 1.4%.

While results for the statewide races were not available by our Tuesday press deadline, in Winnebago County, Tim Michels led in the gubernatorial race against incumbent Tony Evers by 729 votes, Republican Eric Toney led against incumbent Josh Kaul for the Attorney General by almost 1,600 votes, and incumbent Republican Ron Johnson beat Democrat Mandela Barnes in the U.S. Senate race by about 4,500 votes.

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Correction Policy
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Advance-Titan File Photo

March’s name has yet to be added back to the UW Oshkosh and UW-Madison campuses, even after new complaints.

March still given the blind eye

‘The ball is in the court of both universities’

By Katie Pulvermacher
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The character of Hollywood Golden Age icon Fredric March is still tarnished as UW Oshkosh and UW-Madison administrators have stayed silent to objections from supporters who maintain the universities should put March’s name back on buildings.

“While both schools have cloaked their reasons for banishing March in the deservedly sacrosanct Wisconsin Idea, their very actions to date have been the antithesis of the Wisconsin Idea’s time-honored commitment to sifting and winnowing for truth,” Milwaukee journalist George Gonis said.

Gonis has dedicated years to studying March’s life as a civil rights activist and graduate of UW-Madison.

“As I did my own deeper research, I became stunned at just how wrong all of March’s detractors were,” Gonis said. “Even with all I knew about March before the campus controversy started, I had no idea just how dedicated March was to racial equality and other civil rights issues.”

What we know

March had his name removed from the Madison and UWO campus theaters after false information was acquired on him being a white supremacist and Ku Klux Klan member.

“March’s name was removed on the Madison campus just a couple of weeks after four hours’ worth of public hearings,” Gonis said. “It was people without any of this knowledge who unanimously labeled March a racist, a white supremacist and a Klan member at those high-intensity, emotionally fraught, fact-free public hearings.”

March belonged to an inter-fraternity council called the Ku Klux Klan, which did not have any affiliation to the notorious white supremacist group.

“[People] jumped to utterly false conclusions about a collegiate organization photo in March’s senior yearbook without taking the time required to dig into the full story behind the photo and the yearbook page,” Gonis said.

Without doing research and believing said rumors, both campuses defamed March’s name.

“Neither university gained a single off-campus supporter for its Fredric March actions and stances,” Gonis said.

Support letters shown no mercy

An initial support letter was sent to both universities in September 2021, filled with serious inquiries from 30 progressive academics and nationally revered civil rights icons advocating for the schools to reconsider their decision.

“The attitude was, ‘The indisputable facts that have now come out are so overwhelming on March’s behalf, how could they not [change their minds]?’” Gonis said.

Disbelief followed as the support letter was largely ignored. Those who knew March knew he risked not just his career, but his life, on behalf of civil rights.

“All 30 signatories were gobsmailed by the utter lack of response from either school,” Gonis said. “Both universities repeatedly doubled-down throughout this past year on the decision to remove March’s name, refusing to admit a single error or a rush to judgment of any kind and making no real attempt to make either campus a hospitable place to tell the full story of March’s gargantuan civil rights record.”

Having died in 1975, March cannot speak about false accusations. His legacy relies on the now 54 distinguished signatories who signed a new support letter the campuses have ignored since sent in August 2022.

“How do two institutions of higher learning just blow off the national headquarters of the NAACP and that amazing organization’s two principal officers, or Dr. Martin Luther King’s personal legal counsel and the co-author of the ‘I Have a Dream’ speech, or a Freedom Rider and one of the principal founders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee or Ed Asner, Louis Gossett Jr., Glynn Turman and Mrs. Stanley Kramer — just to name a few?” Gonis said.

UWO’s Chancellor Andrew Leavitt wrote a letter to Gonis last year, in which he dismissed any further actions.

“I very seriously considered Mr. March’s time, contributions and legacy,” Leavitt wrote in his letter. “I also took very seriously my responsibility to hear, understand and address the present-day concerns shared by UW Oshkosh students, alumni, colleagues and other stakeholders over the last few years. All of this informed my decision and statement.”

UWO told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel in September that they have no plans to reconsider, and referred to an earlier statement, saying the university will be more equitable this way.

Gonis said it is clear that Leavitt will not return March’s name to campus unless UW-Madison does first.

“Chancellor Leavitt’s mere copycat decision on the Fredric March issue is particularly confounding and not particularly sophisticated,” Gonis said.

UWO’s multi-racial student and faculty fact-finding committee concluded that March was on the right side of history and that to remove his name would be a “betrayal of UWO’s mission.”

“[Leavitt followed UW-Madison] rather than the lead of his own committee, who got all the facts right,” Gonis said. “Not thinking for yourself and going along with the crowd often gives us decisions devoid of justice.”

Previous UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank said even though March was a “fighter for civil rights and equality,” it still remains a fact that he oriented himself with a “student group that echoed the KKK name.”

A statement made by UW-Madison in August represents the position of the new chancellor, Jennifer Mnookin.

“The decision was made by Union Council [and] continues to be supported by the university,” UW-Madison spokesperson John Lucas said. “There are no plans to revisit it.”

Gonis said he believes both universities were caught off-guard by the list of signatories.

“Having so many progressive academics and acclaimed racial-justice champions shaking their heads at you in disbelief can’t be what either university wanted,” Gonis said.

Celebrating March’s 125th birthday

A little over a month ago, March’s 125th birthday and his civil rights accomplishments were celebrated on national television on Turner Classic Movies (TCM).

“TCM’s Ben Mankiewicz hosted six terrific history segments throughout the Fredric March triple-feature evening Sept. 30 — five of which highlighted March’s prodigious racial-justice activism and two of which gently chastised both universities for insufficient research,” Gonis said.

Mankiewicz addressed the issues surrounding the accusations during the tribute to the actor. The tribute included three of March’s most popular films he acted in: 1933’s “Design for Living,” 1941’s “So Ends Our Night” and 1960’s “Inherit The Wind.”

“March’s birthday provides us an opportunity to set the record straight about March, correcting a misconception that did some unfair damage to his reputation,” Mankiewicz said. “[March] was a fervent and outspoken champion of civil rights throughout his life.”

What happens next?

Both universities still have the opportunity to do the right thing and re-open the topic, Gonis said.

“To a degree, the ball is in the court of both universities,” Gonis said.

Gonis said “the injustice done to March in Wisconsin has touched an awful lot of hearts and minds in assorted corners around the world.” He has been contacted by various people wanting to send messages to the campuses.

“We’ve also gotten wind that other publications and television productions are looking into doing something on March that exposes all that went on in Madison and Oshkosh,” Gonis said. “We’ll see in the coming months if any of that pans out.”

The signatories have given light to March’s name, despite the decline in comment from the universities.

“Telling March’s full civil rights story now would make people realize just how silly the universities’ actions were,” Gonis said. “I suspect that’s a road both schools are just too embarrassed or too cowardly to go down.”

Oshkosh torn over Merrill School decision

6-0 vote in favor of tearing down historic property

By Josh Lehner
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The Oshkosh Area School District (OASD) Board of Education voted 6-0 to demolish Merrill Middle School during an Oct. 26 board meeting, despite efforts by the community to save the historical building.

Originally constructed in 1901, the school will be torn down to provide green space for the new Vel Phillips Middle School, which is set to open by fall of 2023 according to OASD.

A referendum on the general ballot was passed in November 2020, allocating \$107 million for the construction of new elementary and middle schools, as well as the closing of deteriorating facilities.

The referendum never explicitly outlined any plans for the demolition of Merrill Middle School, though it mentioned the school’s “potential removal,” which has led many Oshkosh residents to criticize the referendum as intentionally vague.

Carol Stevenson, who spoke at the Oct. 26 meeting, said that she was unaware that the 2020 referendum entailed the possible demolition of Merrill Middle School.

“On the referendum, it was not clearly stated that Merrill would be demolished,” she said. “If the referendum had clearly stated that Merrill would be taken down, I think a number of people would probably have voted against the new middle school being built.”

School Board President Barbara Herzog acknowledged the concerns over the referendum’s wording but said that it was approved by the board before ending up on the ballot. Herzog said that the floor plan for the new Vel Phillips school was undecided when the referendum was voted on, which is why it never explic-



Photo courtesy of Wisconsin Historical Society, Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory, Merrill School, Oshkosh, Winnebago, WI, 70469. Merrill Middle School, constructed in 1901, is set to be torn down and replaced with a green space for Vel Phillips Middle School. A petition started to save the historic Merrill School currently has 1,300 signatures.

itly stated any demolition plans.

“The concept of potentially removing Merrill is not new,” she said. “It was discussed during numerous meetings throughout 2020.”

Most of the ire toward the school’s demolition comes from community members who want to see the historic sections of the building maintained. A Facebook group named “Save Historic Merrill School” boasts nearly 800 members, and a petition aimed at saving the school has garnered roughly 1,300 signatures. Oshkosh resident Charles Williams, who also spoke during the Oct. 26 meeting, said that it is too ear-

ly to vote because not all options have been considered.

“If you want to vote today, vote to tear down the post-1950 additions,” he said. “But we shouldn’t vote to take down the entire building without exploring all other options. We’ve lost so many buildings in this town. Merrill could be repurposed.”

Herzog said she listened to members of the “Save Merrill” community, and that the board considered preserving the historic 1901 and 1932 sections of Merrill.

“I had directed an administration to work with the ‘Save Merrill’ group to see if there could be

a compromise reached while still providing enough green space,” she said. “The administration came back and [said] that it was not feasible to save parts of the building. There simply would not be enough room to save parts of the building.”

Herzog said that, while this was a difficult decision that was not taken lightly, the board’s guiding principle is putting students first. She also said that mementos from the school, including classroom doors, will be salvaged to preserve the unique style of the building.

“We recognize that the Merrill building is historic and beauti-

ful,” she said. “But our main goal is serving students. We have a strategic goal related to equity, and we didn’t believe that the proposals from the ‘Save Merrill’ group were consistent with our guiding principle or our strategic plan.”

The Oct. 26 vote also allocated a maximum of \$50,000 for the construction of a memorial to namesake James Merrill, Merrill architect Henry Auler and teacher and football coach Harold Schumerth. What the memorial will look like and where it will be located are yet to be decided.

Personal finance for YOU

Find financial wellness and empowerment with Banzai

By Beth Peterson
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Whether you’re new to managing your money or you’ve been balancing accounts for some time, navigating the world of personal finance successfully means educating yourself before making important decisions.

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2. Credit Card Payoff Calculator: This tool keeps it real – calculating how long it will take to pay off a credit card balance based on varying interest rates and monthly payments.
3. Rent Affordability Calculator: Ready to rent? See how much you can realistically afford by inputting your gross



- monthly income and average expenses.
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to specific age groups: juniors (for K-5), teens (6th-12th) and young adults.

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Note: The Financial Corner is a direct response to student requests for more information on navigating money matters. The tips are provided by Beth Peterson, brand manager of the UW Credit Union.

Sports

Calendar



Scoreboard

Thursday, Nov. 3

Volleyball
UWO - 2
UW-Stevens Point - 3
Wrestling
UWO - 11
UW-Whitewater - 32

Saturday, Nov. 5

Football
UWO - 45
UW-Stevens Point - 0
Wrestling
Individual results - see UWO Athletics site
Women's Swimming and Diving
UWO - 87
UW-Whitewater - 167
Men's Swimming and Diving
UWO - 78
UW-Whitewater - 186

Tuesday, Nov. 8

Men's Basketball
UWO - 76
Lawrence University - 63

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Nov. 10

Volleyball
at Grand Rapids vs. Otterbein University 4:30 p.m.
Wrestling
UW-La Crosse at 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 11

Men's Basketball
at Calvin University at 4 p.m.
Women's Basketball
Bethel University at UW-Eau Claire at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12

Football
at UW-Eau Claire at 1 p.m.
Wrestling
at Luther College Open at 9 a.m.
Swimming and Diving
at Lawrence University 9 a.m.
Women's Cross Country
NCAA Division III North Regional at St. Olaf College at 11 a.m.
Men's Cross Country
NCAA Division III North Regional at St. Olaf College at 12 p.m.
Men's Basketball
at Hope College at 4 p.m.
Women's Basketball
Wartburg College at UW-Eau Claire at 5 p.m.

A-Trivia

What was the UWO volleyball winstreak?

Answer: 19 wins in a row!



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Kobe Berghammer hands the ball off to running back Peter MacCudden earlier in the season. MacCudden rushed 104 yards against the Pointers.

Titans pummel Pointers

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh football team recorded its first shutout victory against UW-Stevens Point in 44 years as the Titans took down the Pointers 45-0 Saturday afternoon at Goerke Field.

Wide receiver Terrell Carey said that the Titans were able to dominate UWSP because they came in motivated to play as a team.

“Especially as an offense, we focused on what our strengths were and more important, we went out there and executed,” Carey said. “It was a big thing from a confidence point of view knowing that the guys across from you are alongside us.”

UWO, whose last shutout win was in 1978, kicked off the scoring and never looked back as running back Peter MacCudden pushed his way for a five-yard rushing touchdown.

Running back DJ Stewart had one of the best plays of the game to

extend the lead to 21 points, eluding defenders en route to a 61-yard touchdown after UWO stopped the Pointers on fourth down.

Carey had his second touchdown of the season with 13 seconds to go in the third quarter when he caught a 50-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Kobe Berghammer to build a 35-point advantage.

Carey said his touchdown was one of the most fun plays he has ever been a part of.

“It’s one of those things where I always love to be able to help the team in any way that I can, and that touchdown was a big spark for the team,” he said. “I know the touchdown really helped our confidence and when you got your brothers out there blocking in front of you, it makes the touchdown so much better.”

Berghammer found both Tony Steger and Trae Tetzlaff in the game for 16-yard and five-yard touchdowns, respectively, as the Titans outgained UWSP in total yards 598-196.

Berghammer scored his ninth rushing touchdown of the season in the third quarter when he found the endzone on a six-yard run.

Kicker Nolan Mobley scored the final points of the day with an 18-yard field goal as the Titans went on to win the game 45-0.

Berghammer finished the game 12-26 with 152 yards passing, three touchdowns and one interception. He was also the leading rusher for UWO, running for 115 yards and a score.

Stewart and MacCudden each rushed for 111 yards and 104 yards, respectively, while adding a rushing touchdown for Oshkosh.

Steger was the leading receiver for UWO, catching five passes for 56 yards and a touchdown, while Carey finished the game with 53 yards and a score.

Carey said he thinks the team has grown closer together throughout the season.

“In the last few weeks we’ve been forced to interact with each other and we’ve been able to grow

with each other,” he said. “It’s been awesome to see that the team has gotten closer together and that translates to the success on the field.”

Carey said he wants to lead the team to success down the road.

“We can all have that mentality of being able to work towards the future because sometimes us seniors lose track of getting everyone better because its our last go around and things like that are huge,” he said. “I’m here to make my mark and make sure that the team can get to those future goals.”

On the defensive side of the ball, Brandon Kolgen led Oshkosh with 1½ sacks and two tackles for loss. Linebackers Kyle Dietzen and Tory Jandrin led the Titans in tackles with seven each, while Tijs Santiago recorded an interception.

UWO will take on UW-Eau Claire at 1:10 p.m. on Nov. 12 in the final game of the regular season at Carson Park.

Volleyball ends regular season 30-5

By Nolan Swenson
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UW Oshkosh volleyball closed out its Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) championship aspirations in a hard-fought 3-2 loss to UW-Stevens Point on Nov. 3.

All sets were back and forth battles, as the team’s alternated winning every other set. UWSP took the final two sets by only two points each.

The competition began with an initial set win from Oshkosh of 27-25, a close win that set the pace for the end of the matchup. The match was often neck and neck with the exception of the second and third set that saw scores of 25-13 and 25-18, a Pointer and Titan win respectively.

The fourth set saw an early lead from Stevens Point that wouldn’t be wrangled by the Titans until the 10-point mark. From then on, the match was tit for tat, with little



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

The UWO volleyball team gathers at the bench during a break in the match to rally spirits.

more than two points being scored consecutively by a team. This breakneck pace would eventually be harnessed by the Pointers who scored twice to break a tie of 23-23.

The fifth and final set was taken by the Pointers who, like the previous set, took an early lead in the attrition. This final set came down to a 14-14 tie until, just as before, the Pointers scored twice in a row.

UWSP progressed to the

WIAC championships against UW-Whitewater, where UWW took the WIAC championship title in a 3-1 win over the Pointers.

The season was an amazing show of force, with the Titans going 30-5 overall, and 6-1 in conference. Another large achievement was winning 19 games in a row, an incredible testament to the team’s perseverance and indomitable spirit.

The year does not end here,

as UWO volleyball was given an at-large bid for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament.

The Titans will enter the championships in the fourth seed, and they will face off against the fifth seeded Otterbein University (Ohio). The tournament will be hosted on Nov. 10 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Herd hopes to make playoff run

By Jacob Link
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After a disappointing 2021-22 campaign, the Wisconsin Herd will look to contend for the NBA G League playoffs during the 2022-23 season which kicked off Nov. 4 at the Oshkosh Arena.

Coach Chaisson Allen said he expects the team to play fast, shoot a lot of three-pointers and crash the offensive boards.

“We’ve done that well so far, so on the defensive end we just need to clean some things up and we’ll win a lot of games,” he said.

Last season the Herd finished 14th in the Eastern Conference of the G League with a record of 8-24, the second worst in the entire league.

The 2021-22 season did feature high points for the Herd, with the team finishing the year with eight players called up to the NBA. Rayjon Tucker and Wenyen Gabriel were both converted to full-time contracts in the NBA, with Gabriel returning to the NBA again this season.

The Herd was awarded the Inaugural President’s Choice Award for last season, which, according to the G League, is given to a team that embodies what all G League teams should strive to be. Wisconsin was recognized for outstanding ticket sales, sponsorship success, promotional creativity, social responsibility participation, digital and social engagement, league initiative participation and team staffing levels.



Katie Pulvermacher / Advance-Titan
Wisconsin Herd’s Brandon Randolph drives to the basket in Friday’s 115-110 loss to the Windy City Bulls on opening night at the Oshkosh Arena

This year the Herd have re-vamped their lineup, with only three returning players from the previous season.

Guard Lindell Wigginton returns to the Herd for a second season after averaging 17.0 points, 5.3 rebounds and 4.5 assists per game in the 2021-22 season. A native of Canada, Wigginton played in 19 games for the Bucks under a two-way contract last season and played in all five NBA preseason games for Milwaukee. Wigginton also played for the Bucks Summer League team, leading Milwaukee in points (18.2) and assists (4.6) per game.

Wigginton said he really enjoyed playing for the Bucks last season.

“It was a great experience because that was the team that gave me my first shot in the NBA, so I

am very appreciative of them,” he said. “It was a blessing because it was always my goal to get to the NBA.”

Forward Sandro Mamukelashvili returns to the Herd for a second season under a two-way contract, which is where a player signs a guaranteed deal and can play for both an NBA team and their G-League affiliate. NBA teams are allowed just two Two-Way contracts throughout the season. Last year with Wisconsin, Mamukelashvili averaged 20.7 points and 10.9 rebounds in 12 regular-season games.

With the Milwaukee Bucks last season, Mamukelashvili appeared in 41 games averaging 3.8 points and two rebounds per game. He also played for the Bucks 2022 NBA Summer League team, aver-

aging 11.2 points and 8.6 rebounds while being named to the All-NBA Summer League First Team.

Wigginton said playing the NBA Summer League is a great experience.

“I learned to just be patient in the game,” he said. “You need to be able to play your role and be patient with the game.”

The other two-way player the Herd has is guard A.J. Green, who joined Wisconsin after going undrafted in the 2022 NBA Draft. Green, who appeared in all five 2022 NBA preseason games for Milwaukee, played with Mamukelashvili on the Bucks Summer League team, averaging seven points in five games.

One of the biggest names to join the Herd this season is Alex Antetokounmpo, the youngest brother of Milwaukee’s Giannis and Thanasis Antetokounmpo. Alex, who played basketball at Dominican High School, was acquired by the Herd through a trade with Raptors 905 during the off-season. Last season, Alex played in 15 games with Raptors 905 and appeared in the 2022 NBA All-Star Weekend Skills Challenge with his older brothers.

Another player to join the Herd this season is 7’1” center Ibou Badji. Born in Dakar, Senegal, Badji played for his national team in the 2019 FIBA Under-19 Basketball World Cup, averaging 6.9 points, 5.1 rebounds and 3.1 blocks per game. Badji, who trained with NBA Academy Africa, had a 7’6” wingspan at age 15 and played with

Forca Lleida CE in Spain last year, averaging 8.2 points per game.

The Herd selected forward Joe Wieskamp with the second overall pick in the NBA G League Draft, a player who has won numerous awards in his basketball career. A two-time Iowa Gatorade Player of the Year in high school, Wieskamp was drafted by the San Antonio Spurs with the 41st pick in the 2021 NBA Draft. He played 29 games with the Spurs last season before being released from the team on Oct. 17. Wieskamp, who was selected for All-Big Ten teams with Iowa in 2020 and 2021, averaged 2.1 points with San Antonio last year.

Returning to coach the Wisconsin Herd for his second season is Allen, the third head coach in team history. A former assistant coach for the Herd, Allen played college basketball at Northeastern University before playing professional basketball overseas for various European teams.

“I just want the team to win as many games as possible and, individually, just be better than last year,” Wigginton said.

The Herd lost their first regular season game to the Windy City Bulls 115-110 Friday before taking down the Bulls the next day 112-102. Wisconsin has a four game homestand which started Wednesday when they took on the Cleveland Charge and will face them again today. The Herd then take on the Motor City Cruise Nov. 12 and Nov. 15 at the Oshkosh Arena.

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Arts & Entertainment

UWO’s Grease reclaims the stage

By Kelly Hueckman
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Poodleskirts and drive-ins, sexism and cigarettes: “Grease” captured the best and worst of the 1950s as the UW Oshkosh theatre department debuted its first musical production in over two years on Nov. 3.

“Grease” follows the story of two groups of high school students, the Burger Palace Boys and the Pink Ladies, as they navigate growing up and finding their identity in the 1950s.

The cast performed four nearly-sold-out shows of the iconic musical over the weekend. They followed the original 1971 production instead of the 1974 movie-musical starring Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta.

“Everyone has their own idea of what ‘Grease’ is,” director Merlaïne Angwall said. “We’re doing the original version, so it’s a lot raunchier.”

She was right: There were plenty of middle fingers and perfectly-timed F-bombs to maintain the authenticity of teenage rebellion and earn endless laughs from the audience.

“The movie kind of cleaned everything up and sanitized it. It was very G-rated,” Angwall said. “Our version is definitely not G-rated.”

The show’s leading lady, good-girl-turned-bad Sandy, was played by third-year student Alyssa Proell. Her sugar-sweet soprano was a perfect fit for the role and blended well with her co-star, Jordan Whitrock, who played the stubborn rebel Danny.

While the two had a great stage chemistry during tracks “Summer Nights” and “All Choked Up,” Proell said she was grateful that the 1971 version they performed focused not only on Sandy and Danny’s love story, but the dynamic of a whole group of teenagers.

“It’s not just a show about two people, but rather an entire group of kids in high school growing and connecting through struggles and challenges together,” Proell said.

UWO’s version highlighted the talent of the entire cast with the tight harmonies of the Pink Ladies, the humor of the Burger Palace Boys and the impressive choreographic performance from Cha Cha, played by Mackenzie Williams.

Of course, we can’t forget the



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Theatre Department

UW Oshkosh’s production of ‘Grease’ is different than the movie version but is still filled with the songs people know and love.

smooth crooning of the Teen Angel and Frenchy, played by Luke Meister and Maddy Ebben.

One memorable supporting role was Rizzo, played by third-year student Lily Slivinski, who perfectly embodied Rizzo’s snarky, cool demeanor.

Slivinski said that Rizzo has always been one of her dream roles. On opening night, she wasted no time taking advantage of the opportunity and immediately filled the stage with her sarcastic comments, perfectly-timed eye-rolls and promiscuity.

“I love playing villains and mean characters,” Slivinski said. “I love something about a character with a little grunge and seeing how vulnerable she gets.”

It’s only when Rizzo found out she might be pregnant that her stoic walls began to crumble as she belted the emotional “There are Worse Things I Could Do,” a number Slivinski said she found difficult to perform.

“It’s hard, and I connected to it very personally,” she said.

Rizzo wasn’t the only supporting role that stood out among the dazzling cast. Her on-and-off boyfriend and hot-headed member of the Burger Palace Boys, Kenickie led arguably one of the best numbers of the show.

“Greased Lightnin’” featured the powerful tenor of third-year student Conner Andersen, who played Kenickie, as well as impressive back-up vocals and cho-

reography from the rest of the Burger Palace Boys. The boys wasted no space on stage as they swung their Levis-clad hips and jumped on the fully-drivable car on stage.

“I was expecting some sort of golf cart,” Andersen said of the infamous “Greased Lightnin’” car. “But the car was perfect, and it showed.”

Andersen, a transfer student from UW-Green Bay, said the best part of the show was the bond created between cast members as they reclaimed the UWO stage after so much time since the last school musical.

“They’re basically like a family to me,” Andersen said. “I can’t wait to work with them in the future.”

However, behind the red lipstick and hand-jiving, “Grease” has become one of the more controversial musicals in recent years, with some schools even canceling shows due to backlash.

Critics of the musical raise concerns about the plot of girls changing themselves to make boys like them as well as some questionable lines like “Tell me more, did she put up a fight?” They often call the show “anti-feminist” and “sexist.”

Proell said that Sandy didn’t exchange her innocent, prudish reputation for the bad-ass leather jacket and cigarette just to feel validated by Danny.

“I believe that Sandy changes

because she wants to embrace being different, not just for love, but for her own sense of confidence,” she said.

Angwall said that while the musical is a romantic-comedy set in the 1950s, it also addresses serious themes that are still relevant today, referring to Rizzo’s pregnancy scare.

“In the ‘50s, a girl had no choice,” Angwall said of unplanned pregnancies during that time period. “You were shunned; you were sent away.”

She also noted the lack of birth control options for women during the 1950s. She compared the poor situation to the recent *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* decision, which overturned the *Roe v. Wade* decision of 1973.

“With the overturning of it, I think it’s very poignant that this is still relevant,” Angwall said.

Despite the controversy, the production’s iconic score, edgy dialogue and classic American pop culture caused the show to nearly sell out.

However, the UWO theatre department won’t leave the stage empty for long; they will perform the play “My Genius of Humanity,” which explores the experience of an Armenian-American family set during World War II, Dec. 7-11.

A full schedule of performances can be found at uwosh.edu/theatre/productions.



Courtesy of UW Oshkosh Theatre Department

Sandy and Danny sang the duet “All Choked Up” to end the show.

Farmers Market moves inside for winter

By Mattie Beck
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The Oshkosh Farmers Market has moved inside to the Oshkosh Arena for winter, with the turnout still as strong as it was before.

The Oshkosh Farmers Market normally take place outside every Saturday on Main Street, but due to the weather turning colder, the decision was made to hold them at the same time, just inside.

Michelle Schmid-Schultz, the market manager, was happy with the success of the first inside market.

“The first Oshkosh Farmers

Market-Winter had a great turnout considering the blustery, cold weather. The market welcomed over 600 attendees and 32 vendors,” Schmid-Schultz said.

There has been an increase in participation this year, according to Schmid-Schultz.

“With the increase in vendor participation this year, the market has expanded into the Arena Bowl.”

Along with the vendors in the arena, there are also events that take place during the Saturday market.

“The market features live, local music each week and many new

events with the arena and other organizations are being planned for this year,” she said.

The events vary from holiday to craft-themed, taking place with the according season.

The schedule is:

- The Holiday Bazaars will be held on Nov. 26 and Dec. 17.
 - The Market is partnering with the Oshkosh Arena for two Artisan and Craft Fairs on Feb. 11 and Apr. 15.
 - The Spring Bazaar will be held on April 8, 2023.
 - The launch of Go Green Oshkosh will be held on April 22.
- The Market is planning for

Kids Day in March and an Art Competition in April.

This is the 11th year it has been held inside, as to why it was moved inside, Schmid-Schultz said it was for the farmers.

“There was a need to keep the market year ‘round to give agriculture vendors a place to take their products to sell,” Schmid-Schultz said.

Since the pandemic, the number of vendors participating has gone up.

“Vendor participation is up 30% over pre-pandemic numbers, up 50% over vendor participation during the pandemic,”

Schmid-Schultz said.

Though it is winter, the vendors still have lots of produce available for sale.

“The Winter Market still offers an abundance of late-season produce including a large variety of squash, potatoes, beets, gourmet mushrooms, onions, brussels sprouts, cranberries, apples, carrots, baby greens and more,” Schmid-Schultz said.

The Winter Market will continue to run on select Saturdays. For more information check the schedule check out osfmi.com.

Dig this: plant-care is self-care

By Ivy Buchan
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There is a peace lily in my office; we drink from the same water bottle. In the winter, my father brings his potted rosemary bush inside to share the house’s warmth. My partner dreams of having a little cat to share morsels from the table with.

This is the oldest story of humankind: we find ourselves eternally compelled to care.

There is a world where the peace lily grows alone in the ground, where my father’s rosemary toughs out the winter like wild plants, where my partner need not share their meals with a small animal.

And yet, here we are.

There is a host of anecdotal evidence to suggest that caring for living things is beneficial to one’s health, both mental and physical.

On the surface, this seems odd. Why would watering an ornamental plant three times each week create a tangible benefit for a person?

For me, having an external being to care for makes it easier to care for myself. When I water my peace lily, I often pause for a drink myself.

But why is caring so universal? My hypothesis is that caring is wired into what it means to be a person. Caring gives us purpose, something to do and an indication that we influence the world around us.

It may just be my experience, but I’ve never met a happy person who had no other life to look after.

Plants and small animals are also uncomplicated as objects of affection.

A rosemary bush cannot act in malice; a cat (properly fed and



Ivy Buchan / Advance-Titan

Caring for plants has many mental health benefits such as reducing anxiety levels, decreasing stress levels and sparking creativity.

treated) will give no cause for hatred. As such, they become good proxies to work out how to care for the world around us.

Gardening makes me better at loving my friends. So, here’s my take on how to get started.

First, you’ll need to wrap your head around what it means to take care of another life and plan accordingly. This can be as simple as setting an alarm on your phone reminding you to water your plants or feed your fish.

Second, select the object of your

care. It’s a good idea to start small with this kind of thing.

I recommend plants — succulents are always good. The various kinds of coleus plants are simple and peace lilies, of course, present almost no challenge.

Don’t start too big; if you’ve never had a pet before, saltwater fish are an extremely bad idea. A goldfish might be more manageable, but for the sake of this article, I’m going to focus on plants.

Third, learning to provide care is not easy, so take it easy on yourself

if the first few attempts result in wilted leaves or dirt on the carpet. There will be mistakes. Don’t beat yourself up, we all make them, but this is why it’s better to start with a \$5 cactus than a dog.

Fourth, don’t give up. I believe that providing care — for plants, animals and each other — is why we’re here, but like everything else, it’s a skill that takes time to build.

When you get frustrated with the progress (or lack thereof), remind yourself that you’re not be-

ing graded on this. If you make an honest effort, however minimal, you’re doing it!

I won’t pretend that these steps will work for everyone, but if you’re feeling run down, I’d encourage you to try them. I believe caring is fundamental.

Routines of care can work wonders on the soul. I love my peace lily. I hope you find a life to love likewise.

Ivy Buchan is an administrative assistance at the UW Oshkosh College of Business.

Letter to the Editor

Defining your college experience as a commuter

By Makenzie Schrage
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The college experience is often conceptualized as a time to transition into full autonomy, a time to meet new people and a time of self-growth.

While college presents you with various opportunities, it also presents an intense amount of pressure to try and make your experience fulfilling.

The pressure to make your college experience the “best four years of your life” is incredibly draining.

So what does the “college experience” look like to you? For me, it’s waking up between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m., making my 40-minute commute, attending my classes and then commuting home.

The college experience looks different for everyone, but the commuter experience is what you make of it.

Commuting may seem senseless and unfulfilling to some. Many students that live on campus often view commuters as not being true participants on campus.

Additionally, they compare their college experience to com-



Advance-Titan File Photo

Getting involved on campus through organizations and other events can help commuters meet new people.

muters’ college experience, often-times believing that theirs is more fulfilling.

The stigmatization around commuting creates an even further divide between students who live on campus and commuter students.

When I began commuting my freshman year, I enjoyed many aspects of it.

Not only did it save money, but it also allowed me to focus my attention on the things I value in life.

These included spending time with my family and friends, doing

well academically and prioritizing my mental health.

However, as I find myself in the midst of my sophomore year, I do not feel fully at peace with my decision to commute.

Recently, my mind has been flooded with constant comparison of what the college experience is supposed to look like.

Being a commuter, my experience doesn’t fit the mold of what the normal college experience is.

I find myself feeling pressured to live on campus and experience

what it’s like to have full autonomy. But as much as my brain wants to succumb to the pressure and stereotypes, my heart is content with commuting.

I have come to realize that everyone’s college experience is different. My commuter experience may look different from others, but that is perfectly okay.

It’s not what your college experience looks like to others, it’s what you make of your own experience here at UW Oshkosh.

Commuters should have an equal opportunity to get the most out of their college experience as students living on campus.

For commuters, it takes more effort to be involved on campus and make connections with other students.

Knowing this, here are some ways to make the most out of your commuter experience.

Don’t compare your experience to others’

I constantly need this pounded into my brain because this is so critical in defining your own experience at UWO.

The college experience is

unique to each student and should be recognized as such.

If you are accepting of your decision to commute, leave it at that. Do not flood your brain with false expectations for yourself.

Get involved on campus

Joining a club or student organization is a great way to interact with faculty, academic advisors and fellow students.

These clubs may aid in gaining a sense of independence, leadership and teamwork that you would’ve otherwise lacked as a commuter student.

Step out of your comfort zone

As commuter students, we have to put in a little extra effort which can be why it may take longer for us to make those initial connections.

I found that talking with other commuters is an easy way to feel comfortable forming friendships.

At the end of the day, everyone has to do what’s best for them. Whether that is commuting or living on campus, each student at UWO should get an equal opportunity to thrive.

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