

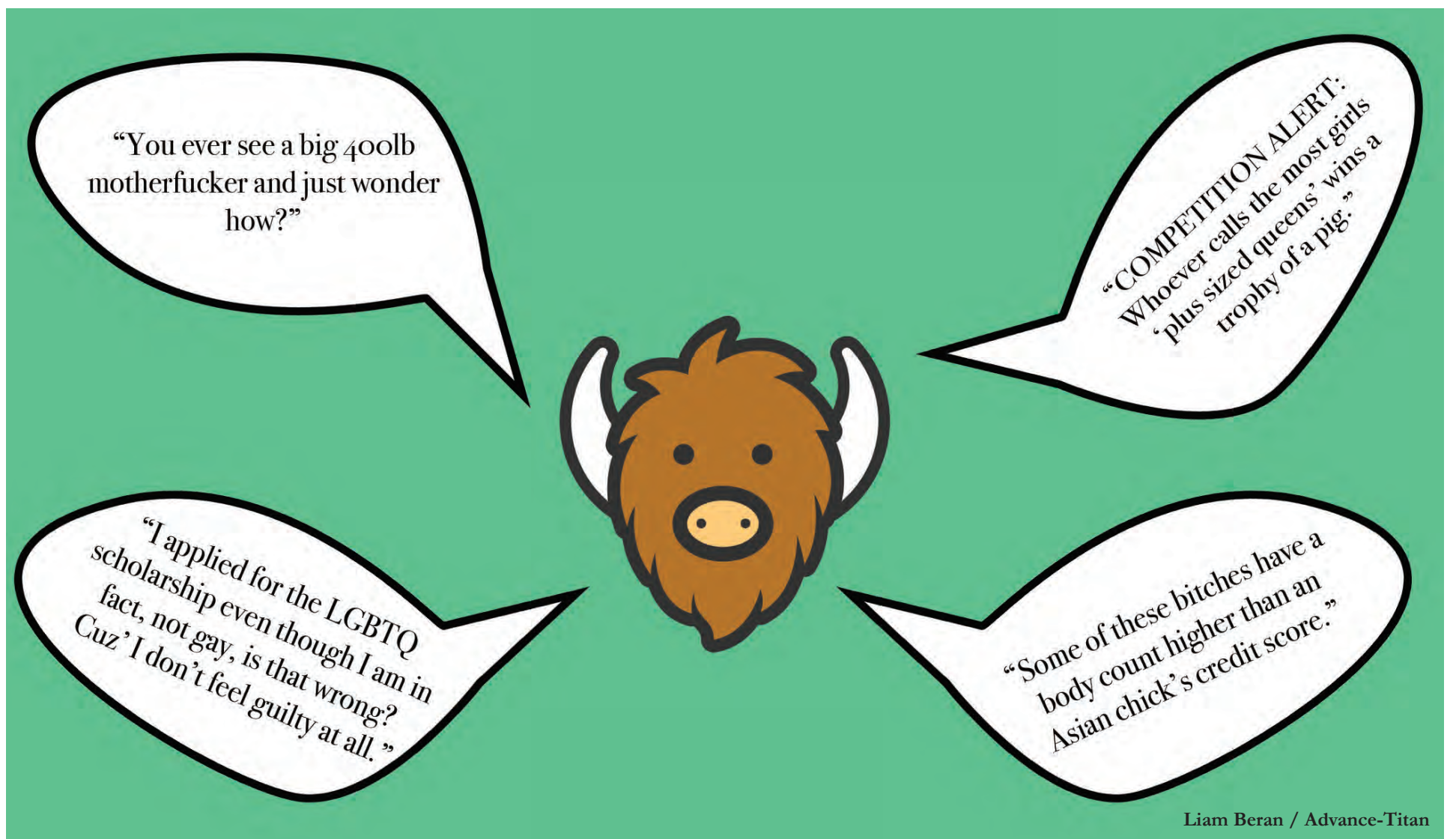
# The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUSES

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Liam Beran / Advance-Titan

## The Yak strikes again

By Liam Beran  
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"Some of these chicks have a body count higher than an Asian chick's credit score."

"You ever see a big 400lb motherfucker and wonder how?"

"Genders are like the Twin Towers, there used to be two and now it's a sensitive subject."

These are comments from people on the UW Oshkosh campus who use Yik Yak, an anonymous social media app that employs proximity-based posting — the posts that you see are made by people within a 5-mile radius of your current location. Though the app was shut down in April 2017, it was revived in August 2021.

Yik Yak has infamously faced legal challenges, been utilized by campus police forces to identify illegal behaviors and braved torrents of criticism saying that the app enables cyberbullying. Though Yik Yak has a policy against using real names, viewing the app on the UWO campus revealed multiple students identi-

fied by name in offensive posts. While these instances were select, bigoted comments still were common, even after just briefly scrolling.

Reported posts on Yik Yak are subject to review by moderators; they will also be automatically removed if they reach a -5 voting score, according to Yik Yak's community guidelines. But while the app has support resources, including those for mental health, critics are quick to note the bullying that does occur on the app.

One UWO Yik Yak post recently received attention from the Jewish On Campus Instagram account, which commonly showcases instances of antisemitic campus behavior. The post, seemingly making reference to Holocaust denialism, said, "If I take 1 hour to bake a batch of cookies and the Cookie Monster has 15 ovens working 24 hour a day for 5 years, how long does it take the Cookie Monster to make 6,000,000 batches of cookie." Jewish On Campus's post, which

urged viewers to tag UWO's Instagram, had received over 1,200 likes at the time of this article's publication.

Jewish On Campus, a nonprofit, student-run organization describing itself as "the movement of the Jewish future," later said in an online press release that Yik

I've absolutely seen bullying and bigotry on Yik Yak. I've seen negative comments about every race...

- Chris Parish,  
UWO second-year

Yak and similar apps make it so "average students can access vile rhetoric," and said that many students on such apps are exposed to bigotry even though they simply downloaded the app to "scroll through funny comments or innocuous messages about their school."

Maggie Minnick, a fourth-year geography major at UW-Eau Claire, said that Yik Yak can be fun, but recognized that a lot of people on the app "use it to be bigoted or annoyed publicly." She said that the app can vary in character from location to location, saying that in Eau Claire, Yik Yak seems to "to be the place people love to complain on, ask for advice about sticky situations, profess deep loneliness and hide other dark feelings."

"I think Yik Yak shows the best and worst of people because of the anonymity provided, and that's why I rarely use the app," Minnick said. "I only use it to get a pulse on what the freshmen are up to, and if people are shit talking the newest pop album or campus decision." Minnick said that the app can be a "fun place" if one doesn't take it too seriously.

Chris Parish, a second-year English education major at UWO, said that he used the app his first year, but has since deleted it. Parish said that some people at UWO use Yik Yak for posting funny

comments or "mostly harmless ideas." Yet he also said that he's seen "Yik Yak used to purposely embarrass and hate on certain people and groups in the UWO community."

"I've absolutely seen bullying and bigotry on Yik Yak," Parish said. "I've seen negative comments about every race, as well as the spreading of radical and hateful ideas. Specific students on campus have also been targeted."

The anonymity of the app allows anyone using it to post "anything at any time without any sort of repercussions," Parish said. Though he enjoyed using it at the time, Parish also said, "Yik Yak can be a hateful and negative space" for its users.

Parish offered a "strike system" banning an abusive user's account or device as a potential solution to target toxicity and bullying on the app.

"Hopefully Yik Yak eventually makes changes that could allow the platform to become more of a positive space again," he said.

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Nutcracker at Paine



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# Alpha Phi returns to UWO

By Josh Lehner  
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Five UW Oshkosh students were inducted as members of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity during Saturday’s probate, becoming the first members of UWO’s chapter in nearly two decades.

The probate, which took place in the Reeve Union Ballroom, celebrated the new members with a high-octane induction ceremony and an after party, with Alpha Phi Alpha members from Indiana, Illinois and Iowa in attendance.

Founded in 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. began as a support group for minority students experiencing racial prejudice at Cornell University, with many new chapters sprouting up across the U.S. in subsequent years.

Though its focus has always been academic excellence, Alpha Phi Alpha has been at the forefront of civil rights activism, with civil rights leaders Martin Luther King, Jr. and W.E.B. DuBois boasting membership.

Oshkosh’s chapter was founded in 1971, but the organization began to fizzle as membership intake classes declined. The five UWO students inducted this weekend were the first to be inducted into the chapter in almost 20 years, according to Alphonso Simpson, Jr., a UWO professor and Alpha Phi Alpha member.

The new members—Justin Smith, Josiah Benjamin, Amitai Wheat, Abdul Kareem Theeb-Lawal and Jelani Lawson—wore black clothes and golden masks, revealing their identities during the ceremony to the audience’s applause.

Simpson said that nobody knew who the new members were until Saturday’s probate.

“While they’re in their process [of becoming members], nobody knows that they’re doing it,” he said.

Inductee Amitai Wheat said that he was overwhelmed by the support and energy of his peers.

“I’m feeling pretty good,” he



Courtesy of Alphonso Simpson Jr.

After nearly two decades, UWO inducted five students into the Alpha Phi fraternity founded in 1906 to support minority students

said during the probate. “We waited four years for this to happen; the pandemic set us back but we stayed focused the whole way through. I’m at a loss for words. There’s a lot of excitement and love here tonight.”

Wheat said that Alpha Phi Alpha’s presence at UWO is about more than just them or the fraternity and that they want to improve the campus as a whole.

“One of our main goals is to create cohesiveness between everyone on campus,” he said. “You have diversity and you have natural division on any campus, but we want to get rid of that natural division and create a cohesive diversity where everybody’s together—from every group, fraternity, sorority and team. That’s our goal.”

Simpson said that Alpha Phi Alpha has exposed the leadership qualities of the new members and that the return of the fraternity at UWO provides its members with a group that they can claim as their own.

“For a long time, these young men haven’t had a social and professional group to belong to that

has roots in the African American tradition,” Simpson said. “Previously, they’ve had to acquiesce to other organizations—and that’s been okay—but they can’t really claim those as their own.”

He also said that Alpha Phi Alpha will benefit the whole campus and serve as a catalyst for potential future organizations.

“This is going to increase enrollment, and it has opened the door for other Black Greek Letter organizations,” he said, mentioning UWO professor Denae Powell and saying that she “knows there’s an impetus for a sorority.”

Simpson described the process of establishing a chapter in Oshkosh, saying that it was “way more than just deciding to do it.”

“When I came to UW Oshkosh in 2019, I began working on recruiting young men who would be interested,” he said. “We had to conduct a feasibility study and get letters of support for our national office, including letters of support from UWO Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and the Oshkosh mayor.”

Simpson also said that the men who became members this weekend had to write letters stating the

need for Alpha Phi Alpha on campus.

“The document we had to submit to our national office was almost 100 pages,” he said. “That gave the region the go-ahead; the region had to give the state the go-ahead, and the state then had to give the district the go-ahead. Then we were able to move forward.”

The UWO members, who Simpson said will work with members from UW-Madison, UW-Whitewater and other UW schools, will benefit both UWO and other campuses by occasionally traveling to do their service projects. He said that he ultimately hopes to promote change and inclusion wherever it’s necessary.

“There’s a lot of great things ahead for not just the Alphas but for the African American population on campus,” he said. “A lot of the fraternity’s service projects and social events will include all students. These young men are advocates for the change we seek to have on our campus.”

# Algoma construction ends ... finally

By Liam Beran  
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After nine months of closure, Algoma Boulevard went back into operation Nov. 18. High Avenue, which was converted into a two-way street to accommodate traffic during construction, is back into a one-way street.

Algoma’s reconstruction throughout the UW Oshkosh campus allowed for the installation, repair and replacement of “all municipal underground utilities,” such as those for storm sewage, sanitary sewage, electricity and more, as well as reconstruction of the roadway, sidewalks and driveways.

General contractor Dorner Inc. put forth an initial bid of almost \$8.7 million for the project, though final costs are expected to be higher. Josh Fleming, the city of Oshkosh civil engineer on the project, said that a final cost for the completed reconstruction would

be available around mid-January. A full budget breakdown of the bid can be found online.

“I am happy to report that we have reached the finish line. We have a beautiful new thoroughfare through campus to enjoy for years to come,” said JoAnn Rife, UWO Chief Facilities Officer, in a November campus-wide email.

The reconstruction’s completion marks a return to normal traffic and pedestrian operations for the university. At some points in the fall semester, pedestrians on the empty boulevard were advised to follow orange barrels marking “legal paths” or walk on the grass around adjacent buildings while driveways and sidewalks were worked on.

Bradley Spanbauer, Sustainability Director for the UWO Sustainability Institute for Regional Transformations, said he was excited to have the boulevard redone, also noting the repainting done to its bike lane, saying that “[the

painting] encourages a more sustainable mode of transportation.”

Spanbauer said UWO facilities and the city of Oshkosh found it unfeasible to implement one environmentally sustainable suggestion: bioswales for increased stormwater retention and promotion of native plants along Algoma Boulevard, an idea which was pitched by student researchers and a faculty member. UWO and Oshkosh officials found that “buried utility lines, inability to pile snow in swales and the overall pitch of the road and grading” would make the implementation of these bioswales difficult.

“While it may not have worked, with additional forethought and proper planning, hopefully these kinds of installations would be suited for other road construction projects in the city,” said Spanbauer.

Some students raised criticism at how the reconstruction affected their transportation. Pyper

Rouse, a sophomore commuter student majoring in marketing, said that Algoma’s reconstruction was detrimental to “my methods of getting to campus.” She said she would have to alter her route to campus while also navigating potential construction on the different route, and that the length of the construction was “extremely frustrating.”

Rouse also said that she noticed dangerous traffic behavior, particularly from pedestrians, on both the previously two-way High Avenue, and now on both High and Algoma.

“There’s a lot of students that walk out in the middle of the street, not even obeying any of the crosswalks or anything like that. There’s a lot more safety concerns now with the streets opening back up, that I think students need to be reminded about safety,” Rouse said.



**By Josh Lehner**  
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A \$1,750 scholarship partially funded by members of the Oshkosh 94 is being offered to one student next year who has continued efforts to improve African American students' standing and experiences on campus.

The scholarship was created to commemorate “Black Thursday,” a 1968 protest at UW Oshkosh by African American students who demanded equal treatment and representation.

When the university president refused the students' demands, they protested, and 94 students were expelled and suspended.

The scholarship was created in 2013 and initially funded by former UWO Chancellor Richard Wells.

Shortly afterward, members of the Oshkosh 94 began to provide their own funds to increase the award payout.

UWO Professor and scholarship committee co-chair Stephen Kercher said members of the Oshkosh 94 have expressed their desire to see the campus become a more welcoming place.

"The Oshkosh 94 invested something of their own lives in order to make UWO a more inclusive institution of higher learning," he said. "By supporting the award they are continuing this commitment into the future and investing



Sheila Knox

their hopes in the success of future students.”

Alphonso Simpson, Jr., also a committee member, said he is looking for an applicant who can “exemplify the standards, morals and grit” it takes to be a catalyst for change on campus.

“We want someone who is willing to put themselves forward, and who can articulate what it means to be a leader,” he said. “We want someone who is able to see the benefit of the sacrifice of the Oshkosh 94.”

Sheila Knox, a member of the Oshkosh 94 and the scholarship committee, said she is also looking for someone who exhibits leadership and who is forward-thinking. "I'm looking for someone who

is aware of the social climate and situations at the university and in Oshkosh, and who can speak up when things aren't going right," she said. "I want someone who can promote unity and gather students together to talk out problems, and who isn't afraid to walk up to other students and help them."

Knox drew from her experiences as a UWO student in the 1960s and said that she would have benefitted from a lot of the changes she expects in applicants.

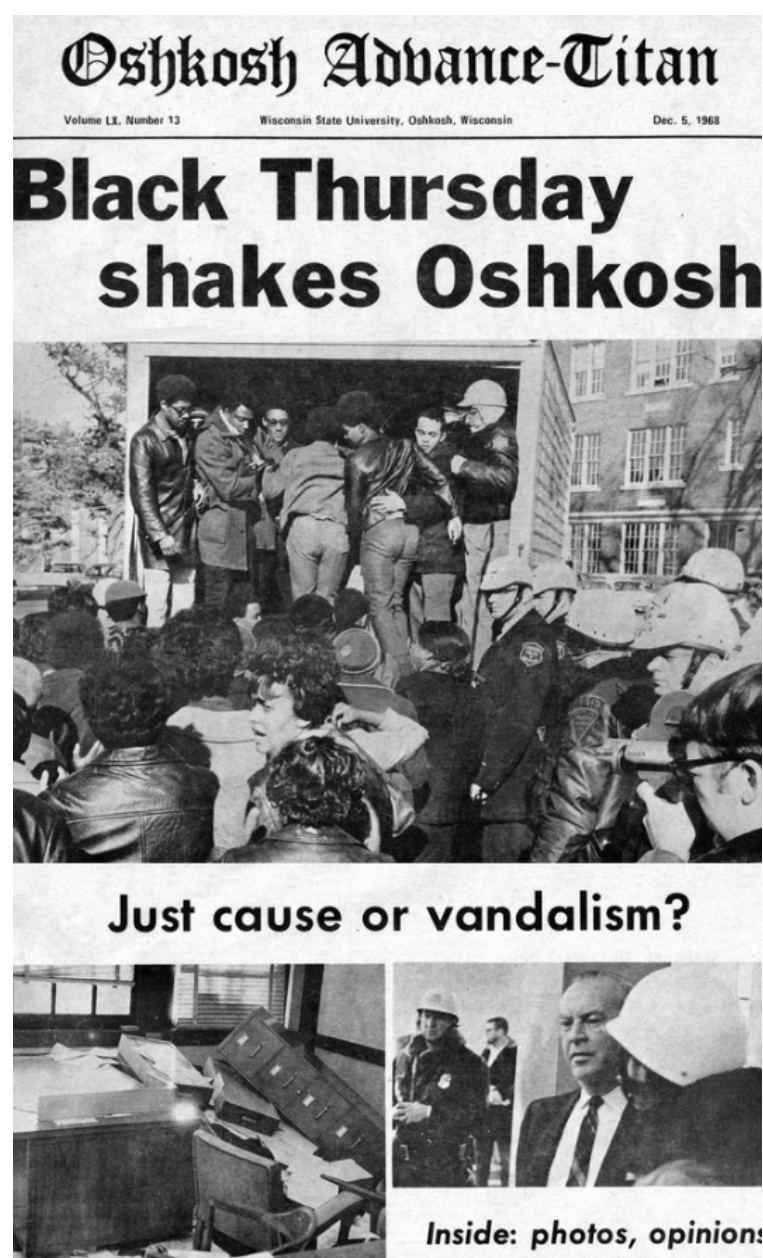
"I didn't have anyone to talk to as an African American student when I was attending UWO," she said. "I could talk to other African American students but we were all new to Oshkosh at the time. I think I would have benefitted from having an African American counselor, African American textbooks, teachers and places to gather."

Knox also said that she wants applicants to show that they have been a peer mentor or that they have the ability to do so.

"I want applicants who can make sure things are going well on campus and who can make sure that students are mentored," she said.

The scholarship is available for all full-time UWO students with 45-89 credits completed and a 2.5 minimum cumulative GPA.

The scholarship's deadline is Feb. 6, 2023, and the award will be paid out in Fall 2023.





# Sports



## Scoreboard

**Thursday, Dec. 1**

**Wrestling**  
UWO - 22  
UW-Stevens Point - 18

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

**Track and Field**  
UWO - 1/7  
**Men’s Swimming and Diving**  
UWO - 7/8  
**Women’s Swimming and Diving**  
UWO - 7/9  
**Wrestling**  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
Invitational - Individual results, see  
UWO Athletics site  
**Women’s Basketball**  
UWO - 58  
UW-Stout - 66  
**Men’s Basketball**  
UWO - 92  
UW-Stout - 69

## Upcoming Events Over Break

**Men’s Basketball**  
12/17 - at Ripon College  
12/20 - at St. Norbert College  
12/29 - Ohio Wesleyan University \*  
12/30 - Marian University \*  
1/04 - at UW-Eau Claire  
1/07 - UW-River Falls  
1/11 - UW-Whitewater  
1/14 - at UW-La Crosse  
1/18 - UW-Stevens Point  
1/21 - at UW-Stout  
1/25 - UW-Platteville

**Women’s Basketball**  
12/19-12/20 - at Daytona Beach  
vs. Randolph-Macon College  
vs. Roanoke College  
12/29 - Washington University in  
St. Louis \*  
12/30 - Ripon College \*  
1/04 - UW-Eau Claire  
1/07 - at UW-River Falls  
1/11 - at UW-Whitewater  
1/14 - UW-La Crosse  
1/18 - at UW-Stevens Point  
1/21 - UW-Stout  
1/25 - at UW-Platteville  
1/27 - Finlandia University

**Wrestling**  
1/12 - UW-Platteville  
1/14 - at Cornell College Mike  
Duroe Invitational  
1/21 - Augsburg University  
1/28 - at Pat Flanagan Open

**Swimming and Diving**  
1/07 - Lawrence University  
1/13 - UW-Stevens Point  
1/14 - Carthage College  
1/20 - Beloit College  
1/21 - at UW-La Crosse

**Track and Field**  
1/21 - At Ripon College Red Hawk  
Opener  
1/27-1/28 - At UW-Stout Warren  
Bowlus Open

\* - at Oshkosh Arena

# UWO steamrolls Ripon Open

By Michael VanDenElzen  
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The UW Oshkosh track and field teams steamrolled their way to a first place finish at the Ripon Winter Open meet on Dec. 2 and 3.

First place appeared to be a recurring theme for the Titans throughout the teams’ first meet of the year.

“I think the large numbers of first place finishes reflects the hard work and time everyone put in this fall and summer,” distance runner Cyna Madigan said. “We had many personal records and national qualifying marks as well which isn’t always a common feat for the first meet of the season.”

The men’s team claimed 10 first place finishes en route to victory, scoring 278 points.

Davian Willems’s 6.72 second finish in the 60-meter dash earned him first place and the sixth fastest finish in NCAA Division III history, tying his own school record he shares with Jaylen Grant.

Fellow Titans Grant, Keegan Cullison, Danny Vinson and Brett Clavijo also earned top five finishes in the 60-meter dash.

Elijah Pena’s 8.50 second finish earned him the top spot in the 60-meter hurdles and fellow teammate Michael Campbell’s time of 8.64 gave him a third place finish.

Rashaad Henderson took first place in the 200-meter dash, while Grant, Cullison and Dylan Gramley finished second, third and fourth, respectively.

“The driving factor to so many first-place finishes was really just our mentality going into the first meet of the season,” Henderson said. “We’ve been training since September so that alone gives us as a team a lot of confidence going into competition.”

UWO had six top-place finishers in the 400-meter dash, with Londyn Little claiming a first place finish with a time of 49.62. Ryan Potter, Weston Lerdal, Caiden Hoepfner, Damareyon Taylor and Reid Marquardt all placed within the top six.

Jelani Lawson and Nick Vey earned second and third place finishes in the 800-meter run with



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

UWO distance runners prepare for the UW Oshkosh Early Bird Invitational Dec. 10 at the Kolf Sports Center.

times of 1:58.17 and 1:58.57, respectively.

Steven Potter won the one-mile run with a time of 4:13.98.

Joe Hertel was the lone Titan in the 3,000-meter run, claiming the crown with a finish of 9:01.54.

A time of 3:37.28 for the Titans was good enough for a first place finish in the 4x400-meter relay.

Charlie Nolan took first place and Caleb Cornelius took seventh in the high jump.

AK Toheeb-Lawal, Aaron Richardson, Sebastian Jefferson and Caleb Wright had fourth, sixth, seventh, and eighth place finishes giving UWO four of the top eight finishes in long jump.

In the triple jump, Jonathan Wilburn and Nolan claimed the top two spots.

In the shot put Isaiah Isom threw 14.59 meters to earn him first and Cameron Bendixen added a sixth place finish. Both teammates also placed within the top eight in the 35-lb weight throw as well.

The Titans took seven spots in

the heptathlon, although St. Norbert took the first place finish. Aden Sears, RJ Bosshart, Payton White, Ewens, Fenyx Morningdove, Cole Spanbauer and Matthew Scholbe all earned finishes.

The women’s track and team also put out an impressive performance, scoring 234 points and taking first in seven of the 18 events.

Rachel Castelli claimed a first place finish in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.89 seconds, while Andrea Glaz and Molly Greeninger claimed second and third place finishes. The Titans grabbed six of the top eight finishes, with Glaz and Castelli each setting personal records.

Castelli’s 26.44 finish earned her first place in the 200-meter dash, while Mikayla Jackson and Glaz added second and third place finishes.

Alaina Wagner won the 400-meter dash while Olivia Stenzel, Vanessa Jenneman, Erika Mullen and Jayda Dobeck grabbed the next four spots in the race.

Madigan placed first and Katelyn Puetz placed ninth in the 800-meter run.

The Titans took six of the top place finishes in the one-mile run, but Edgewood took the first place finish.

UWO finished in 4:19.32 for a first place finish in the 4x400-meter relay.

Amelia Lehman took first in the 3,000-meter.

Jenneman took third in long jump, and in triple jump Haley Kanitz also took a third place finish.

UWO had second and third place finishes by Brenna Masloroff and Katie Fruth in shot put.

Masloroff claimed the top spot in the 20-lb weighted throw for UWO, and Fruth claimed a third place finish.

The men’s and women’s track and field teams will be back in action during the annual UW Oshkosh Early Bird Invitational hosted at the Kolf Sports Center on Dec. 10.

# Willert breaks school record at Carthage Classic

By Jacob Link  
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CJ Willert broke the school record in the 100-yard backstroke, but the UW Oshkosh swimming and diving teams finished seventh at the Carthage Classic in Kenosha over the weekend.

“The team swam their hearts out at the Carthage meet and I am beyond proud of them,” diver Abbi Priestley said. “I have seen major improvements from the women’s swim team since the start of the year.”

Willert finished with a time of 53.45 in the first leg of the 400-yard medley relay, passing Art Belen’s 53.99 in 1997 and setting the new record as the Titans finished eighth in the event.

The men’s team, led by a first-place finish from Joey Jurva on

the 3-meter board, finished second from the bottom in the two-day event.

Jurva claimed the top spot in the 3-meter diving competition with a score of 362.60 after finishing runner-up on the 1-meter board with a score of 292.70.

On the women’s side, six UWO swimmers took home top-three finishes as the Titans finished seventh out of nine teams.

Friday, Francesca Schiro took runner-up honors in the 50-yard freestyle with a season best time of 24.75 before swimming to a first-place Saturday in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:56.50. Schiro followed up with a second-place finish in the 100-yard freestyle with a season-best time of 53.71.

UWO’s Cadence Showalter took third place in both the 100-yard and 200-yard butterfly.



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

Maya Indiraraj prepares for a dive during Tuesday’s practice at Albee Hall.

Priestley grabbed first place on both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving boards, recording scores of 452.75 and 441.65, respectively. The Titans continued their strong diving performance with Maya Indiraraj claiming second place on

the 3-meter board and third place on the 1-meter board.

Both the UWO men’s and women’s teams will return to action when they host Lawrence University on Jan. 7 at Albee Hall.



# UWO men start conference season strong

By Jacob Link  
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The UW Oshkosh men’s basketball team opened the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference season with a 92-69 blowout win against UW-Stout and a spectacular 75-66 comeback win against UW-Platteville in overtime.

UWO Guard Hunter Plamann said the Titans worked together as a team and all trusted each other to make plays.

“I am impressed by our team’s ability to face adversity and respond well,” he said. “If things are not going our way, we stay focused on what we can control and do our best with what we can do.”

Saturday, the Titans (7-2, 2-0 WIAC) fell down early 7-0 to the Blue Devils (4-4, 1-1 WIAC) but went on a 19-9 run to take the lead and never looked back. UWS would tie the game at 21 with 11 minutes to go in the first half before the Titans opened up a 10-point lead with just under eight minutes to play.

UWO, who shot 53% from the floor in the first 20 minutes, maintained a double-digit lead for most of the first period as Oshkosh went into the locker room leading 47-39.

The Titans caught fire after half-time, going on a 20-2 run to start the second half behind six points from Plamann and five points from forward Levi Borchert. With 11:37 to go in the game, Plamann added two free throws to increase the UWO lead to 27 points, the

largest lead of the night, as Oshkosh went on to close out the victory 92-69.

All five starters for the Titans scored over 10 points, with Borchert leading the way with 19 points and 14 rebounds for his sixth double-double of the season. Guard Eric Peterson scored 16 points and grabbed five rebounds, going 8-10 from the free-throw line. Plamann finished with 15 points as guard Cole Booth added another 14 points.

UWO fell down double-digits against UWP on Nov. 30, but the Titans clawed their way back to force overtime.

With just under 10 minutes to go in the second half, UWO found themselves down 15 points, but ended the period on a 15-5 run that was capped off by a Jonah Rindfleisch layup to tie the game at 59.

Plamann said the team showed a lot of resilience and didn’t give up when things got tough.

“At halftime we talked about a couple things we wanted to change and then in the second half, we made adjustments and kept looking forward trying to take the game one play at a time,” he said. “We used our momentum from the run that we were on to end regulation and carried that over into overtime and secure the win.”

Ten seconds into overtime, Rindfleisch struck again with a step-back jumper to give the Titans their first lead of the game. After UWP tied the game, Oshkosh went on a 9-2 run to take the



Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan  
Cole Booth drives to the basket in UWO’s 92-69 blowout win against UW-Stout on Dec. 3 at the Kolf Sports Center.

lead 70-63 and never looked back.

In the first half, Oshkosh shot a disastrous 32% from the field and 18% from three-point land as UWO let the Pioneers end the first half on a 7-0 run, leading 33-24 at the break.

Peterson scored a game-high 23 points for UWO as Borchert added another double-double, scoring 14 points and grabbing 19 rebounds. Booth added 18 points,

scoring four of Oshkosh’s five three-pointers, as the Titan bench went a combined 1-9 from the floor, adding just three points.

Borchert, who has scored 976 points with the Titans, will look to score his 1,000th career point as UWO will take on Ripon College (3-4, 0-1 Midwest Conference) on Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. at the Doc Weiske Memorial Gymnasium.

WIAC Standings		
UW-La Crosse	-----	2-0
UW Oshkosh	-----	2-0
UW-Eau Claire	-----	1-1
UW-Stevens Point	-----	1-1
UW-Whitewater	-----	1-1
UW-Stout	-----	1-1
UW-Platteville	-----	0-2
UW-River Falls	-----	0-2

## Wrestling gets first win of season

By Nolan Swenson  
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Over the past week, UW Oshkosh wrestling (1-3) took its first win against UW-Stevens Point (1-5), and attended the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) Invitational resulting in placements for four Titans.

UWO bested UWSP on Dec. 1 by a score of 22-18, a difference Beau Yineman attributed to filling the roster and settling into the season.

“It was nice to finally get a dual win,” he said. “We had a full lineup this time around and wrestled better so we’re starting to get used to how it’s going to be this season. Not to say that we weren’t before but we also had better team energy on the bench.”

Coach Adam Konitzer is pleased with the win, and said that he is glad that they are seeing success from their improvements.

“It’s really good to see they are finding success now and making those adjustments,” he said. “It’s all progress to where they want to be at the end of the year.”

Experience and wrestling levels also made a difference in the meet as Yineman acknowledged that Stevens Point is a team that has a young roster akin to the Titans.

“We went against a more equally matched team,” he said. “We have a lot of young guys and so does Point, so that lined up quite a bit better. With that mentality our guys had a lot more confidence that time around.”



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan  
Eli Mondrella (left) and Abib Korabi (right) spar during Tuesday’s practice.

Another detail that allowed the Titans to best the Pointers according to Konitzer is, “Bonus Points.”

“We split matches 5-5,” he said. “We had a pin, two majors, and a tech-fall; where they didn’t get any bonus points. That was the biggest difference, and that was a team effort. That was the difference right there.”

Titans attended the MSOE Invitational Dec. 3, with wrestlers taking wins throughout the tournament’s weight classes.

In 125 Luc Valdez took second place, winning his first three matches, falling in his final match by decision. During his run in the tournament, he scored 14 team points.

The highest team scorer of the invitational was Cody Welker, who scored 18.5 points for the Titans and placed in fifth.

Oshkosh wrestling will appear

once more in December at the Art Kraft Memorial Tournament in River Grove Illinois. on Dec. 10. During the tournament, UWO will not face off against any WIAC schools, something that Konitzer intended when he joined it.

“I want to get away from the familiarity,” he said. “We’re going to see all those other schools in the future. It’s going to be a mix for new guys, and fresh faces for us.”

After the Kraft Tournament, UWO will take a month-long competition break. Yineman plans to utilize this time to the fullest due to its volatility of deciding the rest of the season.

“I’m looking forward to using the break time after in order to train and prepare,” he said. “Progressing while on that break is going to be super important for the rest of the year.”

## Sports roundup

### Women’s Basketball

UW Oshkosh women’s basketball competed against UW-Platteville (4-4) and UW-Stout (5-1) this week resulting in two losses for Oshkosh, setting the record to 6-2.

UW Oshkosh women’s basketball opened their conference with a loss against UWP by 60-35, setting UWO’s record to 6-1 on Nov. 30.

The Titans opened up the game with a lead that was beginning to be overtaken by the Pioneers who were able to close the 7-0 Oshkosh lead at the beginning to just 14-11.

The shrinking Titan lead in the second quarter was due to turnovers by Oshkosh which had a presence in the first quarter, which was amplified to the point of UWP taking a lead of 25-17 by the end of the first half.

The game continued to mount and mount energy for the Pioneers who eventually closed the competition with a 25 point lead over the previously undefeated Titans.

Against Stout, UWO fared somewhat better, but still fell with a score 66-58.

In the first quarter, UWO took an early lead but stagnated during the remainder of the game as Stout upped the ante. By the fourth quarter the teams scored 5-17 with Stout taking the quarter and the match.

Bridget Froehlke attributed the two losses to a lack of energy in the face of adversity and a failure to be ready to perform their best everyday.

Despite the loss the team still saw vast improvements from their previous game. Two of these were

decreasing their turnovers by more than half and tightening their score difference by a third of the prior week.

The team will venture to Florida on Dec. 19 and 20 for the Daytona Beach Shootout. They will then return to Oshkosh in the Oshkosh Arena to host the BSN Winter Classic on Dec. 29 & 30.

### Wisconsin Herd

The Wisconsin Herd was held to just 31 points in two quarters as the Herd fell to the Sioux Falls Skyforce 100-80 at the Sanford Pentagon Tuesday night.

Wisconsin had a 37-36 lead in the second quarter before the Skyforce went on a 9-0 run following six straight points from DJ Stewart. The Herd only scored five points in the final five minutes of action in the first half as Sioux Falls entered the locker room up 51-42.

The Herd scored the first basket of the second half after a Brandon Randolph layup, but Wisconsin would not score for over five minutes of game time in the third quarter. As the period came to a close, the Herd found themselves down 84-52 after scoring just 10 points in the quarter.

Wisconsin outscored the Skyforce 28-16 in the final quarter, but it was too little too late as the Herd fell 100-80 and the team dropped to 6-8 on the season.

The Herd will return to action on Dec. 14 when they take on the Fort Wayne Mad Ants (8-3) at the Oshkosh Arena.



# Save a kitten this holiday season

## Oshkosh Area Humane Society seeks foster homes for influx of felines

By Katie Pulvermacher  
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The Oshkosh Area Humane Society (OAHS) refers to the warm and moderate-weather months when most cats have their babies as Kitten Season. Because of climate change, Kitten Season, which usually goes from May to September, is now going into October and November. This means lots of kittens need homes.

“It’s only natural that when spring arrives, we start to see an influx of cats and kittens,” OAHS Education and Communications Coordinator Cheryl Rosenthal said. “It seems especially in the colder weather, people are finding cats and their kittens in their garage, in their wood pile and under their car.”

OAHS was originally under the jurisdiction of the Oshkosh Police Department. In 1990, the first Executive Director, Joni Geiger, wrote a letter to the editor because she was very unhappy with how the local 2,600-square-foot animal shelter was being run.

“She found out after writing this article that seven other people felt the same way that she did and they formed an organization called Friends of the Shelter,” Rosenthal said. “This non-profit organization group of animal-loving people started doing bake sales and raffles and raised money for the shelter.”

After about a year, the city of Oshkosh came to the organization and told them to take over the shelter. The name of OAHS came in 1998. The team felt limited by the small shelter and purchased a 13,000 square-foot building from OAHS monies, annual interest and capital campaign funds.

“We are a non-profit organization; we work very closely with the police department, we have a contract with the city of Oshkosh to take in strays and we also have a budget contract.”



Katie Pulvermacher / Advance-Titan  
UWO third-year Margaret Villagomez fosters three kittens from the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. Jane, Abby and Natalia keep her very busy.

Rosenthal said. “We receive about \$95,000 a year from the city for that contract; however, our operating cost at the shelter is currently \$1.7 million.”

A huge help in operation comes from foster homes.

“People should foster simply because it allows the Oshkosh Area Humane Society and the community to save more homeless pets,” Rosenthal said. “It’s

very beneficial to certain animals that shouldn’t be in a shelter environment, like nursing moms. A shelter is not a good environment to raise healthy, strong kittens.”

OAHS Cat Foster Coordinator Alaska Burroughs said some kittens come into the shelter after facing difficulty.

“A lot of people want the friendly, healthy kittens, but in reality, we

don’t get a lot of those in,” Burroughs said. “There are certainly quite a few of them, but we more so need fosters for the undersocialized ones, the pregnant or nursing moms, bottle babies and the medical and recovery ones.”

Both Rosenthal and Burroughs have fostered kittens and cats.

“I have fostered many, many cats,” Rosenthal said. “I’ve had moms with kittens, kittens with no mom, a single kitten who had been abandoned, I’ve fostered dogs. One of the most important things I have found is you really do have to have enough time to juggle.”

Burroughs said her fostering experiences have all been different.

“I started fostering before I started working here,” Burroughs said. “When I started working here, I started doing progressively harder cats. I did a mom cat with nine kittens. It was a lot. I did behavioral cats and I have kittens right now.”

OAHS asks that foster homes keep their personal pets separate from their fostering animals.

“With little kittens, they’re coming from outside and they can seem perfectly healthy when we send them out into foster,” Burroughs said. “Then, a week or two later they’re really sick with a lowered immune system from being outside and in the shelter. We don’t want that given to your resident pet, which is why we recommend separating [personal pets from fosters].”

UW Oshkosh third-year Margaret Villagomez came across fostering on the Humane Society’s website and is fostering three kittens: Jane, Abby and Natalia.

“I wanted to adopt, but I wasn’t ready to

commit to a cat yet,” Villagomez said. “They’re always in need of fosters, so I signed up and a week later I was able to get three kittens.”

Villagomez said the experience has been great, despite the kittens spending the whole day sleeping and being energetic at night.

“These little creatures keep me very busy at night,” Villagomez said. “I would recommend fostering to anyone thinking about getting an animal, because then you will really experience what it’s like to have them in your home. Or even if you aren’t thinking about adopting, it’s a good way to have an animal at least for a little while and provide them a home with no expenses.”

OAHS provides litter, cat food, litter bins, dishes, toys, scratching posts (if available) and veterinary care.

“The great thing about fostering is they pay for [almost] everything,” Villagomez said. “It is free and you just get to live with [the cats].”

Burroughs said it’s important to understand the commitment you’re getting into when fostering.

“Before fostering, you should consider that you need quite a bit of time to focus on the animals out of your schedule,” Burroughs said. “If any emergency occurs, you would have to be able to be here at any time of the day to make sure that they get the care that they need.”

Rosenthal said with COVID-19, a lot of people don’t recognize that there’s a shortage of veterinary care. With our economy the way it is, people are finding that they can’t afford a vet, they can’t get in to see the vet and animals that would normally be spayed and neutered haven’t been.

“I want to make sure that it’s understood

that this situation is not unique to Oshkosh, Wisconsin,” Rosenthal said. “This is something that is happening nationwide right now. There’s more animals than there are homes.”

Rosenthal said there’s a lot to know about cat behavior and OAHS isn’t expecting foster homes to know everything.

“If you find out ‘Oh gosh, I really don’t know quite what I’m doing,’ call us,” Rosenthal said. “We will help you learn.”

Ultimately, OAHS wants fostering to be a family decision because it’s such a big commitment.

“It’s very rewarding, but it also can be very time consuming,” Rosenthal said. “It’s fun having kittens, but I’m not going to lie, it’s also a lot of work. [Foster homes help] us save lives and they’re making a big difference for these animals.”





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Joel Gott Wine

750 ML Bottle

\$11.99

OSHKOSH ONLY



Arts & Entertainment

Christmas in the Air brings holiday joy

By Mattie Beck  
beckm88@uwosh.edu

Santa didn't fly his sleigh into Oshkosh for the annual EAA Christmas in the Air event last Saturday.

It was fitting that he again came by helicopter to the EAA Aviation Museum for one of the aviation organization's most popular community events last Saturday.

The event has been held for almost four decades, according to EAA Communication Specialist, Drew Stephani.

"EAA has held Christmas in the Air for nearly 40 years, ever since the museum opened in Oshkosh in 1983," he said. "For many years, it was held on a weeknight, but we found it works better for families on a Saturday during the day."

The event took place all throughout the museum, with the main event being Santa landing a helicopter on the grounds. But people also came for food, entertainment and a chance to visit the museum free of charge.

"We have holiday decorations throughout the museum. Several stages are set up where ... local music, choral and dance groups perform," Stephani said. "Visitors can also write letters for [Santa] to take back to the North Pole, enjoy milk and cookies and discover more about the museum in a holiday-themed scavenger hunt."

Along with these activities, the day also featured a tree-lighting ceremony by Santa himself and a Sweet Shoppe that included milk and cookies presented by Festival Foods.

"One of the best parts is see-



Katie Pulvermacher / Advance-Titan

Christmas in the Air has become a holiday tradition for some families in the community, and has been held for nearly 40 years at EAA.

ing how it's become a holiday tradition for people in the Oshkosh area," Stephani said. "Parents who came to the event in the 1980s and 1990s are bringing their families to EAA now. Santa's arrival is always exciting as it brings so much joy to the children who attend. Seeing the museum fully decorated is also a great experience as it really helps

get people in the holiday spirit." The event also took donations of unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots and non-perishable food items for Father Carr's Place. Besides Christmas in the Air, EAA has other events in December with a holiday theme. For instance, during Story Time on Dec. 15, EAA educators will read a story about winter flight

and children will be able to make their own ornaments, Stephani said. More information on all the Story Time events can be found at [EAA.org/StoryTime](http://EAA.org/StoryTime). EAA will also celebrate the anniversary of the Wright Brothers' First Flight, according to Stephani. "We celebrate the anniversary

of the Wright brothers' first flight in 1903 every December at the Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet, which this year is on Dec. 9," he said. For more information on other museum events, go to [www.eaa.org/eea-museum/eea-museum-events](http://www.eaa.org/eea-museum/eea-museum-events).

The Nutcracker comes to life at Paine

By Anya Kelley  
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

The Paine Art Center and Gardens opened their 16th season of "Nutcracker in the Castle" on Nov. 18.

The Paine offers a few ways to experience the story of Clara and the Nutcracker, from self-guided to candlelight tours of the mansion.

Noell Dickmann, the marketing manager for the Paine, said the turnout for Nutcracker in the Castle has been better than expected. Staff at the Paine attribute this success to the success of the Paines recent summer exhibition "The Nature of Light: An Exploration After Dark."

"Many people were introduced to the Paine through [Nature of Light] and we are very happy to see so many of them returning for Nutcracker in the Castle," Dickmann said.

Each room at the Paine mansion is decorated with magical Christmas lights and authentic German nutcrackers.

Dancers from the Valley Academy for the Arts are positioned in each room to perform various numbers from the Nutcracker ballet. Proceeds from Nutcracker in

the Castle help to support the students' dance education.

More than 80 Christmas trees stand throughout the mansion, decorated to match each room's theme.

Make sure you keep an eye out for the mice hiding throughout each room. They might just be stealing the desert in the Land of Sweets...

However, if you're looking for your own sweet treat, check out the Sugar Plum Fairy's Cupcake Cafe.

For \$8, you can enjoy a cupcake made by Tamara's the Cake Guru and a cup of hot cocoa, milk or coffee. The Sugar Plum Fairy's Cupcake Cafe is open Wednesday through Sunday, hours varying depending on the day.

This season, Nutcracker at the Castle had over 2,000 people attend the opening weekend. Guided tours have shown to sell out every year, but tickets went especially fast this season.

"Right about Nov. 17, we switched to a policy where we said guided tours were sold out online because there were so limited of spots left," Dickmann said. "But, we could still add one to three people onto a guided tour if they called."



Anya Kelley / Advance-Titan

All the rooms at the Paine are decorated to feature different scenes from The Nutcracker.

Now, The Paine is no longer accepting call in-reservations for guided tours. The Paine has reached full capacity for guided tours and can no longer accommodate more pa-

trons. The Nutcracker at the Castle is a wonderful event for the community and the perfect way to get in the holiday spirit. This event runs through Jan. 9 with limited tour

space available. If you're interested in scheduling a reservation for one of the self-guided tours, visit [thepaine.org/events/nutcracker-in-the-castle/](http://thepaine.org/events/nutcracker-in-the-castle/).



# Sophomore Sendoff

## ‘Here for a good time, not a long time’

By Liam Beran  
beranl88@uwosh.edu

When I think back on UW Oshkosh, there’s two things I think might come to mind: broken clocks and the student newspaper.

I plan to transfer out of UWO this coming spring semester. And though annoyance at broken clocks (and the fact that they were fixed a month before I leave) may stick around, if I dig a little deeper, I’ll remember a lot of things to be grateful for.

I can unabashedly say that there wasn’t a single course I took, nor a single professor I studied under, that I didn’t enjoy learning from. I met an astounding number of amazing people, and I got to take part in experiences that enriched my understanding of the world and my place in it.

At the center of those experiences was a publication called the Advance-Titan. My biggest regret is not committing to reporting for it sooner—though I wrote a story in the spring semester while exploring my then-Journalism major (now English), it wouldn’t be until the fall that I really started writing for the A-T.

My best memories from this school are writing for this newspaper, a publication which let me

detail the inner workings of our often-chaotic campus.

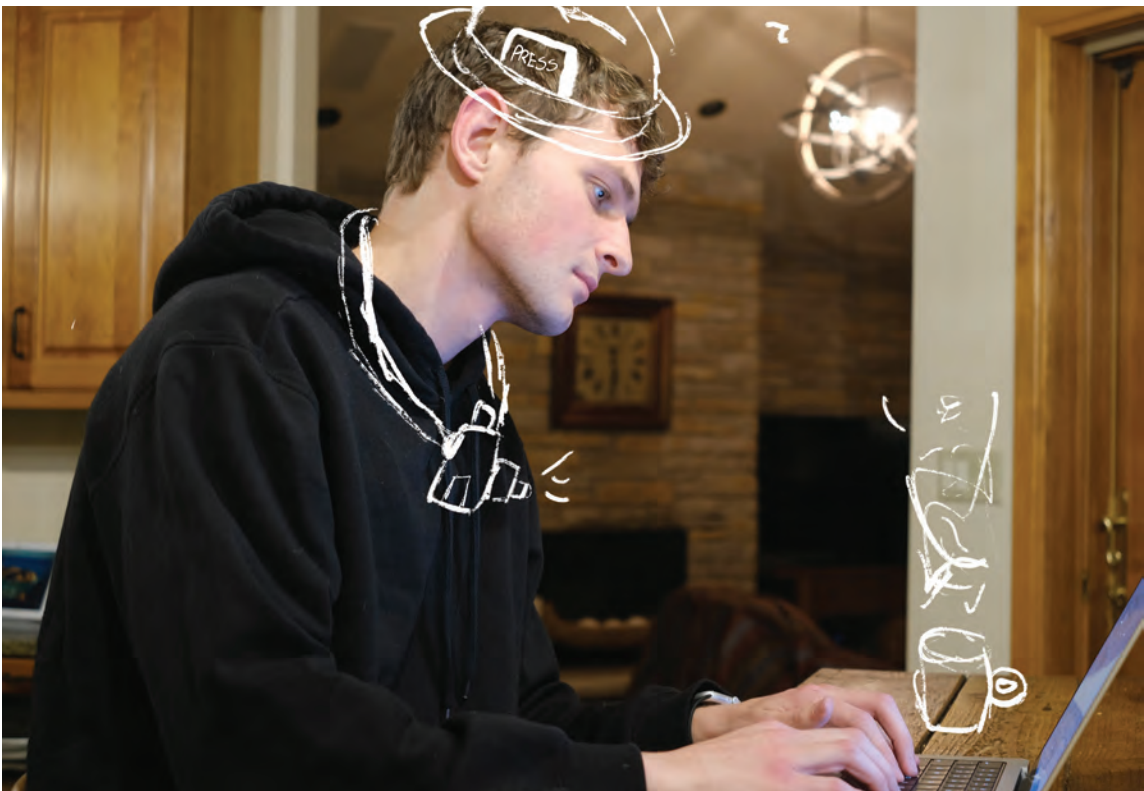
If I can impart one thing onto our student body before I leave, it’s that this campus has so many opportunities that you (yes, you) don’t even know about and if only you knew about them you’d probably be as enthused as I am.

The Advance-Titan turned my attention to aspects of campus life I never would’ve known about otherwise (shout-out to the crucial work of the folks at the Cabinet), and to developments within the greater Oshkosh community.

There are controversies, mysteries, history and people making a difference all around us, and student journalism is a way to cement those stories within conversations on our campus and in its related communities.

I wrote 18 articles this semester, and there’s something that I love in each and every one of them. Some of them had local importance, some of them national; some of them were very serious, and at least two of them, this one included, were very goofy (who knew talking about Halloween movies could be so fun?). But all of them were integral to enriching my time at UWO and my sense of belonging in its community.

I could list names, but honestly,



Liam Beran / Advance-Titan

Liam Beran wrote his first article for the Advance-Titan in 2020 before becoming a consistent news reporter in 2022. He plans to transfer schools to earn his bachelor’s degree in English.

ly, I really just want to thank everyone on the A-T staff. Reader, you might not know this, but the people working for A-T are some of the friendliest, more supportive folks on campus, and because of that, a sense of community came super quickly to me.

Journalism, with deadlines, late nights and possible AP style errors looming around you like an overbearing teacher, can be stressful. But the people I reported with made that stress worth it, and I can’t imagine a better team to write with.

I’ll keep you in mind, UWO, and I’ll certainly be keeping up with the Advance-Titan. This is Liam Beran, signing off.

## Letters to the Editor

### Give more on a student budget

By Vinny Nowak  
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Having just celebrated Thanksgiving, everyone’s attention is now turning to Christmas. We love this holiday because it brings out one of our best qualities: the act of giving.

Giving/showing gratitude is important for all of us to do.

Besides showing love and appreciation for those closest to us, showing gratitude can help boost self-esteem and nurture positive mental health.

However, this gift-giving season can also seem to leave many college students in a predicament. Most of us are very tight on money or have none at all. Does

this mean we are off the hook, so to speak?

Does being in college (and likely being strapped with debt and other expenses) give us a valid excuse to give cheaply? It certainly doesn’t, Scrooge!

We should give generously this Christmas, especially since there are many ways we can do it without spending money.

If we’re able to spend money and buy our loved ones gifts, that’s always a good option.

Though spending hurts a little at first, it’s always well worth it when we bring joy to our loved ones.

Thankfully, if it’s hard or impossible for us to give in a monetary way, we can give generously

with other things.

Perhaps we can give the gift of our time by volunteering somewhere, which also looks great on your resume!

Perhaps we can give the gift of our service by helping cook a meal or helping setup for a holiday celebration.

Lastly, since we will likely be spending time with family, we can give the gift of listening.

Put your phone down and go sit by grandma and ask her how she’s been; she’ll likely be shocked and deeply touched by your gesture.

However we choose to give this Christmas, we should all strive to give generously!

### Laboratory courses: Are they more work than they’re worth?

By Ryan Purath  
puratr37@uwosh.edu

Now, don’t get me wrong. I actually think the experiences lab courses provide are invaluable, especially to a science major.

However, it has to be said objectively: They are more work than they’re worth, at least when accounting for course credits.

For those who are unaware, laboratory courses are generally only worth a single credit more than a normal class, but the reality is that they should be worth two.

When considering the time commitment lab courses require, it simply doesn’t make sense to earn only one credit. Even across different disciplines, each lab period consists of more work than the three hours per week you spend in the lab.

These include things like the pre-lab assignments and readings, as well as the post-lab work of writing a report on what you did and what you found.

Assigning a generously low amount of time to this portion of the lab, this comes out to at

least an additional three hours of coursework per week.

Now, I’m sure we’ve all heard the adage that you should be spending 2-3 hours per week studying outside of class for each credit hour.

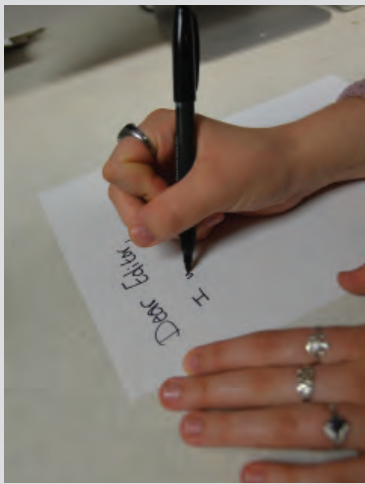
This means for a one-credit lab course, you should only be spending 3-4 hours per week earning that credit. By extension, a two-credit course would require a total of 6-8 hours per week to earn those credits.

Interestingly, the three hours spent in the lab and the three hours spent outside the lab actually fall within the two-credit range, and yet most labs are only worth one.

To make matters worse, science majors will often have multiple lab courses in a semester.

This can lead to unnecessarily difficult semesters as students add extra courses just to maintain full-time status or reach enough credits for graduation.

This begs the question then, why are they more work than they’re worth?



### 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.

If your letter is chosen for publication, we may attempt to contact you for verification via email or phone. To submit your letter, email atitan@uwosh.edu.



## Opinion

## Senior Sendoff

## Editor-in-Chief chugs his final Bubbl'r

By Owen Peterson  
petero84@uwosh.edu

I don't want to write this send-off. If it were up to me, I would gladly continue to devote all of my Tuesday nights to causing chaos, having fun and occasionally producing a newspaper with everyone at the A-T.

Is this needlessly hyperbolic? Yes, of course it is. But when you're essentially forced to leave behind the fluorescent-lit Reeve Union basement dungeon you called a home for four years and say goodbye to all its wonderfully eclectic occupants, I think you're allowed some damn hyperbole.

I started out with the A-T right away my freshman year, opting to write for the opinion section, since I only wanted to write movie reviews. Thanks to the guidance of opinion editor Leo Costello, though, my horizons were quickly broadened and I covered and commented on all the quirks of college living.

All went swell into that spring semester, that is, until a little ol' pandemic came out of nowhere and got everyone sent home. Despite not doing anything for the paper while stranded at home, I was fortunate enough to return in the fall to an offer to be the new opinion editor.

On my first night, after stumbling my way through my impromptu InDesign crash course, I capped off the night by accidentally deleting my entire page at 12:30 in the morning.

Despite this calamity, the staff stuck with me, and Carter Uslabar in particular inspired me every week to embrace creativity and fun in our work. I like to think this is when I knew the A-T was a place I would happily spend the rest of my college career.

Somehow, I would end up helming the opinion section for the next three semesters. In this time, I went from quiet, self-conscious, off-kilter and overly verbose in my writing to quiet, self-conscious, off-kilter and overly verbose in my writing but with substantially less hair.

The next semester, though, now managing editor, I like to think myself and the staff as a whole really grew into our own. Coming off of a few semesters of having a bare bones staff and a pretty quiet office, things suddenly started to pick up again. Slowly, the A-T became once again what I found it as – a lively, chaotic hive of stress, creativity and, every once in a while, journalism.

And now, here I am, the least journalistically-adept editor-in-chief the A-T has ever seen, slowly but surely riding out my last few days before being thrust into whatever the hell exists after college. My biggest contribution this semester? Allowing 'fuck' to be printed in 80-point font on the

front page. I suppose there are worse things to be remembered by.

Though I'm genuinely gutted I won't get to be a part of it, I couldn't be more excited to see the amazing work I know all the editors/staff will do in the next few semesters. I'm not sure I can really express just how grateful I am to the people at the A-T, but I'm sure as hell going to try.

Dr. Filak recently told me that student media is like a family, and I couldn't agree more. Looking back, the A-T really did feel like an odd, loveable family, full of awkward holiday parties, irritating relatives, endless inside jokes and ridiculous memories to cherish. Most importantly, though, the familial environment of A-T made it a place to forget all the stress of being a college student and just have a good time.

I've spent so much of my time at UWO either wondering why I'm here or searching for reasons to be happy, and even when I found myself at an otherwise complete loss in those searches, there were always weekly production nights in the office to quell those doubts and make things, even if just for a night, seem so much better.

I'm not even sure it really hit me until a week or so ago just how weird it would be leaving this all behind.

Tuesday production nights have been the highlight of my week for almost four straight years, and I know it's going to be really hard to fill that gap that's about to be created in my schedule.

It's really hard to convey to non-A-T people just how special and oddly fun it can be getting to work until 1 a.m. every week with a group of people you love being around, but it really did create some of my favorite, absurdist memories from college. And I wouldn't have traded that time for anything.

Besides maybe a lifetime supply of Bubbl'r.

It won't be easy leaving, but if the A-T has taught me anything, it's that no matter what you want and plan for in life, it's all about being able to take any and everything in stride – even if that means threatening the university you currently attend with a lawsuit.

If you didn't think I would include a cheesy quote in my senior sendoff, you a) are absolutely incorrect in every imaginable regard and b) need to lower your expectations of me immediately. Read it and weep:

"It's hard to turn the page when you know someone won't be in the next chapter, but the story must go on."

The A-T and the amazing people that make it up wasn't just 'someone' or 'something' to me, it was everything to me. So, before I turn the final page on what I genuinely believe will be one of the most fondly-remembered chapters



Barb Benish / Advance-Titan

Owen Peterson started writing for the Advance-Titan in 2019 before becoming the opinion editor a year later. He then served as managing editor for the Spring 2020 semester and was then elected editor-in-chief for his final semester at UWO.

of my life, I have a lot of people to thank.

Starting with a quick non-A-T shoutout, thank you Dr. Kelling for almost single-handedly getting me a job and ensuring that I don't have to navigate the stress of post-graduation unemployment (well, for now).

Carter and Leo, I can't thank you enough for not only getting me involved with the A-T, but making me feel like I truly belonged here. I have no doubt that my growth as a writer and person owes itself to both of your encouraging words and invaluable advice.

Kylie and Cory, even though you two couldn't be here this semester, thanks for making last semester amazing. Not only did you two do great work at the paper, but I really believe you two helped the A-T become a genuinely fun place to be more than anybody else. I've never been more confident that two people would absolutely kill it after college.

Kyiah and Savannah, thank you so much for not only doing the hardest (yet most thankless) job at the paper, but doing it phenomenally. Needless to say, the Advanced Titan (correct this – I dare you) would probably look a mess without you.

Nolan and Jacob, I expect you two to shake things up a lot next semester – in the best of ways. Keep being your creative and ambitious selves and exciting things should come. I'm genuinely excited to see what you come up with.

That being said, I hope sports gets stuck with a half-page ad for the rest of eternity. I live in fear of how much Jacob would write about athletes who have been dead since like 1940 if given that much space. And Nolan, never stop be-

ing the greatest entertainment this newsroom has ever seen.

Kelly, I can never thank you enough for freeing me from the unrelenting hell that is the opinion section. Jokes aside, you've done an absolutely wonderful job with opinion and have easily produced some of my favorite stories from my time here. Also, never stop using a minimum of like three commas in every sentence you write – I'm convinced it's the legacy of the opinion section. I hope you can escape opinion sooner rather than later; any section would be lucky to have you.

Barb, thank you for – for the lack of a more eloquent phrasing – putting up with literal years of my bullshit. I'm sure it wasn't always stress-free having to deal with me, but I can confidently say that your kindness and leadership are a large part of why I (and everyone else) love the A-T so much. The A-T would be nothing without its unsung hero.

Mattie, thanks for all the Bubbl'r, being a wonderful editor/DJ and also completely ruining my taste in music. I can't decide if I'll miss you scowling at me every time I have a minor correction for your page or if my life will be substantially better without that.

Regardless, I will really miss our constant bickering, although I'm sure everyone else who had to listen to it won't. I would take this chance to finally apologize for accidentally hitting you with the ball on one of your first days in the office, but that would imply I regret doing it. I like to think you got even with that ornament falling on my head, anyway. Oh, and one last thing: Bonne chance pour faire tes devoirs de français sans moi!

Ayana, I'm just genuinely

pissed off that you didn't become an editor sooner. You're already an amazing editor after just one semester, so I know you'll kill it next semester heading the news section. I've thoroughly enjoyed our short time together, cat videos, trinkets and all (maybe not the outrageously loud burping, though).

Jokes aside, if I had a dabloon for every time you threatened (justifiably) to beat my ass, I still wouldn't have enough to pay for the therapy that listening to Mattie talk for ten hours a week has caused me to need. Keep the cat memes coming.

Hambone "Katie" Sue Pulvermacher, I couldn't be more happy that you're the one taking charge next semester. Ever since you were covering for my lack of stories in the opinion section, your work has been phenomenal and I know it's only going to get better (especially once you stop having Spanish homework).

Good luck with the A-T next semester – it couldn't be in better hands. I'm truly excited to see what awesome job you get out of college. Never stop being your stubborn self, and please keep an eye on the rats (Anya and Mattie, as well as the actual ones) for me. Watch out for flying milk cartons on your walk home.

All that being said, I hope that what I lacked in journalistic aptitude I made up for in free Bubbl'r's and being a good co-worker (well, y'all can be the judge of that).

Thank you all for making the last four years so amazing. I promise you it meant everything to me, and I hope you all love it just as much as I did.

Never stop having fun, paper people.





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