

The Advance-Titan

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Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan

Left, Will Mahoney drives to the basket against a La Crosse defender. Right, Jonah Rindfleisch cuts down the net following Oshkosh's 91-88 victory.

Titans back-to-back WIAC champs

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh men's basketball team captured back-to-back Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) championships for the first time in school history Feb. 11 after defeating UW-La Crosse 91-88 at the Kolf Sports Center.

The Titans (19-5, 12-1 WIAC) secured the top seed in the WIAC tournament with the victory and will have home-court advantage, as well as a first round bye, in next week's tournament. This season, Oshkosh is undefeated at Kolf, going 10-0.

Quinn Steckbauer said he was thrilled that the team was back-to-back conference champs.

"It's a tough conference and everybody is competitive and battling hard every game," he said. "To come out on top is a great accomplishment for us."

UWO's Hunter Plamann scored a game-high 25 points on 5 of 8 shooting from behind the arc. Senior forward Levi Borchert, who played 39 minutes in the game, finished with his 37th career double-double after scoring 24 points and grabbing a game-high 11 rebounds. Off the bench, guard Will Mahoney scored 22 points and grabbed seven boards while converting a game-high 10 free throws. Oshkosh, ranked 17th in the nation by d3hoops.com, dominated UWL in fast break points, outscoring the Eagles 13-0.

Borchert said the team played really well on both sides of the ball.

"We had some problems on defense, but we had a good offensive game," he said. "We got big time stops and when they had scoring runs, we were able to put a stop to it."

La Crosse's Austin Westra led

the team with 17 points on 6 of 9 shooting from the floor. Three other players finished in double figures and the Eagles outshot UWO from behind the arc 46% to 38%.

The Eagles (18-6, 9-4 WIAC) hit back-to-back shots to start the second half, giving La Crosse a four-point advantage. UWL maintained a four-point lead until a pair of Borchert free throws sparked a 5-0 run that saw the Titans retake the lead after a Mahoney 3-pointer.

"La Crosse is a talented team and they kept coming at us," Steckbauer said. "We stayed together and tried to answer every punch that they threw at us and were able to be ahead by the end of the game."

With 12 minutes to go in the game, Oshkosh embarked on an 8-0 run following a pair of Steckbauer free-throws to extend the Titan lead to eight points. La Crosse quickly called a timeout and responded with a 12-0 run behind back-to-back 3-pointers from Craig Steele to give the Eagles a 70-66 advantage with seven minutes to play. Oshkosh finally started to hit their 3-pointers and tied the game at 74 after Mahoney connected on a shot from behind the arc.

Mahoney's 3-pointer jump started a 12-4 run that gave the Titans a five-point lead with less than two minutes to play. La Crosse continued to stay two possessions of UWO, and a Steele 3-pointer cut the Oshkosh lead to three points with 20 seconds to go. Borchert converted on a pair of free throws, but UWL hit another 3-pointer, bringing the Titan lead to one-point with seven seconds left. Mahoney hit both of his free-throws and Steele missed the game-tying 3-pointer at the buzzer as Oshkosh secured their first back-to-back regular-season conference championship since 1967-68 when the



Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan

The UW Oshkosh Titans celebrate with fans following UWO's win against UW-La Crosse on Feb. 11.

Titans played in the Wisconsin State University Conference.

UWO forward Jonah Rindfleisch scored the first points of the game after converting on two free-throw attempts to give the Titans an early 2-0 lead. The teams traded baskets for most of the first half until UWL's Westra converted on a three-point play, which kick-started a 9-0 run that gave the Eagles a 27-20 advantage with 10 minutes to go in the half.

Borchert, who led all players with 15 points in the first half, almost single-handedly kept UWO in the game by scoring four straight baskets midway through the half to keep the UWL lead to seven points. With six minutes to go in the first half, Mahoney scored six points in less than 20 seconds to narrow the Eagle advantage to two points.

The Titans kept the contest a one-score game in the final minutes of the half, and Plamann converted on a 3-pointer with 39 seconds left to give UWO the lead. UWL's Jake Gross drove down the court on the next possession and made a lay up to regain the lead. With 12 seconds to go, the Titans

inbounced the ball and found an open Borchert, who hit a buzzer-beating layup to give Oshkosh a 46-45 advantage going into the locker room.

Borchert and Steckbauer said the team was able to repeat as conference champs because of the work the team put in during the offseason.

"A lot of us live here and we are very close to each other," Steckbauer said. "We try to take it one day at a time and work really hard each day. We don't look ahead too much, just focus on the next opponent."

"I think a lot of us invest so much, whether it's in the weight room or getting shots in the gym outside of practice," Borchert said. "We also invest in each other, and the team is super connected."

Oshkosh secured a share of the WIAC regular-season title Feb. 8 after taking down UW-Whitewater 72-68 at the Williams Center.

Steckbauer led the Titans with 20 points while Rindfleisch, Borchert and Plamann each finished with 13 points.

The teams traded baskets to open the game, but a pair of layups gave

the Warhawks (17-7, 8-5 WIAC) an early six-point lead. The Titans were unable to find an answer for UWW early in the game, and Oshkosh found itself down 19-11 with 11 minutes to play in the first half. The Warhawks maintained at least a six-point advantage for the rest of the half as UWO went into the locker room trailing 36-29.

The Titans opened the second half on a 9-2 run and tied the game at 38 after a Borchert layup. UWO began to heat up, and the Titans took their second lead of the game after an Eric Peterson jumper. UWW tied the game with 15 minutes to go in the game and built a six-point advantage through a string of jumpers. UWO responded with a 7-2 run to cut the lead to one point following a Borchert layup. Oshkosh took the lead for good after a Plamann 3-pointer, and the Titans grinded out their 18th win of the season.

Oshkosh competed against UW-Stevens Point (10-14, 3-10 WIAC) in the final game of the regular season Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at Quandt Fieldhouse. Check the UWO athletics website for results.

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

Professor helps police identify body

By Aubrie Selsmeyer
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A UW Oshkosh associate professor does more than just teach students about anthropology. He helps them learn how to be detectives and assist in the identification of people who otherwise might never be named.

Jordan Karsten, chair of the UWO Department of Anthropology, and Hayley Hintz, Karsten’s research lab assistant, recently helped the Oshkosh Police Department identify a man whose body was discovered on the 100 block of High Avenue. Police suspect no foul play and have no evidence to indicate the death of the man, Glenn Wagner, was suspicious.

“The department more so wanted an identification,” Hintz said. “And it was really great that we were able to provide a positive confirmation.”

Wagner was suspected to be living in the abandoned building as he was found with personal belongings, according to Karsten.

“We were able to identify him by matching up previous medi-



Aubrie Selsmeyer / Advance-Titan
Jordan Karsten and Hayley Hintz helped police identify the body of a man found in a vacant building in the downtown Oshkosh area.

cal records to unique aspects of the anatomical makeup,” Karsten said. “This is also one of the first IDs we were able to make by ourselves.”

Hintz said the most fulfilling part of doing their job is being able to bring closure to friends and family.

“Being able to bring everyone closure and justice is a huge part of what we do,” Hintz said.

“We have the time to get the ball rolling on cases that may not have gone anywhere, like cases from years and years ago that the police set aside,” Karsten said.

Even though the September 2021 discovery of Starkie Swenson’s remains in High Cliff State Park was the most recent breakthrough to make nationwide news, this doesn’t mean Karsten and Hayley aren’t constantly

working to uncover cases. Swenson, Neenah, was thought to have been murdered in 1983, although his body hadn’t been found.

“A lot of our cases that we work on don’t really make the mainstream news,” Karsten said.

Hintz and Karsten said there hasn’t been a time since June 2022 that they haven’t been actively working on a case.

“We are currently working on 19 cases, with some dating back to the ‘60s that went cold,” Karsten said. One of those cases involves Laurie Depies, who was last seen Aug. 19, 1992 outside the Fox River Mall. At the time of her disappearance, Depies was 20 years old and worked at Fox River Mall. The anthropology department gives students the chance to actively participate in cracking cases like this all over the state and offers real experiences outside of the traditional classroom.

“In a big way, my experience has told me that there are things in a textbook that aren’t really the best way to do it,” Karsten said. “How Hayley and I work is how I’m trying to teach my students.”

MSU shooting: The kids aren’t all right

By Vince Filak
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The Michigan State University community is picking up the pieces of its shattered existence this morning, after a gunman killed three students and critically wounded five others Monday night. Authorities say the 43-year-old man had no tie to the East Lansing campus and his motives for this attack are not entirely clear.

The shooting victims were going about their daily routines, never once thinking, “These are likely the last moments of my life.” As a friend who survived a mass shooting once said, it’s not what people tend to think of when they’re in a situation like this. It’s not like The Doors music starts playing to let you know what’s about to occur.

However, kids of this generation know that death in this fashion is not rare for their peer group. As much as my students don’t like to admit it, they have occasionally let it slip that they know something like this could happen to them at any point in time. More than a few have told me over the years they had concerns about the “one kid” in a classroom or a residence hall who “wasn’t quite right.”

The choices in how to proceed become frightful for them:

Is the kid just odd or a true threat? What if I report them and they decide to come after me?

What if I don’t speak up and something terrible happens?

So many of the basic choices these kids make every day can have fatal consequences that no one could ever see coming.

Get the wrong roommate? They could be killed.

Go to sleep after a night out with friends? They could be killed.

Go on a class field trip? They could be shot to death.

Go to work at a crappy retail

Share your support

If you’d like to show your support to MSU students, write a message on this form (<https://forms.gle/ha2iX-wctHPaBA1c16>), which will be shared with the university’s radio station staff Thursday evening.

job? They could be shot to death.

Go to a night class on Cuba? They could be shot to death.

Today’s students move through a society in which shooter after shooter, killer after killer sees themselves as righteous grievance collectors, people who have been wronged and feel justified in avenging their perceived slights against any target they see fit. For them, violence is strength, death is justice and a body count is a measure of valor.

Mass shootings have become so ubiquitous for kids today that educational institutions begin training students how to be ready for them, starting at the pre-kindergarten level. I still can’t get out of my head the image of my then-13-year-old daughter wagging her hand back and forth as she described how she was taught to run down the halls of her school in a zig-zag pattern in case a shooter entered the building.

“If I run in a straight line, it’s easier for the person to shoot me,” she said in such a matter-of-fact tone, I still can’t process it.

What she and so many of her generation are forced to endure should be astounding to any reasonable person, whether they ever face a situation like the one at MSU or not.

This generation of students has just survived a once-in-a-century pandemic that took what little normalcy they had in their lives and tossed it about like a rag doll. They studied in isolation to complete courses that were hastily pushed online. Educational insti-

tutions sent them between home and school, never really knowing if the risk public gatherings presented to their physical health mattered more than the risks that isolation had for their mental health.

Both during and after this epidemic, college students worked two or three jobs to maintain any semblance of life as they pay ridiculously high rents and bloated tuition fees, all so they could hear a professor with an incomprehensible sense of ego drone on about the importance of Viking pottery during the Middle Ages. Why? Because that blowhard got a Ph.D. on that topic and then convinced an entire institution of higher learning that this was an essential element of students’ “general education requirements.”

When they graduate, they know they are entering a world in which they will never be able to live as well as their parents, something that used to be the benchmark of generational success. Housing has become an investment commodity, making even a basic home out of reach for many college grads. Student loan debt continues to cripple borrowers, even as the government tries to stabilize things for them. Current students will face the same problems, knowing that not only will they not receive similar help, but also prior generations will scoff at them for being “fiscally irresponsible.”

Where is their port in the storm? Where is their “good life” that each generation was promised for “doing the right thing” and “playing by the rules”? Isn’t that what the students of MSU were doing Monday night? They were showing up for class, taking notes, getting the grades and pursuing the degree.

All to be “members of a club we don’t want to be a member of and we don’t want any more members in it,” to quote the friend I mentioned earlier. He meant the



Filak

growing collective of people who are physically, mentally and emotionally scarred for life by the act of a violent domestic terrorist.

And that’s only if they were lucky enough to survive.

If all we can be is responsible for ourselves and all we can do is find ways to make incremental differences in the lives of those around us, it has to start here. If we can’t stop these terrifying events, we should at least find ways to help these kids exist better in the world in which the events occur.

It starts with grace and forgiveness for missteps and social faux pas that come from trying to balance far too much on too fragile of shoulders.

It starts with compassion and empathy for these students, who might not always look like it, but who are actually doing the best they can with what they have.

It starts with admitting the truth about the reality of our surroundings.

The kids aren’t all right. They need us to understand that.

Vince Filak is a UW Oshkosh journalism professor. This appeared on his blog dynamicsofwriting.com.

Trump sues ‘the media’ ... again

By Anya Kelley
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In the past three decades, former President Donald Trump has been involved in 4,095 lawsuits; 85 of those have been branding and trademark cases.

Now, Trump is suing Bob Woodward for releasing an audiobook titled “The Trump Tapes: Bob Woodward’s Twenty Interviews with President Donald Trump.”

Trump and his team are claiming that Simon & Schuster Inc. (SSI), Paramount Global and Woodward purposefully exploited, manipulated and capitalized on Trump’s voice claiming that he is one of the most recognizable people in the world.

By doing so, they have “unlawfully usurped President Trump’s copyright interests, his contractual rights and the rights he holds as an interviewee” and “caused President Trump to sustain substantial damages, necessitating the institution of action.”

This whole debacle started because “Rage,” the print book version of the “Trump Tapes,” was published.

Starting in 2019, Woodward did a series of interviews with Trump which were recorded. Trump had given consent for Woodward to record and knew that Woodward had been working on a book.

All this is fine and good. Woodward is a seasoned investigative reporter; I couldn’t imagine he would have infringed on the two-way consent law.

The problem arises (in Trump’s eyes) with the audiobook. According to his legal team, he only agreed to be recorded for the book.

One of the pieces of the legal team’s argument is that when you go to SSI’s website to purchase the audiobook, Trump was listed as a narrator. I guess they’re saying this would imply that Trump consented to be in the AUDIObook, not just the print book.

In some way, I understand where he’s coming from. The thing is, this has nothing to do with Trump saying he’s cool with an audiobook.

Trump’s legal team provides a lengthy list of all of the works Trump published in his lifetime. They bring up his book “Our Journey Together” and how it was published through Winning Team Publishing and was highly successful.

Funny enough, Donald Trump Jr. is a co-founder of Winning Team ... and it seems the only books published under them are by Trump² (Trump and Trump Jr.) and one by Charlie Kirk.

Also, “Our Journey Together” is a photobook; how is that comparable to “Rage”?

Trump’s legal team calls “Rage” a “complete and total failure,” claiming Woodward was hoping to replicate the success of his previous book “Fear” by publishing Trump’s voice.

In the first week after publishing, “Rage” sold over 600,000 copies. I don’t know about you, but that doesn’t sound like a complete and total failure.



Michael Buckner / Advance-Titan

Donald Trump claims investigative journalist Bob Woodward exploited the pair’s interviews in the audiobook “The Trump Tapes: Bob Woodward’s Twenty Interviews with President Donald Trump.”

We’ve seen this all before. Trump calls damage to his reputation, sues “the media” and uses the press coverage to push his anti-liberal agenda. This has nothing to do with copyright laws or the fact that Woodward published his voice.

Woodward has been around the block when it comes to fame- and money-hungry politicians. This

case will be nothing but a blip on his radar. I imagine the most that will come out of this is a settlement (if that).

Trump is up against a seasoned investigative journalist, someone who helped take down former President Nixon and break the Watergate case. That’s no easy feat, especially not for someone

making a weak case for clout and a leg up on the presidential campaign trail.

I think this just solidifies how volatile and manipulative this man is. Even bad press is press after all.

Over 4,000 lawsuits later, it’s clear that Trump isn’t going to stop complaining. Maybe it’s time we stop caring.

Will your TikTok feed send you to therapy?

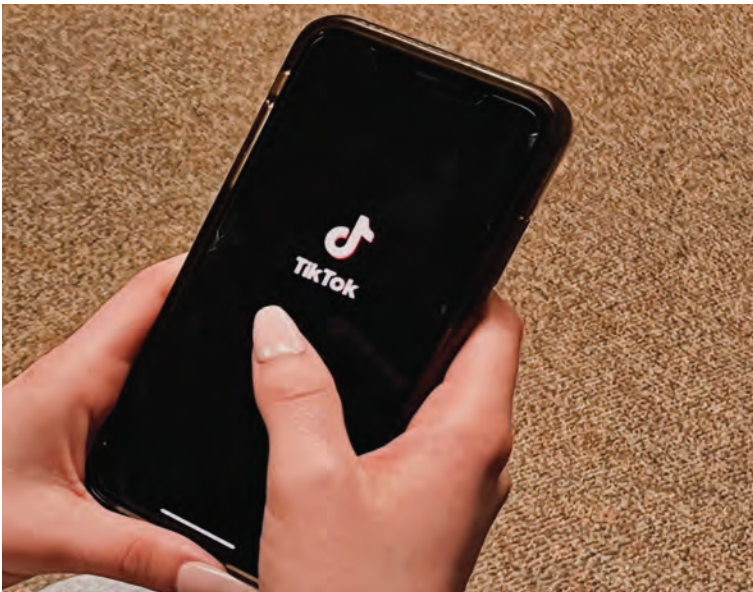
By Cassidy Johnson
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Right off the bat, I’d like to clear the air and let you know that I am not here to judge anyone for how much TikTok they use; that would be hypocritical of me. That after-class/work/gym scroll almost feels borderline therapeutic.

Funnily enough, however, it could actually have the opposite effect long-term.

Besides all of the typical reasons like the amount of blue light, the contribution to our shrinking attention span and the paralyzing effect it can have on people with anxiety, ADHD and depression, I believe that excessive TikTok use could worsen and possibly even contribute to mental illness. Before I freak anyone out, consider the keyword “excessive,” meaning your screen time daily average is consistently over 8 hours. At that point you should freak out or, even better, read the rest of this article — hopefully you’ll change and save your mind.

I’m definitely not a clinical psychologist (or even a psychology major), but I did have a chance to have a conversation with one on this exact issue. I was lucky enough to attend Professor Quinn



Aubrie Selsmeyer / Advance-Titan

Chrobak’s psych 101 lecture last semester, and of the many topics that I found interesting in his course, one was mental illnesses. When learning about the causes of borderline personality disorder, or BPD, Chrobak said something that immediately caught my attention.

Apparently, people who depend on their emotions very heavily — people like musicians, poets and artists — are more likely to be diagnosed with BPD, especially if they rely on it for their livelihood.

The thought process behind it

is that those who depend on their emotions for money tend to have an unhealthy relationship with their emotions, often manipulating them for their artistry and going from extreme highs to extreme lows. Eventually, the mind and body get used to those swings and follow suit until these highs and lows become a natural part of their brain function.

Despite most people utilizing TikTok to avoid their feelings instead of expressing them, the same ideology still translates.

One moment you’re watching a funny storytime, the next you’re watching a heartbreaking video about a dog needing surgery. You scroll again to see Alix Earle doing a Get Ready With Me for another party, and you can’t help but feel inspired as well as a little envious. In the matter of a minute, you’ve gone through four different emotions. Multiply that by your daily average, and you get a pretty nasty number.

To put it in perspective, assuming a user watches two or three TikToks per minute; thus, eight-hours-daily scrollers would go through approximately 1,000 mood changes per day, not counting the ones from real life.

The truth is, we were never meant to experience so many different emotions in such a short amount of time, and I truly believe that because of that, excessive TikTok use could have a very real effect on your mental health.

So, the next time you’re mindlessly scrolling on TikTok, maybe consider setting your phone down and enjoying your own life instead of watching others live theirs — it could possibly even save you from a hefty therapy bill.

TikTok banned on university-issued devices

In the latest executive order 184 released by Gov. Tony Evers, Tiktok must be removed from all university-owned devices on all UW campuses by Feb. 17.

Future installations of TikTok on any university-owned devices have already been prohibited through an implemented program by UWO IT.

Although this order only applies to university-owned devices, in an email Mark Clements, UWO assistant vice chancellor for information technology, encourages students to take the time to learn about their security risks whilst using social media platforms on personal devices.

This could include any device you enter personal or sensitive information into.

For assistance removing TikTok from any university-issued device, contact the UWO IT Help Desk.

Celebrating Black History Month

A look at influential people who have visited UWO

By Katie Pulvermacher
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In the United States, Black History Month is observed in February. UW Oshkosh reflects on the month by providing a month full of events to educate and celebrate.

Prior to the late 1960s, Black visitors on campus were rare. The “Black Thursday” protest of 1968 at Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh sparked a desire for funding to bring in Black speakers to campus. Since 1968, many influential people have stopped on campus to

speak to students, staff and faculty on various topics. These academics, artists, political figures, writers and sports figures have given their time to help grow and inform our campus community.

“Black History Month recognition, reflection and celebration is underway at UW Oshkosh,” Chancellor Andrew Leavitt said. “I want to take a moment to share gratitude with students and faculty and staff members for the thought and effort they are pouring into another outstanding schedule of events.”

Booker T. Washington visited UWO on Nov. 10, 1911. The Advance-Titan newspaper issue said Washington spoke on the growing education for Black people

and advancements made in Tuskegee, AL.

“This was, without doubt, the most interesting talk given before the school for some time,” The A-T wrote in 1911. “We were interested, not only in what he said, but in the man himself.”

A few of many prominent Black speakers at UWO have been:

- 1972: Poet and publisher Dudley Randall
- 1981: Future first Black woman elected to the U.S. Congress Shirley Chisholm
- 1983: Poet Nikki Giovanni
- 1984: Screen stars Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis

- 1985: Historian, future Chair of U.S. Civil Rights Commission Mary Frances Berry
- 1986: Chicago-based community activist, college counselor Silas Purnell

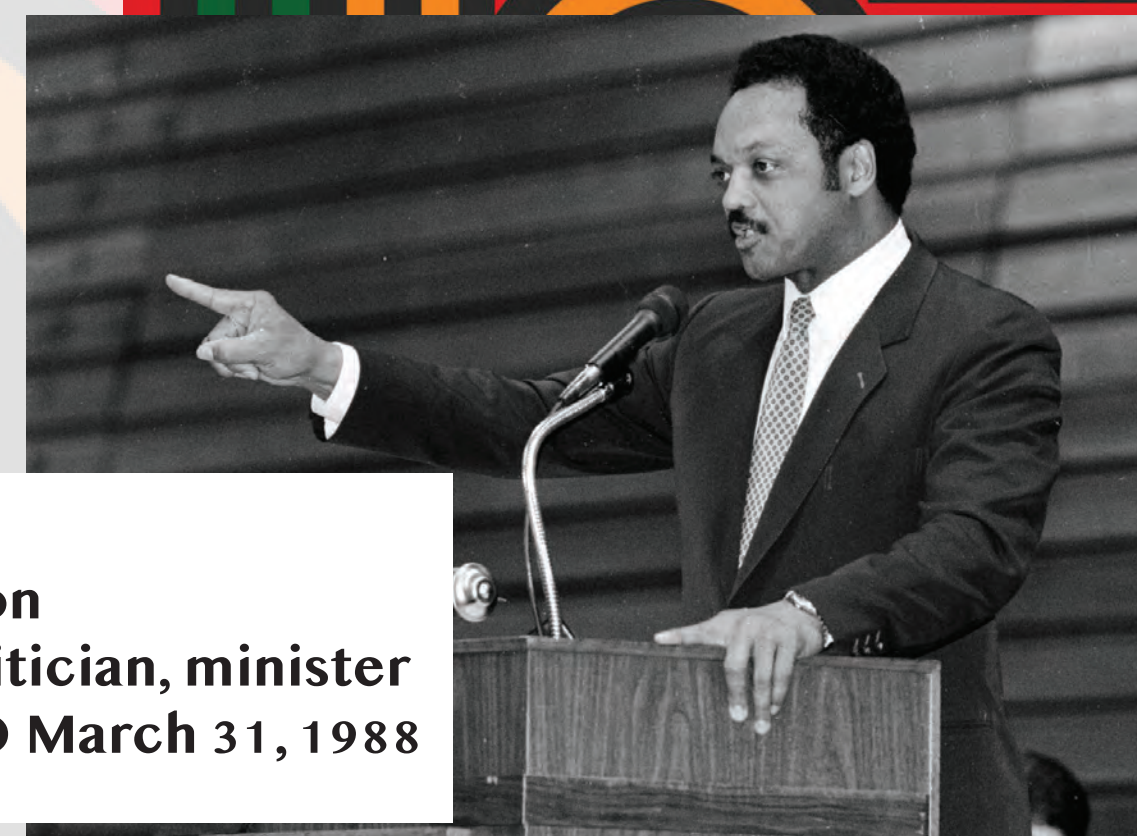
“Again, thank you to the students, scholars, alumni and many guests who are sharing their time, expertise and artistry with the university community and providing us so many opportunities to engage in and honor Black History Month,” Leavitt said.

(Below, left) Florynce Kennedy | Attorney, author, civil rights activist (Below, right) Gloria Steinem | American journalist, social-political activist | Visited UWO April 20, 1971

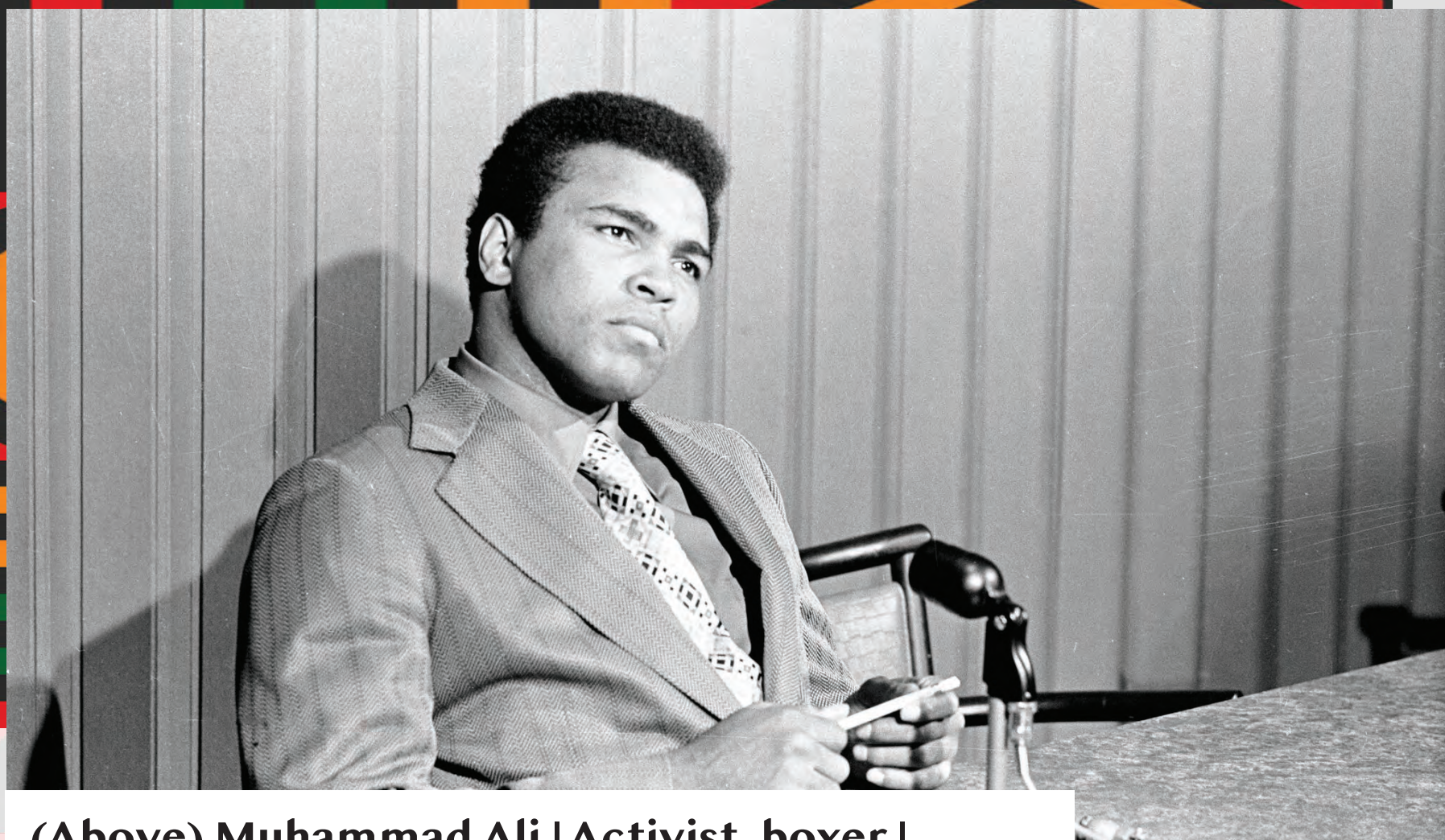


Photos
courtesy
of UWO
Archives

(Right)
Jesse Jackson
Activist, politician, minister
Visited UWO March 31, 1988



(Above) Muhammad Ali | Activist, boxer |
Visited UWO April 1, 1971



(Right)
Barack Obama
Future 44th U.S.
President
Visited UWO
Feb. 15, 2008



Calendar of Events

Thursday, Feb. 16
Black History Month Spotlight
5 p.m. | 90.3 WRST
Josiah Benjamin – Alpha Phi Alpha, Fraternity – Eta Pi Chapter President – UWO

A virtual conversation with Dr. Maulana Karenga
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Open Gym Night
8 – 11 p.m.
Student Recreation and Wellness Center

Friday, Feb. 17
1st Annual Decade Dance:
1970s!
7 – 10 p.m.
Reeve Union Ballroom

Saturday, Feb. 18
“Know Your Black History”
Trivia Contest
3 p.m.
Virtual via Zoom

Sunday, Feb. 19
Black History Month Church Service
10:30 a.m.
Bethel Worship Center

*The full calendar of events is found here:
<https://uwosh.edu/africanamericanstudies/bhm/> *

Sports



Scoreboard

Friday, Feb. 10
Gymnastics
UWO - 188.65
Hamline University - 181.85

Saturday, Feb. 11
Men’s Basketball
UWO - 91
UW-La Crosse - 88
Women’s Basketball
UWO - 42
UW-La Crosse - 56
Track and Field
Men’s - 1/8, 120
Women’s - 5/8, 32
Wrestling
Individual placements - see online

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Feb. 16
Gymnastics
Winona State University at 6 p.m.
Swimming and Diving
WIAC Championships at Schroeder Aquatic Center

Friday, Feb. 17
Swimming and Diving
WIAC Championships at Schroeder Aquatic Center

Saturday, Feb. 18
Swimming and Diving
WIAC Championships at Schroeder Aquatic Center
Track and Field
UW Oshkosh Titan Challenge at 10:15 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 21
Women’s Basketball
at TBA vs TBA WIAC Tourament at 7:00 p.m.

G League president impressed with Herd

By Jacob Link
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Although the Wisconsin Herd have struggled this season in the NBA G League’s Eastern Conference, league president Shareef Abdur-Rahim is impressed with the organization.

Abdur-Rahim, who attended his first ever Herd game Jan. 18, said he is thrilled with the way the team supports the community.

“Oshkosh as a franchise is great,” Abdur-Rahim said. “The community is awesome and the way the town supports the city is really top notch for a basketball club.”

Abdur-Rahim was on hand to witness the largest crowd in Herd franchise history, as 4,138 fans packed inside the Oshkosh Arena to watch Wisconsin take down the Westchester Knicks 127-118.

Abdur-Rahim said that the proximity of Oshkosh to Milwaukee, as well as the connection between the Herd and Bucks, make the franchise valuable for developing players for the NBA.

“The league, and every team can take notes from the example here in Oshkosh,” Abdur-Rahim said. “There’s a lot of great young players like (Sandro) Mamukelashvili, Rob Edwards and Jordan Bone that will continue to get better with the facilities available here.”



Shareef Abdur-Rahim

According to the league president, the competition and level of play in the G League continues to increase year after year thanks to the connection the league has to the NBA. One of these connections is the NBA G League Ignite, a team in the G League that is designed to be a one-year developmental program for players who wish to skip college basketball and go right to the professional level. The Ignite, made up of both prospects and veteran players, has had six players go on to be drafted into the NBA after playing with the team.

“I think the G League Ignite has been a great addition,” Abdur-Rahim said. “It gives talented young players an opportunity to get a year or two years before they enter the NBA. I also think it gives scouts the opportunity to see players and get to know players.”

One of the most well-known examples of the advantages of the G League Ignite is MarJon Beauchamp, who played for the Ignite during the 2021-22 season before being drafted by the Milwaukee Bucks in the 2022 NBA draft.



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

The Herd’s Elijah Hughes (7) gets a screen from Jontay Porter (4) against the Westchester Knicks Jan. 18. NBA G League President Shareef Abdur-Rahim was in attendance to watch Wisconsin defeat the Knicks in front of a franchise record crowd at the Oshkosh Arena.

Beauchamp joined the Ignite after a season at Yakima Valley College and averaged 15.1 points and 7.3 rebounds with the Ignite before being drafted. Beauchamp has found his way back to the G League this season on assignment from the Bucks, playing in three games for the Herd.

“We have some really good examples of guys that became great players out of the G League,” Abdur-Rahim said. “In the past we’ve had guys like Jeremy Lin and Seth Curry and, more recently, Jordan Poole and Jalen Green go to the NBA. You have some really good young players playing now in the G League so I think we will see a superstar come out of this league.”

Abdur-Rahim says that he thinks the G League will be expanding in the future.

“We definitely want to expand because we have two NBA franchises that don’t have G League affiliates,” he said. “Portland and Phoenix don’t have G League teams, so we would love to expand to those areas.”

Abdur-Rahim, born in Marietta, Georgia, played 12 seasons in the NBA before becoming president of the G League in 2018, taking over for Malcolm Turner who stepped down to become the athletic director at Vanderbilt University.

Abdur-Rahim said it took a little bit of luck to be in the right place at the right time to be named G League president.

“It wasn’t until I retired, when I was done playing in the league and working for different organizations that I realised this was something I wanted to pursue,” he said. “More and more I was around the business of sports and that kind of ignited me to want more.”

Abdur-Rahim was named Mr. Basketball in back-to-back seasons while playing for Joseph Wheeler High School in Georgia, and averaged 31 points, 12.4 rebounds and four blocks per game as a senior. He went on to attend the University of California, Berkeley where he played just one season. Abdur-Rahim averaged 21.1 points

and 8.4 rebounds per game while being named Pac-10 Freshman of the Year in 1996. He was also the first freshman in Pac-10 history to win Conference Player of the Year, and set multiple school records in his freshman season before declaring for the NBA draft in 1996.

In the 1996 draft, Abdur-Rahim was selected third overall by the Vancouver Grizzlies, the very first draft pick for the franchise that played its first season in 1995. Abdur-Rahim went on to play five seasons with the Grizzlies, and was named to the NBA All-Rookie First Team in 1997. He averaged 20.8 points and 8.2 rebounds a game in 375 games with the Grizzlies and led the scoring every year he played in Vancouver.

“Playing for Vancouver was great,” Abdur-Rahim said. “It was a great opportunity to be a part of a new franchise, so it was really cool to be part of starting basketball in a new country.”

Despite the efforts of Abdur-Rahim, Vancouver remained at the bottom of the Midwestern Division, never finishing better than sixth place. The Vancouver franchise is known for being historically bad, finishing with less than 20 wins for four straight seasons.

Abdur-Rahim said it’s hard to say if the NBA would go back to Vancouver.

“There’s a lot of ifs, but if the league expands, I hope that’s one of the cities that the league chooses,” he said. “I think that Vancouver’s a great city and there’s a lot of passionate fans there so the league should continue to have basketball in that area.”

Abdur-Rahim was traded in 2001 to the Atlanta Hawks, the same year that Vancouver relocated to Memphis, Tennessee, following bad attendance numbers and the weakening of the Canadian dollar.

“That was fun, going to Atlanta,” Abdur-Rahim said. “I went to college in California, which was far away from home, I was drafted to Vancouver, which was far away, so at some point in my career to be playing in my hometown with my

family, that was special.”

Abdur-Rahim played parts of three seasons with the Hawks, averaging 20.4 points and 8.9 rebounds per game and he made his only career All-Star appearance in 2002 with Atlanta. Once again, Abdur-Rahim was on a struggling team that missed the playoffs in all three seasons he was a part of. Midway through the 2003-04 season, he was traded to the Portland Trail Blazers where he played for two seasons. Abdur-Rahim’s numbers started to decline and he was traded to the Sacramento Kings in 2005. He played his final three seasons with the Kings and averaged 10.7 points and 3.4 rebounds a game.

After retiring from the NBA in 2008 due to persistent knee problems, the Kings hired Abdur-Rahim into their coaching staff. After two years as an assistant coach with the franchise, Sacramento named Abdur-Rahim as assistant general manager in 2010, a position he held for four years.

Abdur-Rahim said his greatest accomplishment as a player was winning the gold medal at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia. He was selected as a replacement for an injured Grant Hill and averaged 6.4 points a game on a team that included NBA legends Vince Carter, Gary Payton and Ray Allen. In the group stage, the Americans went a perfect 5-0 before taking down Russia, Lithuania and France to claim the gold medal.

“That was like a dream come true, winning the 2000 gold medal,” Abdur-Rahim said. “Making it to the NBA and national championships was a goal of mine and I wasn’t able to do that, so winning the gold medal was awesome.”

In his five years as president of the NBA G League, Abdur-Rahim said he’s loved every second.

“I’ve enjoyed being able to come to games,” he said. “It’s a good balance of challenges, like how to continue to make the G League better while still being able to watch games and be around players.”

A-Trivia

How many individual WIAC Championships does Beau Yineman have?

Answer: Yineman has three individual WIAC Championships in the 197-pound class.

A-Trivia

How many career double-doubles does Levi Borchert have?

Answer: In four seasons with the Titans, Borchert has 37 career double-doubles.

UWO men take 1st in meet

By Nolan Swenson
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UW Oshkosh track and field competed at the UW-Whitewater Midwest Elite invitational, with the men’s team placing first and the women’s fifth.

UWW hosted the meet, with eight teams total competing on Feb. 11. The men’s team beat out all others, scoring 120 points. The women placed fifth out of eight teams with a score of 32 points.

Keegan Cullison led the team in the men’s 60-meter sprints, earning a time of 6.89. However, that time was just shy of first place, losing by .02 seconds. With such a close loss, Cullison said he plans to continue to commit to the team and the process.

“If I am working hard in practice and also doing all the little things right outside of practice like diet, sleep and recovery, then I’ll be able to put myself in the best position to perform at a higher level within the next few weeks,” he said.

Both the men’s and women’s team have had great success this year, with the men’s team taking first in all of their scored meets so far. In addition, this was the women’s first time not receiving first.

Cullison said that the strength of the team relationship is a big factor in the men’s win.

“We are in the most competitive conference in D-III track and everyone on the team knows that,” he said. “We know that every team in the conference including UW-La Crosse has a good team, but we know that we have a great team and we aren’t scared



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UW Oshkosh distance athletes run at the Early Bird Invitational.

to compete. We just come to practice everyday with the mindset of getting better and we use adversity to further motivate us to reach our team goals.”

An event showing that cohesion was the men’s 400-meter sprint, where Oshkosh took the top three spots. The leader was Devin Williams with a time of 49.94 seconds, followed by Londyn Little and Ryan Potter with respective times of 50.02 and 50.24.

Steven Potter took first in the mile, setting a season-best time for the Titans, by finishing in 4:07.88. Potter said that the performance opens up new options and opportunities for him on the team.

“The mile race at UW-Whitewater opened some doors for me for what I’m able to do at Birmingham in March,” he said. “I took second indoors last year in the 800, so I could definitely try and go after that event again, but now I have the option of declaring for the mile and racing that in Nationals. I’m also shooting to get a school record in both the

800 and the mile. I’m currently second in school history for both of those events.”

Cheering him on throughout the duration of his mile was his team, which he said gave the meet an uplifting spirit after he had been out of recent competition.

“This was my first meet back with the team in a few weeks,” he said. “The atmosphere that our team brought to the meet was electric. Titans were all over the meet cheering on their teammates.”

The Titans will host the UW Oshkosh Titan Challenge on Feb. 18 for their last home meet of this year. Cullison said that the team is ready to build off their most recent win.

“I think building off this recent meet into next week is going to be huge for us since we’re at home,” he said. “We know our team can still improve a ton. Being at home we know we’re going to bring a lot of energy to Kolf and put down more electric performances.”

Wrestlers place in WIAC

By Brandon Cobb
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With regionals right around the corner, the Titans managed to place in six weight classes at the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship Feb. 11.

This effort was spearheaded by wrestlers Luc Valdez at 125 pounds and Beau Yineman 197 pounds, both placing first in their respective weight classes. They were supported with Guyon Cyprian Jr. at 285 pounds, Denis Murphy at 133 pounds who placed fifth, along with Elijah Sanchez at 141 pounds and Nate Stokhaug at 165, who placed sixth.

The high intensity WIAC Championship would be chock-full of closely contested matches that would conclude many of the Titans season-long rivalries.

When reflecting on the aftermath of the WIAC tournament, head wrestling coach Aaron Konitzer commented on the team’s performance and plans moving forward.

“I think overall the effort was high and we saw some success and improvements, as well as getting a couple of matches back that we lost earlier in the year,” he said. “Obviously, we would have liked more guys on the podium, but we just let a couple of matches get away from us. We just need to continue to improve over the next couple of weeks.”

Now with such a big turnaround the Titans gain a boost in the team’s energy going into regionals.

“For some guys, it gives them a little more confidence knowing they can hang with some of the top guys who will be at the regional,” Konitzer said. “This will give them

more motivation in their training over the next couple of weeks.”

Along with the momentum carried from the wins at WIAC, the team seems to be propelled by its close-knit community between coaches and players, Konitzer said.

“The team has become really close over the last few weeks,” Konitzer said. “First semester, I think we were all trying to get to know each other but in the second semester, we’re seeing the guys being a lot more supportive of each other throughout the competition. It’s a big deal knowing that you have a team who truly have each other’s backs. It makes them want to wrestle harder for each other.”

This is one of the Titans’ biggest advantages when they hit the mat, Valdez said.

“One main thing that we have is that we support each other a lot,” Valdez said. “We are in each other’s corners.”

With the NCAA Division III Upper Midwest Regional set for Feb. 24 the Titans will look to keep the pace in anticipation. Although the stage is bigger, their intensity and mindset stays the same.

“We’re going to stay consistent in what we do because the mindset is ‘no match is bigger than the next,’” Konitzer said. “Granted it’s our national qualifier, but it doesn’t change that it’s still wrestling and we have to keep that mentality down the stretch.”



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Wrestlers Valdez (left) and Yineman (right) placed first in WIAC.

Sports roundup

Women’s Basketball

The Titans women’s basketball team suffered two losses this week, first against UW-Whitewater (19-5) followed by UW-La Crosse (18-6).

UW Oshkosh (17-7) faced off against the Warhawks on Wednesday losing 67-55.

On Saturday, the Titans took on the Eagles and suffered a 56-42 defeat, despite beating UWL 61-53 last month.

Against UWL, UWO took an early lead in the first quarter; however, the lead did not hold as the Eagles overcame it in the second quarter by a narrow margin. For the remainder of the match, La Crosse continued to grow their lead, ending in the 14-point defeat for the Titans.

Kate Huml led the team in points against UWL, scoring 14 of the team’s 42 points. She said that her teammates were essential to her scoring the points.

“My teammates were a huge part of me being the leading scorer,” she said. “They found me for shots, set great screens and opened up gaps to get me where I can score.”

Huml said that this week’s losses could be attributed to the physicality of the teams this week.

“One big difference I felt was the speed and size of the teams,” she said. “Whitewater is very skilled in the post and runs most of their offense through them, whereas La Crosse relies a lot on their guards and pushing the ball up the court.”

The Titans concluded their regular season on Feb. 15 against UW-Stevens Point (11-13). Scores are available on the UWO athletics website.

The women’s basketball postseason begins on Feb. 21, and until then Huml said the team will continue to practice.

“Nothing really changes for us as the postseason comes around,” she said. “We will just continue to do what we do and get better each day.”

Gymnastics

UW Oshkosh gymnastics took a close win against Hamline University on Feb. 10, making a comeback from their Feb. 3 loss.

The Titans were victorious by a score of 188.65-181.85, a win that gymnast Trinity Sawyer said came from the team’s willingness to perform difficult stunts.

“The key difference between our team and Hamline on Friday is that the skills we performed had a higher degree of difficulty, which, when executed well, result in higher scoring,” she said.

One of these difficult events was the uneven parallel bars, which Sawyer took first in with a score of 9.525. Three other Titans also scored above nine on the event while no Hamline athletes were able to breach past 8.975 points.

In all competitions, the top three spots were taken by Oshkosh, with Titans taking the first five in the vault event. The Titans beat out Hamline University in all events, not letting a single event slip from their grasp.

This win comes after a close loss by only 3.4 points to UW-La Crosse, a defeat that the Titans were eager to utilize and move on from. Sawyer said that the loss forced them to reflect on their skills and recognize it on the mats.

“Our loss a week prior was a learning experience for the whole team,” she said. “Last week we were faced with adversity and had to overcome the obstacles we were faced with. Heading back into the gym after the loss, we as a team needed to remind ourselves about the excessive amount of talent we currently have. In order to improve, we had to trust in our abilities.”

UWO athletes constantly push themselves past their previous losses and injuries as showcased by Sawyer. Her improvements don’t solely come on the mat, but also in recovering from a foot surgery. She said that every day she makes more advancements.

“My improvement is largely based on rehab and treatments,” she said. “After having heel surgery last April, it has been a struggle to compete in the power events of vault and floor, to the best of my abilities. Every day I complete rehab and treatments, I feel that I’m getting closer and closer to my true potential.”

Tonight at 6 p.m. the team faces off against Winona State University at home. Sawyer said she is eager for this opportunity for the team and especially for the underclassmen.

“I’m feeling very confident in our team,” she said. “For many girls on the team, this is still gonna be one of their first home meets where they get to show off what they bring to a home crowd. We have all of the pieces, and this week we’re gonna put it all together for our home crowd.”

Wisconsin Herd

The Wisconsin Herd fell to the Cleveland Charge in a high scoring game on Tuesday.

The score of the night’s game was 128-120, and was the Herd’s (6-14) fourth time this season losing to the Charge (10-8).

The game started with an early Cleveland lead, with the Herd trailing by eight after the first quarter.

The Herd spent the next two quarters attempting to close the gap, ending both quarters with one point less than the Charge.

In the final quarter, Wisconsin was able to score more points. However, it wasn’t enough to undo the damage of the previous three quarters, and the Herd took another loss against the Charge.

Herd guard Lindell Wigginton scored 34 points, making him the highest scorer of the game. He scored 18 points from six 3-point shots, where he had 50% accuracy.

Another star Herd player of the night was Alize Johnson, who grabbed 20 rebounds and scored 25 points.

This loss comes after an even larger loss against the Delaware Blue Coats (13-5) of 166-139 Feb. 11.

The beginning of the game saw Wisconsin keeping pace with Delaware, lagging only a single point behind. After the first quarter however, the Blue Coats accelerated when the Herd could not, eventually racking up the lead to 27 points.

Despite the loss, forward Paris Bass dropped a franchise record 50 points in the game.

The Wisconsin Herd will face off next against the Texas Legends (6-11) in an away game on Feb. 24.

Arts & Entertainment

RUB hosts Drag Queen Bingo

By Mattie Beck
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Reeve Union Board (RUB) hosted Drag Queen Bingo with Mrs. Kasha Davis, a drag queen from “RuPaul’s Drag Race” Season 7, last Thursday in Reeve Memorial Union Ballroom.

Mrs. Kasha Davis is the stage name of Edward P. Popil, Jr., an American drag queen, actor and television personality from Scranton, Pennsylvania. Zach Easton, entertainment chair on the executive board of RUB and host of Zach’s Bingo Hall, a popular RUB event, helped coordinate the event. He said he started planning during winter break with RUB Program Adviser Dylan Bram.

“I was excited about the idea and really wanted to go through with it,” he said. “When Dylan first brought up the idea with me, I thought it would be a great idea to bring a new, exciting event to campus.”

Drag Queen Bingo is an event where drag queens are the bingo callers. These events have been done in person and virtually during the pandemic.

Bram said the university has hosted few drag events in the past.

“In my time advising RUB since 2016, I have not personally overseen any other drag events aside from our annual partnership for Titan Nights, where we co-sponsor with House of Pride and Equality (HOPE) for the drag show,” he said.

Bram was excited for the chance to host drag bingo after all the popularity those events gained throughout the pandemic.

“From what I have seen over

the past several years, Drag Queen Bingo really got a large following during COVID-19, so when we heard about the opportunity of a drag queen routing through our area, we thought that could be fun,” he said.

According to Easton, the event was as fun for students as they hoped.

“The event was really successful! With the help of the RUB team and the audiovisual techs in Reeve, it ran pretty smooth,” he said. “The students really enjoyed the event. The event attendance was pretty high and the energy that the students brought with them was exciting.”

About 200 students attended, many staying afterward to meet the star.

“There was a really long line after the show to meet Mrs. Kasha Davis and get a picture, which I think made students really excited,” Easton said.

Easton’s favorite part of the event, since he normally runs bingo, was being on the more technical side.

“I always call bingo and I do not get to play or just watch the event run,” he said. “While I love running Zach’s Bingo Hall, it was fun and exciting to be on the other side of the bingo cage.”

Zach’s Bingo Hall will make an appearance this semester at March Titan Nights on March 10, Spring Family Day on March 11 and April 20.

Easton thanked those who helped make the event possible.

“Thank you to all who attended, helped run the event smoothly, the LGBTQ+ Resource Center and Mrs. Kasha Davis,” he said.



Mattie Beck / Advance-Titan
Mrs. Kasha Davis was the host of the Drag Queen Bingo in Reeve Memorial Union.

The Astronomers conclude first national tour

By Mattie Beck
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The Astronomers, a band made up of UW Oshkosh student Michael Stensland and alumnus Ben Baker, embarked on their first national tour in January.

Their tour started in Milwaukee, and took them up all around the Midwest and beyond, including going on The Rock Boat, known as “a floating musical festival at sea.”

The tour ended Feb. 4 in La Crosse, and the band is now taking a break until a show in April.

Lead singer Stensland said he was happy with the touring outcome.

“We had a blast,” Stensland said. “It was such an incredible experience.”

The Astronomers did a lot of traveling, including stopping at different places while cruising on The Rock Boat.

“We also got on a cruise ship that sailed from Miami to the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic. We played four shows on the boat and played alongside acts such as Neon Trees, American Authors and Lit,” Stensland said.



Cory Sparks / Advance-Titan
The Astronomers traveled across the country and visited new and old venues on their first tour.

While on the tour, the band was able to see lots of fans from across the country, some of whom traveled long distances.

“We had fans drive nine hours

to see us at these shows. We had people drive from Canada to Michigan,” Stensland said.

That meant they had a lot of packed houses, according to

Stensland.

“We almost sold out five of the venues, three of which were places we have never played before,” he said.

The band was able to grow throughout the tour, but the highlight of it just being on tour in general.

“I think the best part of touring was just getting to experience it all,” Stensland said. “There wasn’t really anything in particular [I liked most] but more so just learning everything about what it means to tour.”

But there were still downsides to touring, Stensland said.

“If we had to pick the worst parts of the tour, it probably was any time we had to fly. We got stuck in the airport both times and it was not fun,” he said.

As for plans post-tour, the band is focusing on making music and focusing on themselves.

“Right now our focus is making music until I graduate,” Stensland said.

“We do have a big show in Green Bay on April 1, but just expect a lot of new music,” he said.

That performance will be held at the Meyer Theater in Green Bay.

“We just released a new single called ‘Orange Afternoon’ on Feb. 10. It’s out everywhere.”