

# The Advance-Titan

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Photos courtesy of UWO Flickr

Left: Student members of OSA listen to presenters at a meeting on March 1. Right: Provost John Koker presents at an OSA meeting on March 1. He said UWO is considering a tuition increase for the 2023-24 academic school year.

## INFLATION strikes again

### *UW System considers first tuition increase in a decade*

By Kelly Hueckman  
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UW Oshkosh will consider a tuition increase for the 2023-2024 academic year after a decade-long tuition freeze, UWO Provost John Koker announced at an Oshkosh Student Association (OSA) meeting March 1.

“While no one wants to see prices go up, it’s just a fact that we’re having a very difficult time operating on the same price that we were charging 10 years ago,” Koker said.

The announcement followed the release of Gov. Tony Evers’ 2023-2025 UW System spending plan, which budgeted \$305.9 million to system spending.

The budget is approximately \$130 million less than what the Board of Regents said they need to run their campuses.

In response, UW System President Jay Rothman said he will ask the Board of Regents to approve a 5% tuition increase,

which he estimated will raise about \$38 million annually, at the March 30-31 board meeting.

If approved, the tuition increase would increase full-time residential students’ base tuition by about \$350 per student.

At UWO, in addition to the base tuition increase, there would be an increase in differential tuition, segregated fees and on-campus housing, Koker said.

“You add what we are asking for in a differential tuition increase, which is about a \$120 per-student increase, a slight increase in segregated fees and an adjustment in resident life, we’re looking at a cost all-in ... at about a 4-5% increase,” Koker said.

Koker said he credits the proposal for a tuition increase to high inflation rates, although the tuition increase would still be at a lower rate.

“Everything costs us more, just like everything costs you more with inflation,” Koker said. “Inflation’s still hanging around

6-7%, so we’re not quite keeping up with inflation.”

OSA Communications Director Frankie Kerkhof said that while a tuition increase wouldn’t be ideal for students, she understands the university needs more funds to provide a quality experience.

“As a student who pays for college out of pocket, I am not thrilled with the idea of paying more for an already expensive education,” Kerkhof said. “However, I understand that due to the current economic situation, a tuition increase is necessary to keep the university running the way it is.”

Kerkhof, who worked on the Differential Tuition Committee, said that an increase in differential tuition will help make up for revenue loss due to low retention rates. Differential tuition funds student resources such as the Writing Center, the Counseling Center and Career and Professional Development.

“It was challenging to decide which resources to fund with the limited money we had,” she said. “The less money we had because of low retention rates, the lower the amount of money we could provide to the campus resources.”

OSA President Daniel McKearn said that on top of the tuition increase, the university should also work to create a budget based on students’ needs.

“[The university should] use their money more wisely,” McKearn said. “Invest in programs that are working for

a majority of students, look into services that really aren’t benefiting the student body as a whole.”

For students who want to continue receiving these benefits, Faculty Senate President Jennifer Szydluk said an increase in tuition is in their best interest.

“For people who care about quality education, the tuition increase is welcome news,” she said. “The entire UW System has been living under austerity for the past 10 years, and it is getting harder to protect our students from this reality.”

Szydluk said that the decade-long tuition freeze caused the university to postpone maintaining and updating campus fa-

cilities, deterring students from enrolling at UWO.

“We have deferred maintenance on our buildings and infrastructure,” she said. “We have not kept pace with our peer institutions in faculty and staff salaries, which means that we cannot compete with them for talent.”

Although Szydluk said that tuition increases would benefit the UW System, she said she encourages students to take action to minimize tuition and increase state funding.

“I wish that the state legislature would return to robust funding of the UW System, and I hope that UWO students will contact their representative to request this,” she said. “But until that happens, tuition increases are needed.”

Students interested in contacting their district representatives and senators can find their representatives’ and senators’ email addresses at [legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:legis.wisconsin.gov).

“For people who care about quality education, the tuition increase is welcome news.”  
- Jennifer Szydluk,  
Faculty Senate President

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# New AI club fosters curiosity

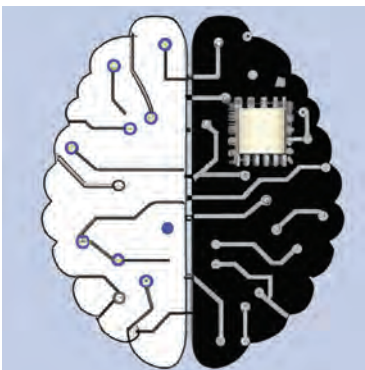
By Josh Lehner  
lehnerjo70@uwosh.edu

The Oshkosh Student Association (OSA) approved the new Artificial Intelligence and Analytics Club on Feb. 20, which aims to provide students with networking, hands-on experience and career preparation in AI-related fields.

The OSA recognizes new student organizations every year through a process that includes drafting a constitution, numerous meetings and training sessions and workshops. New organizations gain ultimate approval by the OSA Assembly, Senate and Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

OSA Program Adviser Tyler Klaver said that between two and five new clubs form every year.

AI and Analytics Club President Adrian Girone said that he became involved after receiving an email from the club’s adviser. Girone had an interest in the club and showed up to the first meeting. There, he accepted the role of president.



Though the club just began, Girone’s vision for it extends beyond UW Oshkosh and includes potentially working with businesses.

“I would love to have the student involvement and knowledge to do things like business case studies, where we work with local businesses to provide solutions centered around AI and analytics.”

Girone also said he eventually wants to host workshops for middle school and high school students with the aim of fostering curiosity in data and analytic fields.

“These things probably won’t come to fruition until next

school year,” he said. “But we are laying the groundwork now and taking the steps necessary to get there.”

In addition to the goals laid out by Girone, club Vice President Mario Biendarra said that he wants to create an inclusive environment for people in technological fields.

“I want to ensure that the club provides a space for women in technology, where they feel they can make contributions without any concern of being treated differently because of their gender,” he said.

Biendarra said that the club is important for understanding nascent technologies, such as AI, and that “humanity’s greatest technological leap forward is quickly approaching.”

“In order to leverage AI to improve the world and make it a more caring, accepting and safe place to live, we need to carefully approach its development,” he said.

He provided the hypothetical example of a machine learning model that’s trained to predict a certain type of disease.

In this example, Biendarra

said that if the data given to the machine lacks information on a certain demographic, it could result in that model failing to detect the disease.

“I believe that making the field of AI development as diverse as possible will result in better AI models overall,” he said. “This club can draw in students of any group or background and encourage all of them to pursue working in the field.”

Girone also said that the AI and Analytics Club will offer more opportunities to students interested in the field but aren’t entirely committed to the classwork and the classroom environment.

“Currently, UWO only offers a couple of classes and certificates in AI and analytics, and some students might be hesitant to pick up more coursework in order to gain some of this knowledge,” Girone said. “The goal of the club is to offer a fun, stress-free entry point into the field so that all who have an interest feel comfortable learning about these topics.”

# OSA honors, thanks Koker for service

By Frankie Kerkhof  
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The Oshkosh Student Association (OSA) Senate and Assembly recently passed and presented a resolution honoring Provost John Koker and presented the resolution to Koker during the March 1 Senate meeting.

The resolution acted as a formal recognition and thank you for the years of service and dedication Koker provided to UW Oshkosh as he has played a vital role at the university for 32 years.

Earlier this year, Koker announced his decision to retire from UWO at the end of the 2022-2023 academic school year.

Koker began his career at UWO as a math professor in 1991. Throughout the years, he has held many leadership positions on cam-

pus. He became the chair of the math department in 2000, the dean of the College of Letters and Science in 2006, and he was named provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs in 2018.

Koker also held an essential role in the creation and implementation of the University Studies Program, a program which “provides students with an assessable, common intellectual experience that also embraces the traditional breadth of a liberal arts



John Koker

education to prepare them for the challenges of work, for engaged citizenship and for a meaningful and satisfying life,” according to the UWO website.

Koker has dedicated himself to engaging with and developing the UW Oshkosh community. The fact that he only has a few months left in his position does not hinder him from continuing to positively impact the UW Oshkosh, said OSA Chief of Staff Luiza Nelson and OSA Vice President Ben Blaser.

Nelson encouraged and assisted Blaser in authoring the resolution and acquiring sponsorships from other members of the OSA executive board.

In the honorary resolution, Blaser commemorates Koker’s leadership and legacy.

“Provost John Koker faced unprecedented challenges, such as the pandemic, with strength and resilience and kept the state of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh strong,” he said.

“Under his leadership at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, he has built a lasting legacy by enhancing the experience of undergraduates by assisting in the creation of vital programs such as the University Studies Program.”

*Ben Blaser contributed to this article.*

# UWO improves mental health resources

By Claudia Miller  
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UW Oshkosh recently introduced new mental health resources for students, including access to three services: You at UWO, Mantra Health and UW Mental Health Support 24/7.

“I think it’s really cool that the Counseling Center doesn’t have to put as much of a strain on themselves and they’re able to offer an alternative to on-campus counseling,” Matt Cowen, a student at the UWO Fox Cities campus, said.

You at UWO allows students to focus on aspects of their personal and school life that they want to improve.

For instance, students can participate in self-check assessments to see what areas they need to work on, and where they are doing well.

Sexual health, anxiety, sleep and de-stressing are among numerous topics students can set as priorities.

Through You at UWO, students can also explore and set

goals, such as mastering job interview skills, meeting someone new or creating a better sleep space.

You at UWO provides a variety of articles written by college students across the country on various subjects, such as queer resilience, tips for avoiding procrastination and test-taking advice.

It also includes links to other UWO resources, such as the Student Health Center, the campus events calendar and the UW Oshkosh libraries.

Mantra Health, also linked within You at UWO, allows students to sign up to connect with a therapist for free.

Through Mantra Health, students have access to a variety of virtual resources including therapy and psychiatry support when they sign up with their student email.

After completing a series of questions about why they are seeking help, students can connect with a therapist online and set up telehealth appointments through Mantra Health.



Students also now have access to after-hours support through UW Mental Health Support 24/7, which connects students to a free support line for help with mental health concerns and crisis management.

“Now that I know these resources are there, I’m very much looking forward to looking into them and seeing what they have to offer, even just as a starting point,” Cowen said.

You at UWO can be accessed at you.uwosh.edu.

Mantra Health can be accessed at app.mantrahealth.com.

UW Mental Health Support 24/7 support can be accessed by calling or, texting (888) 531-2142 or for online support, visit the Counseling Center’s website and select “CHAT with a counselor.”

For other information about mental health resources and other student health services, students can visit uwosh.edu/studenthealth/services.

# Bird strike decals show promising results

By Alexis Schaefer  
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A research project by the Sustainability Institute for Regional Transformations (SIRT) seeking to reduce bird-window collisions on campus saw some promising results last fall.

Last October, hundreds of window decals were placed on the south-facing windows of Sage Hall to break up the reflections that make birds think they can fly through them.

After collecting data during the subsequent migration, Misty McPhee, associate professor of environmental studies and biology and a member of the research team, said preliminary results suggest the decals were successful in deterring bird strikes.

In the past Sage Hall has contributed most heavily to the number of bird-window collisions out of all buildings on the Oshkosh campus, but after the application of the decals, there was a shift in that role.

“Sage had very few strikes, and Reeve is where we saw most of them, on the big windows on the Horizon side of Reeve,” McPhee said.

Although McPhee noted that it is impossible to make a credible claim with just one season of data, she remains optimistic that this



Tino Starr / Advance-Titan

**Bird strikes decreased 27.5% at the Sage High Avenue entrance and 35% at the Reeve Memorial Union windows.**

pattern will continue with further data collection.

“We’re going to be collecting data this spring and fall to try to get some more data points to make sure that it actually is a sign that it’s working,” McPhee said. “We are very confident at this point, even though we can’t statistically say it’s working.”

After it is confirmed whether or not the window decals are effective in preventing bird strikes,

McPhee said she hopes that decals can be applied to other buildings on campus that frequently experience collisions, such as Reeve Memorial Union, Halsey Science Center, Culver Family Welcome Center and the Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

However, the research team will first have to address some issues that arose during the application of the first window decals to Sage Hall.

“One of the things we have to deal with is the product itself, the stuff we ordered,” McPhee said. “Our facilities crew had a lot of problems with it.”

While putting up the decals, members of UW Oshkosh Facilities Management struggled with the decals, which were difficult to apply and had poorly functioning adhesives.

When they reached out to the company that manufactured

the decals, they were not given any worthwhile assistance, nor an admittance that there could be a problem with the manufacturer’s product.

“So, we have to solve that problem, whether it’s finding a new vendor or making that vendor do something that works for us,” McPhee said. “I don’t know what that looks like yet. It’s a very solvable problem, but that’s a problem that has to be solved.”

In the meantime, SIRT will continue to collect data in the spring and fall as they prepare to make more recommendations to the university about how to protect birds on campus.

“Every semester, during migration, we’re just going to keep collecting data, and hopefully over a long period of time, we’ll have a nice long-term data set,” McPhee said.

Students wanting to participate in the research should contact McPhee, who is looking for more students to assist with data collection.

Additionally, anyone who witnesses a bird strike or sees a bird carcass can email [birdstrike@uwosh.edu](mailto:birdstrike@uwosh.edu) with a picture of the bird, information about its location and the date and time at which it was found.

## Tense about tax time?

### Plan ahead so your taxes aren’t a headache

By Tara Zochert  
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Everybody gets a little grumbly at tax time. Preparing your finances for the government to look over can feel intimidating, but it doesn’t have to be. With some good planning and organization, you can get your taxes done like a boss.

#### To file or not to file?

Step one: Figure out if you need to file.

It’s important to check in with your parent or guardian to see if they will be claiming you as a dependent on their taxes because it will impact how you file and what credits you’re eligible for.

There isn’t always an obvious answer to who should file federal taxes. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has a handy resource page; check with your tax professional if you’re still unsure.

#### Prepare to file

If you do need to file taxes, here are some tips to keep you organized.

Most documents you need to complete your return are sent out at the end of January:

**W-2s** — wage statements from your employer(s) that break down your yearly earnings. You should receive a W-2 from each employer that paid you a wage during the previous calendar year — keep that in mind if you only worked over the summer, you switched



jobs or you work multiple jobs.

**Form 1099** — earnings statements from each financial institution that paid you interest during the year. Generally, these are brokerage firms where you have earnings or losses, or any corporations or mutual funds in which you own shares.

Keep these documents in a safe place until you’re ready to complete your tax return. You can file your taxes any time before the deadline (typically April 15).

The earlier you file, the sooner you receive your tax refund, if you’re owed one. Depending on your situation, you may owe money to the government.

#### Filing tips

When you’re ready to file, it’s important to know a few things:

**Gross income:** Gross income is all of your taxable income from a particular year, including salary, wages and tips, sick pay, unemployment wages and strike benefits. In addition, any investment income, interest and dividends should be included here. Farm income, rent payments from tenants,

gambling earnings, retirement and Social Security payments may also be included.

Some financial information can be excluded from your tax return, including workers compensation benefits, veterans’ disability benefits, welfare income, Supplemental Security Income, child support payments, life insurance payouts and scholarships for college tuition.

**Don’t sleep on freebies:** Students often qualify for free tax prep software like TurboTax, which guides you through the filing process. The IRS has a page to help individuals identify if and what free software they qualify for.

**When to ask for help:** Filing your federal return is usually straightforward, but it’s also totally reasonable to have questions or get stuck at some point. Resources available online — including from the IRS itself at [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov) — can help answer questions and provide additional sources for more hands-on assistance.

*This content is intended for general education about tax returns and should not be considered as professional advice. Contact a qualified tax adviser for personal advice tailored to your unique situation.*

*Tara Zochert is the branch manager of the UW Credit Union.*

## Climate Resilience Planning

SIRT (Sustainability Institute for Regional Transformations), the Sustainability Office, and UWO’s Climate Action Committee are sending students a survey to gather more information and prioritize planning for the future.

You may have participated in a survey on this topic recently. Regardless of whether you participated in the survey or not, we welcome all campus stakeholders (faculty, students, staff) from all three campuses to participate in the next stage of research. In these ideation sessions you will:

- Learn about the top priorities identified in the survey
- Provide your input as we gather more details about the issues our campus community faces in the future
- Participate in a visioning activity to envision ideal outcomes for a resilient future in the face of the looming threats posed by climate change
- Help generate ideas to make this vision for a resilient campus community a reality

The information gathered by this survey will be used to understand the threats our university faces from climate change, how these threats will impact our work and our community and how we should plan to address these impacts.

More information about this project can be found at [uwosh.edu/sirt/resilience](https://uwosh.edu/sirt/resilience). Check your email for a link to the survey.

## Womxn’s HERstory Month Events

**I Love Feminist Research! A Panel Discussion:** Join us on March 9 for a panel discussion with UWO professors engaged in feminist and womxn-centered research, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Sage 1214 and online via ZOOM ([tinyurl.com/WAGSresearch](https://tinyurl.com/WAGSresearch)).

**Why Womxn’s History Month?:** Join us on March 14 for a discussion and reflection on the origins and meaning of Women’s History Month and the concept of womxn’s history from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in Sage 3235 and via ZOOM ([tinyurl.com/WomxnsHistMonth](https://tinyurl.com/WomxnsHistMonth)).

**Celebrating Indigenous Womxn’s Voices:** Join the Intertribal Student Council, Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Support and Student Wellness for readings of Indigenous womxn’s and Two Spirit poetry from around the world. This event will be held March 16 in the Multicultural Education Center from 4-5 p.m.

**Queer and Trans Womxn Icons: A Celebration:** Join us on March 27 for a celebration of some of the most interesting, inspiring and iconic queer and trans womxn who made history. This event will be held from 2:00-3:35 p.m. in Sage 2234 and on ZOOM ([tinyurl.com/womxnicons](https://tinyurl.com/womxnicons)).

Sports



Scoreboard

Friday, March 3

Men’s Basketball

UWO - 86  
Fontbonne University - 58

Women’s Basketball

UWO - 58  
Washington and Lee University- 55

Saturday, March 4

Track and Field

Individual Results

Men’s Basketball

UWO - 86  
Hope College - 58

Women’s Basketball

UWO - 60  
Northern Ohio University- 71

Softball

Game 1:  
UWO - 4

UW-Superior - 1

Game 2:

UWO - 5  
Lawrence University -1

Baseball

UWO - 14  
Webster University - 3

Gymnastics

UWO - 191.750  
UW-Whitewater - 190.825

Sunday, March 5

Softball

Game 1:  
UWO - 8

Lawrence University - 2

Game 2:

UWO - 3  
UW-Superior - 0

Baseball

UWO - 6  
Benedictine University - 12

Monday, March 6

Baseball

UWO - 5  
Webster University - 4

Upcoming Events

Friday, March 10

Men’s Basketball

vs. Rowan University (Mo), 3:45  
p.m. at Alliance, Ohio

Wrestling

At NCAA Division III Championships at Roanoke, Va.

Track and Field

At NCAA Division III Indoor Championships at Birmingham, Ala.

Saturday, March 11

Gymnastics

vs. WIAC Championship/NCGA West Regional at 2 p.m.

Wrestling

At NCAA Division III Championships at Roanoke, Va.

Track and Field

At NCAA Division III Indoor Championships at Birmingham, Ala

Softball

Games 1&2: vs. MSOE at UWO Rec Plex at 1:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.

Baseball

Game 1: vs. DePauw University (Ind.) at Lexington, Ky., at 11 a.m.  
Game 2: at Transylvania University (Ky.) at 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 12

Baseball

At Transylvania University (Ky.)

UWO men advance to Sweet 16

By Jacob Link  
linkj13@uwosh.edu

Head coach Matt Lewis won his 100th game at the helm of the UW Oshkosh men’s basketball team as the Titans grinded out the victory against Hope College 51-50 at the Kolf Sports Center March 4 in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

UWO advanced to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament with the win and will take on Rowan University (N.J.) (24-5) March 10.

Lewis, who began coaching at UWO in 2019, has compiled a 100-24 record in five seasons and led the Titans to a national championship in 2019.

Senior guard Will Mahoney said the Titans were able to grind out the win because of the confidence the team had.

“Coach tells us to believe in the moment, and in the huddles he kept telling us ‘guys, we’re going to win this game’ and we stayed confident,” Mahoney said. “Confidence is what it takes, and knowing that you’re going to win helps us execute on the court.”

Mahoney scored a game-high 23 points in the win, going 5-12 from behind the arc and grabbing nine rebounds. Senior Forward Levi Borchert had his 17th double-double of the season, scoring 12 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. Forward Jonah Rindfleisch shot 50% from the floor in the game, finishing with eight points. A total of six other Titans combined for eight points as UWO shot just 35% from the field in the game.

Mahoney said he could feel himself heat up from the floor during the game.

“Once a couple go down, shots are easier to get up and every time you make one, you get more confidence to shoot the next one,” Mahoney said, “My teammates were



Katie Pulvermacher / Advance-Titan

UWO’s Hunter Plamann drives to the basket against a Flying Dutchman defender March 4.

finding me, and it was just a great effort all around.”

The Flying Dutchmen had three players finish in double figures, with forward Evan Thomas leading the way with 14 points and eight rebounds. Guard Clayton Dykhouse scored 13 points for Hope while center Gabe Quillan finished with 11 points and 10 boards.

The two teams traded baskets for the first five minutes of the game until Hope’s Thomas scored five straight points with 13 minutes to go in the first half to give the Flying Dutchmen a 13-8 lead following a 3-pointer. UWO took its first lead of the game when Mahoney knocked down a 3-pointer to cap off a 5-0 run and give the Titans a one-point advantage.

With just under eight minutes to play in the first half, Borchert

extended the Oshkosh lead to five points after a layup, but Hope responded with a 5-0 run to tie the game at 21. A Mahoney 3-pointer jump started a 7-0 run for Oshkosh, who took a 28-21 lead with under five minutes to go in the period. The Flying Dutchmen hit a pair of 3-pointers in the final two minutes, but UWO went into the break leading 30-26.

After Quinn Steckbauer missed a layup to begin the second half, Thomas nailed a 3-pointer for Hope and kickstarted an 8-0 run for the Flying Dutchmen, giving them a 34-30 lead with 18 minutes to play. The Titans responded with a 7-0 run after a timeout, leading 42-39 after Mahoney converted on another 3-pointer.

Hope tied the game at 44 after a 3-pointer from Tanner Wieg-

erink 3-pointer, but Mahoney put UWO ahead for good when he hit a 3-pointer with six minutes to play. Quillan cut the lead to one point after a layup, and the Flying Dutchmen had a chance to win the game at the buzzer, but Thomas’ shot hit the side of the rim.

Mahoney said the team knew it just needed to breathe after Hope tied the game late in the second half.

“Coach (Lewis) talks a lot about just breathing and being present in the moment,” he said. “We knew good things would come from listening to him. We were just able to string some stops together and then convert on the other end.”

Oshkosh will take on Rowan in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament March 10 at 3:45 p.m. in Alliance, Ohio.

Women’s basketball falls to Ohio Northern

By Jacob Link  
linkj13@uwosh.edu

After advancing to the second round of the NCAA tournament, the UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team fell to Ohio Northern University 71-60 March 5 at the ONU Sports Center.

In the first round, the Titans (20-9) defeated Washington and Lee University 58-55 March 4 at the ONU Sports Center to advance to the second round of the tournament.

Against ONU (25-4), Oshkosh’s Kayce Vaile scored a team-high 15 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. Senior guard Jenna Jorgensen finished with 14 points and six rebounds, scoring nine of her points from the foul line. UWO outscored ONU 15-8 in bench points, but the Titans shot just 30% from the floor.

The Polar Bears had four of their starters finish in double figures, with guard Brynn Serbin scoring a game-high 19 points and dishing out nine assists. Center Brooke Allen and guard Abi Akamine scored 16 and 14 points, respectively, as the team shot 43% from the field. Forward Kristen Luersman had a double-double in the contest, scoring 12 points and grabbing 14 boards.



Courtesy of ONU Athletics

UWO’s Ava Douglas (5) and Kayce Vaile (34) defend an ONU player in Oshkosh’s second round NCAA tournament matchup March 4.

The two teams traded baskets to start the first quarter until Oshkosh’s Sarah Hardwick hit a 3-pointer and Vaile converted on a layup to give UWO a 12-8 lead. The Titans held onto a four point lead until the final minute of the period when ONU went on a 4-0 run to close out the

first quarter, tying the game at 17.

Akamine gave the Polar Bears the lead with a free-throw, but UWO’s Ava Douglas hit a 3-pointer to give the Titans a two-point advantage early in the second quarter. A pair of free-throws from Allen kickstarted a 8-0 run for ONU, who took a 26-20

lead with just under six minutes to go until halftime. Oshkosh cut the Polar Bear advantage to three points, but ONU went on a 7-0 run after a Serbin 3-pointer late in the half to grow the lead to 10 points. ONU extended their advantage to 12 points with 24 seconds to go in the second quarter, but Jorgensen was fouled on a 3-point attempt and converted on all three free throws to cut the lead to 37-28 going into the break.

UWO could not cut into the Polar Bear lead for most of the third quarter, and Serbin drained another 3-pointer to put ONU up 13 points. With 24 seconds to go in the period, Oshkosh’s Kate Huml hit a 3-pointer as the third quarter ended with Ohio Northern on top 52-42.

Vaile cut the ONU lead to eight points after a free throw early in the fourth quarter, but Akamine responded with a 3-pointer for ONU to give the Polar Bears a 58-47 advantage. The teams traded baskets throughout the period until Akamine scored five straight points to extend the ONU lead to 15 points. The Titans went cold in the final quarter, shooting 19% from the field, and Ohio Northern cruised to an 11-point victory.

# Sports

## Gymnastics, wrestling seniors say farewell

By Nolan Swenson  
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At the end of every season, UW Oshkosh senior athletes hang up their title and advance into their futures. Here, we'll feature two senior Titans: wrestling's Will Dixon and gymnastics' Adana Amor.

Amor fell for UWO's gymnastics team and campus her senior year of high school, but a lot more work came before she became a senior gymnast in Titan athletics.

Amor said she began gymnastics early in life after attending a party where she began experimenting with a gym.

"I started gymnastics at 6, which is kinda late," she said. "I started because I was invited to a birthday party at a gymnastics gym. We played games and went on some of the equipment. After the party, I told my mom I liked doing all of that, so I got enrolled a week after the party."

During her career, Amor said she had times of doubt due to injuries, but was inspired by seeing the college-level performances and continued her path.

"In middle and high school, I had injuries that set me back in the sport," she said. "It made me doubt if I wanted to continue with gymnastics, but when I started watching college gymnastics on TV and realized that I wanted that to be me."

She said that through connections with a previous teammate, she made a connection with Coach Lauren Karnitz, setting her on a path of being a UWO Titan.

During Amor's first two seasons at UWO, COVID-19 struck, which she said made her time on the team difficult as it made

it hard to transition into college-level competition.

"Freshman year was difficult, the transition between college and highschool was difficult," she said. "I wasn't able to be on the lineup and obviously COVID-19 made it difficult because we would've gone to nationals that year, so it was hard as a team."

During her junior year, she said that injuries inhibited her from contributing to the team beyond encouragement, but she still did all she could.

"I unfortunately had shoulder surgery my junior year," she said. "I tried to support the team whenever I could. Even though I couldn't contribute to the team gymnast wise, I always contributed to emotionally supporting my teammates."

She said that this season, she's come in with a strong mentality making the most of all of her chances.

"My mindset now is to enjoy every moment, and I have to trust in my team and myself to do skills I've been using every year," she said. "Being in the moment, staying in the moment and just having fun. I'm very confident that we can make nationals this year. We're a very talented team, and we just need to be confident." Dixon began his sport later in life, but said that it still plays a major role as he has to confront what it is to not be an athlete.

"Wrestling was my whole life for the longest time so it was a year-round thing for me," he said. "When it was done I asked myself what else do I like."

He began the sport that became so central in his life in eighth grade, with the intention of using it to improve his performance in a different sport; instead he found



Courtesy of Adana Amor

Oshkosh's Adana Amor swings on the parallel bars in a gymnastics meet at the Kolf Sports Center.

immediate success in wrestling.

"I started wrestling in 8th grade, and before then I played basketball, but a football coach wanted me to wrestle because he was a coach," Dixon said. "He kept on asking and I figured I'd give it a try and I made it to state my first year."

Dixon continued wrestling until his freshman year of college, when he played football at Concordia University (Mn.), until he said he began to miss out on what his friends were accomplishing in college wrestling.

"Originally, I didn't wrestle in high school, but I saw my friends going to state in college, so I decided to transfer from St. Paul

University to UW-Eau Claire," he said. "I transferred to Eau Claire, then transferred to Oshkosh fall of 2019 junior year due to them offering engineering."

Dixon wrestled for two years in an environment he said was welcoming and allowed him to engage with the team.

"It was a really welcoming environment and I loved it immediately," he said. "The following year, I ended up getting the starting spot which was something I had worked for a long time. I didn't make it to nationals, but it was still a good season. The following year was COVID-19 and it was all training."

After that year, he said he took

a year away from school to join the Army, returning to UWO in Fall 2022 to wrestle.

"This semester started out really good, but I've been unlucky with injuries," he said. "I tore my ACL and I worked hard to improve. My first match against UW-Eau Claire, the guy I was wrestling was top-five in the country. I haven't wrestled in a while since I was in the army, but it ended up being a close match. This year, I performed at my highest level so far, even though it got cut short due to how many concussions I've received."

Read about the gymnastics and wrestling teams at [advancetitan.com](http://advancetitan.com).

## UWO track and field to send 21 to national indoor meet

By Nolan Swenson  
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UW Oshkosh track and field participated in its last indoor meet at both Ripon College and Wartburg College for the final qualifier meet.

The meet had no team scores, and was focused on giving athletes a final chance at qualifying for nationals, hosted in Alabama.

Five female athletes qualified for the national meet. Three athletes qualified for long distance events and two for field events. On the track, Cyna Madigan and Libby Geisness will race the 800-meter and Amelia Lehman will take on the mile run.

Katie Fruth and Brenna Masloroff will participate in shot put, with Masloroff also throwing the weight.

On the men's side, 16 Titans qualified for nationals with four qualifying as alternates.

For sprinters, Keegan Cullison and Jaylen Grant will race in the 60-meter sprint and Londyn Little will race in the 200-meter. The men's 4x400 relay also

qualified, composed of Little, Ryan Potter, Reid Marquardt and Devin Williams.

In the mid distance, Steven Potter will race in the 800-meter with RJ Rosshart and Aden Sears racing in the heptathlon.

For the jumping events, Caleb Cornelius and Charlie Nolan will compete in the high jump. For the long jump, Abdul-Karim

Toheeb-Lawal will be the sole competitor, as will Johnathan William in the triple jump.

Finally, Eli Tranel and Zach Zirgibel will be Oshkosh's pole vaulters in nationals.

In total, 21 Titans will represent UWO at Birmingham, Alabama, for the Division III indoor track and field national championships.



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Amelia Lehman runs in the mile event with a time of 4:54.06.

## Sports roundup

### Baseball

The UW Oshkosh baseball team won two games against Webster University (Mo.) over the weekend, but fell to Benedictine University (Ill.) March 5 in a three-game road trip in Sauget, Illinois.

The Titans (4-1) took down Webster 14-3 and 5-4, respectively, before falling to Benedictine 12-6 in 10 innings.

Webster (2-4) jumped out to a 3-0 lead March 6 in the fourth inning. UWO scored three runs over the next two innings to tie the game. Webster led by one run until UWO scored two runs in the top of the ninth. Oshkosh's Connor Brinkman held the Gorloks scoreless in the bottom half of the inning, and UWO hung on to win 5-4.

Oshkosh fell behind March 4 when Webster scored two runs in the first four innings. The Titans scored 10 runs in the seventh and eighth innings as the Titans went on to win 14-3.

UWO took the lead against Benedictine (4-2) March 5 in the first inning and scored four runs over the next three innings. The Eagles loaded the bases in the top

of the sixth inning, and Benedictine scored three runs to cut the deficit to one.

Benedictine went on to tie the game in the next frame and the game went into extra innings. UWO fell apart in the 10th inning, allowing six runs and going scoreless in the bottom half of the 10th as Benedictine held on to win 12-6.

The Titans will take on DePauw University (Ind.) (4-4) March 11 in Lexington, Kentucky at 11 a.m.

### Softball

The UW Oshkosh softball team hosted three teams that played seven games inside the Rec Plex on the UW Oshkosh campus.

The Titans remained undefeated on the season, winning all four games.

On Saturday the Titans ended the day strong with a 4-1 win over UW-Superior and a 5-1 win against Lawrence University.

On Sunday UWO claimed both games in the doubleheader, with an 8-2 win over Lawrence and a 3-0 win over UW-Superior.

The Titans will play a doubleheader against Milwaukee School of Engineering on March 11.

“Whatcha Think?”

What are your thoughts on a potential tuition increase at UWO?



Isabella, sophomore  
“I feel like they’re not very transparent with us as to where our tuition dollars go. We’re paying a lot already, so I don’t really know what that money would go toward.”



Jade, senior  
“I think if they were to raise tuition it would be bad because I don’t get anything from financial aid. So, if they were you increase tuition, I’d probably be upset... if it was a significant amount.”



Emma, sophomore  
“I know some of my friends are paying for [tuition] on their own, so I don’t think it’s going to be the most favorite idea.”



Fulton, freshman  
“I think it’s a little unfortunate. I mean some people are struggling to pay tuition, but if it makes the university better and the school sees it fit, I think we can try it.”



Advance-Titan File Photo

About 80% of college students consume alcohol to some degree, and 40% engage in binge drinking, according to Alcohol Rehab Guide.

Are fake IDs worth the risk?

By Aubrie Selsmeyer  
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In 2021, about 32.2% of college students admitted to possessing a fake ID, according to The Law Offices of Scott J. Limmer. After a long week of classes, the consensus among college kids is that Friday and Saturday nights are for the bars. For those who are of legal age, walking into the bar is a breeze. For those who are not, it’s an adrenaline rush. Will tonight be the night the bouncer does a double take at your “too good to be taken at a DMV” photo? Drinking is a huge part of college. Some may argue that many students center their college experience around it. No one wants to be left at home while their friends go out and

stumble back at 3 in the morning with by-the-slice Polito’s Pizza. For many college students, drinking is a meaningful part of their social identity. It allows people to gather with friends and make memories they may or may not remember the next day. So, what’s so wrong with college students wanting to have a little bit of fun? Well, not only are fake IDs very illegal, they promote a reliance on alcohol in order to enjoy your college experience. Getting caught with a fake ID can be pricey, too. Individuals found to have a fake ID in Wisconsin can be charged between \$300 and \$1,250. Violators may also lose driving privileges and be sentenced to community service.

How is it that fake IDs are illegal, and yet so easy to obtain? When you search websites that produce fake IDs online – you’d be surprised at the output. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of websites offering IDs from every state in the U.S. There are ways around using a fake ID called “borrowed IDs,” according to Absec. “Borrowed IDs are now the most common form of ID fraud. It is estimated that 95% of all ID fraud originates with a borrowed ID,” according to Absec, a company that specializes in bar security training. Borrowed IDs are usually from older siblings and or older friends who buy a new state-issued ID. What about students who wish not to risk it and are waiting un-

til they are of legal age to hit the bars? Nothing, it’s totally okay. Alcohol is not essential in order to have a memorable college experience. Nor is it weird to not embrace the party scene. College is portrayed to be a lot of things in a lot of ways by media, but at the end of the day you have the right to enjoy college in your own way. People like alcohol because it turns you into someone you normally aren’t, and for some people this is not appealing. Whether you dig the adrenaline rush of a fake ID or enjoy a night in on the futon – college is what you decide to make of it. You can still get Polito’s Pizza sober at 3 in the morning if you really want to.

Letter to the Editor

Students need better financial education

By Evan Huiting  
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With inflation numbers and interest rates soaring, it’s more important now than ever that schools give the general population the financial education they sorely lack. Public schools do a fine job of giving students their basic education and teaching them the skills needed to be employable. But they more often than not neglect to teach them what to do with their money after they work hard for it. If you ask a randomly assigned group of people, most likely they will say that they contribute their wealth into their 401k or Individual Retirement Accounts and have their employers match them, but that’s all a large majority of them ever do. They work hard all their lives,

saving up their money in a retirement account so that hopefully when they retire and pull their funds out they are able to live off that sum until their passing, the “American Dream.” Most people will agree that this is what you are supposed to do and that it is a smart plan, but there is so much wasted potential with this mindset. For a lot of people it may not even work, depending on the cost of their lifestyle. The problem with this is that as the U.S. dollar continues to be worth less, the money that these people are saving in their bank accounts and retirement accounts may not even be able to keep up with inflation. Schools need to take responsibility for the long-term wealth of students and teach them more ways to invest in their futures. The number of people today that don’t even know what a fi-

nancial statement is alarming enough in itself. According to businessman Keither Cunningham in an article by Tony Robbins, ““Only 50% of business owners get financial statements, and 3% read them.”” Average people will spend eight-plus hours a day working for money, but won’t spend fifteen minutes learning how to invest the money they earn to start

receiving other types of income besides earned. With the financial climate, it may not be feasible for a lot of people to continue to simply earn money and spend it. It is important for schools to continue to raise educated and employable people, but it’s just as important to teach them what to do with their money as it is to teach them how to earn it.

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.

# Anne Vetter showcases collection at Priebe



Courtesy of Anne Vetter  
Anne Vetter’s exhibit, “Love is not the last room’ centers on their perception of their ethnicity, gender and queerness through photos of family during leisure and play.

By Nolan Swenson  
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Artist Anne Vetter presented their work for an art exhibit at the UW Oshkosh Priebe Gallery named “Love is not the last room,” which will be showcased until March 16.

The collection centers on Vetter’s perception of their ethnicity, gender and queerness. Vetter does this through the lens of intimacy within family during leisure and play. Vetter said that even if viewers don’t understand the deeper meanings, it’s still a beautiful gallery.

“I hope the photos stand alone as strong images,” they said. “On the surface, it’s about family, intimacy, leisure and play. When you learn more about gender, Jewishness, queerness, you understand. If you don’t get the context, you can still know you looked at something beautiful that made you feel something.”

Vetter’s work on the collection began in 2019 and was a four-year process, continuing throughout the pandemic. Due to the home intimacy of their work, Vetter said they were lucky compared to other artists due to their work being shot at their home and quarantining with their subjects.

They said that they’ve come out of the four-year shooting experience more confident in their art and gender identity.

“I’m much more confident now — I have a lot more of a certain visual voice when it comes to the work,” they said. “I’ve just become more confident, even as a child I knew I was not one way or another, and

I went to school pretending I was just a woman. By the time I got to college, I realized I was genderfluid/nonbinary. I think I’ve changed for the better, I’d like to say.”

Through their work process Vetter attempted to form the themes in an organic manner, not attempting to push out preconceived ideas.

“I didn’t force myself to analyze the work; I was just making photos,” they said. “As I continued to shoot over the past few years, I allowed myself to think about and explore different themes; but I don’t try to push them in the photographs, I just let them appear organically. It’s an organic process, responding to my family, myself and light.”

One of the instances of family in their work is a piece where Vetter used a picture of their brother in comparison with them. They said that the work utilizes their brother as a stand-in to project their masculine side.

“Self Portrait as my Brother Douglass’ is one of the more explicit pieces,” they said. “I hoped that it would attune people to gender, as my little brother and I are practically identical except for his mustache. The piece is an interesting conversation on the bond that siblings share whether it’s genetic or compassion. The fact that Douglass let go of himself and became me for work is such an incredible gift.”

Two other pieces they said they are proud of are “Douglas and Dad Wrestling in the Bay” and “Pond Games,” both of which heavily feature intimacy of contact in the family setting.



Courtesy of Anne Vetter  
The piece “Pond Games” features Vetter’s mom and is an important piece to them.

“I grew up in a very touchy and wrestling family,” they said. “That photo [of my brother and dad] is a great exploration of using fighting to connect. In the same vein, I love the photo of my mom and I called ‘Pond Games’ of her floating in the water. I’d say that those are important pieces.”

Although they have their own explanations for the art, Vetter said that they can’t control how people will take or interpret their art and that viewers can make what they want of it.

“I leave it up for interpretation; everyone has their favorite or the one they find the most interesting,” they said. “It’s my

work, but I have to let go of control — it’s out there in the world and people are going to read it how they read it.”

Vetter said that, in reflection, this experience has been positive and that they’re proud of everything they’ve accomplished.

“I feel really proud of my work; I feel proud that I did it and knowing how much work went into it and how much work my family put into it as well,” they said. “It was the first time since 2017 that I went to see my work in a show. Usually it’s too far to go somewhere for one night. It’s also my first solo show, so standing in the room

and seeing the work felt very successful, this gives the feeling that I hoped it would.”

Vetter said that they are happy with the work they’ve put out and are looking to the future. They are very excited for people to be able to see their work.

“Getting to talk about the work is amazing and it’s very exciting and it makes me hopeful for what is next,” Vetter said. “I appreciate when people go to the show and if anyone ever wants to chat about it or their own art or their work, I’ll always chat about it. I can’t promise I’ll be the most eloquent, but I’ll try.”

# UWO theater opens first spring production

By Mattie Beck  
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The UW Oshkosh Theatre Arts Center opens “Peter and the Star Catcher,” a play written by Rick Elice, on March 9 and runs through March 12.

The play is a part of their New Horizons season and is the first production of the spring semester.

“Peter and the Star Catcher” is based on the novel “Peter and the Starcatchers” by Dave Berry and Ridley Pearson and follows an orphan named Peter on his fantasy adventures.

The UW Oshkosh play is directed by the Head of the Acting and Directing Program, Jane Purse-Wiedenhoeft, who was excited to direct the show for the story it tells.

“I loved the improvisational playfulness of the story,” she said. “The fact that it is a ‘what if’ pre-story to the Peter Pan story makes it an interesting project.”

The cast has been rehearsing for the production since the spring semester started, putting a lot of time and effort into it.

“The cast has been rehearsing 4-5 nights a week plus some weekend hours since the beginning of the spring semester,” Wiedenhoeft said. “Rehearsals are usually 3-4 hours.”

The 12-person cast has pulled together to create a strong production with a beautiful set build, according to Wiedenhoeft.

“The ship deck and desert island settings add to the playfulness of the play, as do the songs and colorful costumes,” she said. “The story of Peter Pan, the orphan, is actually a rather sad one, but when a little bit of magic is thrown in, the world of



Courtesy of Shelby Edwards  
“Peter and the Star Catcher” is the first production of the spring semester for the UWO Theatre Arts Center opening March 9.

the imagination takes off.”

Wiedenhoeft said the cast will be opening the show for the weekend on March 9.

“We are excited to share the production with our audiences,” she said.

One issue that has arisen isn’t

with the production itself, but rather with tickets and being able to sell them.

“Our ticketing system vendor has been out of commission for several days and may not be available for a few more,” Wiedenhoeft said.

Even with the online system down, tickets are still being sold for the production at the UW Oshkosh Theatre Arts Center Box Office, located at 1010 Algoma Blvd.

Tickets are being sold from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday through

Friday and also an hour before each production (cash or check only).

The productions of “Peter and the Star Catcher” will be held on March 9, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and March 12 at 2 p.m.

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Across

- 1-Construction beam
- 5-Overwhelmed
- 9- Jurist Fortas
- 12-Indifferent
- 13- Back in
- 15- Romance lang.
- 16- Mine entrance
- 17- Sleek swimmer
- 18-Timbuktu’s land
- 19-Social crusader’s wish
- 21-Narcissism amok
- 23- Actual
- 25- Hang-up
- 26-Krazy \_\_\_\_
- 29- School founded by Henry VI
- 31- Potemkin setting
- 35-Exist
- 36- Resides
- 38- Muse of love poetry
- 39- Salon offering
- 41- Small change
- 43- Belgian rive
- 44- Danger
- 46- Trades
- 48- Posed
- 49- Old call to arms
- 51- Swerve sharply
- 52-Peruvian singer Sumac

- 53- Dear, dear!
- 55- Ova
- 57- Capital of West Bengal
- 61- Unit of capacity
- 65- The third man
- 66- Capital of Vietnam
- 68-River in central Switzerland
- 69- Teen spots?
- 70- Nasal cavity
- 71- Vista
- 72-Code-breaking org.
- 73- Portnoy’s creator
- 74- Formerly, formerly

Down

- 1-Nicholas II was the last Russian one
- 2-Predict
- 3- In your dreams!
- 4- Copter part
- 5- Odoriferous
- 6- Drenched
- 7- Novel ending
- 8- At the bottom of the barrel
- 9- \_\_\_\_ impasse
- 10- Indonesian resort island
- 11- “On the Water front” director Kazan

- 14- Home of the Black Bears
- 15- Set of mental pictures
- 20- Film spool
- 22- Created
- 24-Adored
- 26- Greek letter
- 27- Staggering
- 28- \_\_\_\_ firma
- 30- Hawaiian state birds
- 32- Pert
- 33- Water vapor
- 34- Trunk line
- 37- Old
- 40- Extraordinary occurrence
- 42- Indolent
- 45- Pip
- 47- Nintendo rival
- 50- Course with pluses and minuses
- 54- Flight segment
- 56- Bond servant
- 57- James of “The Godfather”
- 58- Basics
- 59- Actress Olin
- 60- \_\_\_\_ Domini
- 62- Burrow
- 63- Raw materials
- 64-Salamander
- 67- Not in