

The Advance-Titan

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Willem Flaughter/ Advance-Titan

Top: The gymnastics team celebrates with the national championship trophy. Bottom left: Emily Buffington celebrates the team's win. Bottom right: Adana Amor holds the trophy.

Gymnastics secures another national title

By Nolan Swenson
swensonno56@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh gymnastics took their second consecutive National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) championship at Winona University last Saturday.

The Titans scored 192.525 points for their sixth championship win and fourth NCGA title, as well as the university's 49th time as a national champion.

The Titans scored 192.5 points at the meet, edging out UW-La Crosse by 0.2 points to secure their fourth NCGA national championship. The point total was UWO's third highest in program history for a national meet.

This marks the first time in program history that the UWO gymnastics team won a back-to-back national title, and head coach Lauren Karnitz became the only coach in program history to win multiple NCGA championships.

UWO scored 48.050 in the vault, with Reanna McGiboney taking the high score for the team with 9.75.

McGiboney said that a contributing factor to the win was the team's ability to block out the competition.

"I think that something that helped is that we stayed in our bubble," she said. "We focused on what our team was doing and how we would overcome adversity, not on the other teams."

A factor of the adversity was loss, which UWO suffered only once. McGiboney said that the loss to UW-La Crosse helped the team form a mindset of victory.

"The loss to La Crosse was good and it changed our mindsets," she said. "We were so used to winning that when we came back it changed our mindset and made us want to win more. Not only did we win at nationals, we wanted to beat them again ... After the loss, we sat down with each other and changed our mindsets."

In the bars, the Titans earned a cumulative score of 47.525. Rahdea Jarvis took the Oshkosh lead with a score of 9.575, only being bested by six other opponents.

The Titans scored 48.550 on the balance beam, clustering together in the 9.200-9.775 range. Lydia Hayden scored 9.775, taking All-America third team honors. She said that not only was the team internally supported throughout the endeavor, but externally supported as well.

"Interacting with our parents and fans keeps our energy up," she said. "It's amazing to have a support system and it helps us stay in the moment."

Finally, in the floor event, UWO had a total of 48.400 points, closing out the championship for the Titans.

McGiboney tied for third place on the floor exercise with a score of 9.8 and the Titans earned four individual All-America honors.

Trinity Sawyer, Mia Lucero, Hayden and McGiboney earned All-America medals after placing first through eighth in the events. Additionally, Adana Amor, Haley Volstad and Kennedy Springer were named NCGA Academic All-Americans.

The Titans closed their season once again as national champions, suffering only a sole loss to UW-La Crosse on their path. The Titans will return next winter after two consecutive wins, with high expectations for the next season.

Hayden said that nationals was a team win, where everyone did their part in order to support the team.

"We were close as a team, it's truly a family," she said. "We want to push and uplift every one of us to do better. We have a lot of talent on our team, we don't have just one individual. It's everyone who comes and does their job day in and out."

McGiboney said that the team isn't getting ahead of themselves and will focus on building off of practical foundations.

"It would be amazing (to win another national championship), but we can't get too far ahead of ourselves," she said. "We need to start preparing, but the way to get to another title is to get better one meet at a time, and in the off-season, one practice at a time."

Supreme Court race huge

By Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

April 4, 2023 marks an important upcoming election for Wisconsin: selecting a new Wisconsin Supreme Court member. The election has gained national attention for the divisive policy opinions surrounding abortion and gerrymandering. In fact, this race has become the most expensive judicial election in the country, with a price tag of over \$20 million.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court race brings two candidates: constitutional conservative Daniel Kelly and progressive Janet C. Protasiewicz. The major issues being addressed include abortion rights, redistricting election maps and voting rules for the 2024 presidential election.

Supreme Court elections are meant to be nonpartisan with the candidates running on the issues at large rather than political party affiliation; however, that is not the case in this election.

Kelly was elected to the Supreme Court by former Gov. Scott Walker in 2016, but lost reelection to Jill Karofsky in 2020.

In Kelly's time serving on the high court, he decided on many high-profile cases including being in the majority in decisions that struck down Gov. Tony Evers' stay-at-home order in 2020, shifted power away from Evers, required the state schools superintendent to get permission from the governor to write state rules and ruled that Madison's transit agency could not ban guns on buses under a 2011 law that allowed people to carry concealed weapons.

Kelly's career has not been void of controversy. In 2018, before Walker left office after losing reelection to Evers, Republican lawmakers attempted to pass legislation to move Wisconsin's 2020 presidential primary to help Kelly in his 2020 race.

Ultimately, the \$7 million effort failed.

There were also multiple cases that involved possible conflicts of interest. Kelly did not recuse himself from cases that involved organizations that he had close ties with.

For example, Kelly received \$1,000 from board members of the nonprofit conservative law firm Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty which represented petitioners in *Koschkee v. Taylor*.

Kelly ultimately joined the majority opinion ruling in their favor.

Kelly is running as a "defender of our constitutional rights and unwavering advocate for the rule of law." Kelly has worked as a *Turn to Election* / Page 4

Advance-Titan

Phone: 920-424-3048

Email: atitan@uwosh.edu

Website: advancetitan.com

Editor-in-Chief
Katie Pulvermacher
pulvek45@uwosh.edu

Managing Editor
Kelly Hueckman
hueckk24@uwosh.edu

News Editor
Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

Assistant News Editor
Josh Lehner
lehnerjo70@uwosh.edu

Arts & Entertainment Editor
Mattie Beck
beckm88@uwosh.edu

Co-Sports Editor
Jacob Link
linkj13@uwosh.edu

Co-Sports Editor
Nolan Swenson
swensonno56@uwosh.edu

Opinion Editor
Aubrie Selsmeyer
selsmeyeau72@uwosh.edu

Advertising Manager
Luke Bussey
busseylu85@uwosh.edu

Social Media Editor
Ellie Ramsay
ramsayel01@uwosh.edu

Web Editor
Cassidy Johnson
johnsonca51@uwosh.edu

Copy Chief
Kyiah Nelson
nelsok45@uwosh.edu

Copy Desk Editors
Savannah Bartelt, Trent Allaback

Graphic Designer
Michael Buckner
bucknm86@uwosh.edu

Staff Writers
Brandon Cobb, Doug Newhouse, Claudia Miller, Payton Murphy, Alexis Schaffer, Frankie Kerknof

Photographers
Kayla Curtis, Charlie Bruecker, Morgan Feltz, Willem Flaughter

Distribution Manager
Doug Newhouse
newhousedo78@uwosh.edu

Faculty Adviser
Barb Benish
benish@uwosh.edu

About the Newspaper
The Advance-Titan is an independent student newspaper published on campus since 1894. The paper is written and edited by students at UW Oshkosh who are solely responsible for content and editorial policy. Any UW Oshkosh student from all three campuses is welcome to work on the newspaper staff.

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



Advance-Titan Photo

The Advance-Titan took home 17 awards at the 2022 Collegiate Better Newspaper Contest in Madison, including winning first place for website design, breaking news reporting, feature writing and editorial writing.

Advance-Titan staff win 17 awards

By Barb Benish
benish@uwosh.edu

The Advance-Titan staff received 17 awards in the 2022 Collegiate Better Newspaper Contest that were awarded Friday at the Wisconsin Newspaper Association Convention.

Eligible entries were published from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2022, and included writing, graphic design, page design and photography.

The Advance-Titan website took first place among all the colleges entered, with the judge writing: “Good nav bar. Good layout down the rest of the page. Website certainly fulfills a community role as evidenced by the opportunities for advertising, and by the type of content appearing on the homepage. Good usage of photos on the majority of posts, including the differences in sizing.” The web editor is Cassidy Johnson.

Current Editor-in-Chief and former Managing Editor and News Editor Katie Pulvermacher received first place in Breaking News Reporting, first place in Feature Writing and a third place and honorable mention in Page Design. The breaking news story “Keep our job here, keep our people near” detailed a protest over a proposal to outsource UWO custodial positions. The judge wrote: “Very local and timely. Reporter cited a number of interviews and what it would cost those jobs.”

Pulvermacher’s feature story, “Save a kitten this holiday season,” was about the Oshkosh Area Humane Society fostering cats due to an influx of kittens. The judge wrote: “This is a great story. Kept my attention until the end (and I am not especially fond of cats), it was well organized and logical so the reader could keep up and make sense of the material, as well as understand how this is a positive move for the community. It was just a well-done, well-written story. Great job!”

Her Page Design awards were

third place for “Vanishing Act” which “erased” students in a classroom to illustrate UWO’s retention issues and honorable mention for a two-page spread on the Oshkosh Area Humane Society looking for foster homes for kittens. The judge wrote for the retention story: “The visual at the top of the page has a strong reader appeal and makes you read the cutline to find why there are missing parts. Nice idea.” For the cat spread, the judge wrote: “One need not be a kitten fan to appreciate this page. Kittens are used nicely on the page and draw the reader’s attention. Headlines work well and interesting use of white space and creativity of page. Took some thought to put page together.”

News editor Anya Kelley took first place in the Freedom of Information Award category for “A-T challenges UMC interview guidelines,” with the judge writing: “This was an outstanding entry in a field of excellent competitors. Well reported and written.”

The Advance-Titan staff swept the Editorial Writing category, taking first, second and third.

Former Opinion Editor and current Managing Editor Kelly Hueckman received first for her editorial “These candidates deserve your vote,” which gave the staff’s recommendations for governor, 54th district state Assembly and U.S. Senate races. The judge wrote: “Kelly delivers a cogent argument so well outfitted with relevant links that reading the essay could get a voter who wasn’t paying attention to the news right up to speed. As a reporter, of course, I liked the defense of journalism; but I also dispassionately enjoyed the prose. It is well written.”

Former Editor-in-Chief Owen Peterson took second in Editorial Writing for “Student journalism must not be censored,” which called out UWO University Marketing and Communications department for making it difficult to get UWO sources to talk to Ad-



vance-Titan reporters in a timely manner. Hueckman also took third in the category for “Too little too late for UWO custodians,” which questioned if the university’s initial consideration to cut custodial and maintenance staff jobs may have compromised their relationship with staff, potentially leading to lower retention rates.

In addition, Hueckman received second-place honors in Arts and Entertainment for a musical review. “UWO’s Grease reclaims the stage” was performed by the UWO Theater Department. The judge wrote: “This story unfolds in layers: It’s event coverage that brings energy and depth to explain how even our ‘old favorites’ can have contemporary relevance. The writer handles well the balance of peppy, flippant fun and political, personal impact, and the photos and quotes demonstrate time spent getting to know the production and its cast, so that the value of what this theater troupe was doing could really be shared with the reader.”

Former Editor-in-Chief Cory Sparks also took first place in Page Design with “What a mess” which detailed how muddy the Algoma Street reconstruction project was with a photo of a footprint in the mud. The judge wrote: “You received my attention immediately. Strong check on visual elements.”

Peterson, who is now working as a copy writer at Schneider in Green Bay, also received a second place in Column Writing for “Should you quiet quit college?” The judge wrote: “This writer answers the question posed by that enticing headline with an engaging and cogent argument.” Peterson also received a third place in Use of Multimedia for “The historical buildings of UWO.”

In the Infographic category, reporter Liam Beran took second place for an election graphic that showed student voting trends. The judge wrote: “Very clean and easy to read.” In addition, graphic artist Josh Fannin took third with his graphic on the Algoma Boulevard reconstruction project. The judge wrote, “I liked the use of the map to get the point across.”

Ad Manager Luke Bussey took second-place honors in the Advertisement category with an online ad for Red’s Piggly Wiggly. The judge wrote: “Neat and simple. I like it.”

Photographer Morgan Feltz took third place in Feature Photography for her Homecoming photos, with the judge writing: “These are good, solid, candid homecoming photos. Good composition and clarity.”

‘We’re not going to lose this war’

UWO professor reflects on life in Iziaslav, Ukraine

By Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

In the one year since Vladimir Putin directed Russian forces to invade Ukraine, more than 8,000 civilians have died and another 13,000 have been injured. Villages have been wiped out and billions of dollars of infrastructure have been destroyed.

But Oksana Katsanivska, an anthropology professor at UW Oshkosh, remains optimistic that Ukraine will survive as she reflects on her year in the United States after leaving her home in Iziaslav, Ukraine.

Jordan Karsten, the department chair of anthropology, global religions and cultures, had a hand in helping Katsanivska and her family get into the United States..

“It was bittersweet to bring Oksana and her family to the U.S.,” Karsten said. “Of course, it is always wonderful to see friends and I was very happy that they were in a safe place. But, I know they would much rather be home, and you feel powerless to help with that.”

Russian forces attacked Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022, and Katsanivska left her home on March 4. She said she’s feeling a little better now after being gone for over a year.

“I love iPhones, but I hate them too,” she said. “They do this ‘one year ago’ thing and (the memories) started popping up on my screen.”



Rubble and debris from buildings clutter the streets of a Ukrainian city. Since Russia’s invasion in February 2022, more than 8 million Ukrainians have fled the country. At least 6,000 Ukrainian children have been taken to Russian camps and other facilities.

Katsanivska said she felt like she was reliving everything, even though she tries not to look back on those days leaving Ukraine.

She recalls seeing photos of her kids in the basement hiding from the bombing sirens, her family traveling to the border and getting to Italy in those first few weeks of the war.

Katsanivska’s mother and father are staying at her house in Ukraine trying to live as normally as they can.

“My mom is planning on re-

planting roses,” Katsanivska said. “She has a lot of stuff to do. She’s being positive, or at least she’s trying to be positive when she’s talking to us.”

Katsanivska’s hometown is located in the eastern part of Ukraine, away from active battle fields. However, bombings are still common in the area.

Although they have been given safe haven in the U.S., Katsanivska and her husband are determined to return home sooner rather than later.

They are here on Katsanivska’s worker visa that she recently renewed for another term.

“I was very optimistic when we came here,” she said. “I didn’t go into the details about the longest period (the university guaranteed me), but I think it was five years,” Katsanivska said. “I don’t wanna think that it’s gonna be needed. I want to think that it’s gonna be over.”

When asked if there was any way to predict how the outcome of the war will go, Katsanivska said

there really is no way to predict anything.

“You could predict it if it was logical, but this is not logical,” she said. “This war is breaking all the rules of logic possible because a smaller — much smaller — country is standing against a much bigger country according to everything.”

Katsanivska expresses great pride in her Ukrainian identity.

“What I can say is that Ukrainians are not losing optimism,” Katsanivska said.

She comes from a small town where she felt like nothing really happened. But now, during war time, people have been opening children’s clubs, cafés and different boutiques.

“It’s so motivating,” she said. “It’s scary to start a business at any time, but especially during war, you know?”

Katsanivska said that before the war when she’d travel abroad, people asked why she ever came home. Now, people ask when she’ll be back.

“Now it’s different. Now, it’s like OK, are you going to come back?” Katsanivska said. “I’m proud to be Ukrainian.”

“I think Putin was trying to destroy Ukrainian identity,” Katsanivska said. “(But) he made it so much stronger and that makes me believe we’re not going to lose this war.”

UWO student wins Miss Oshkosh, talks mental health

‘I’m not really happy about the conversation around mental health’

By Josh Lehner
lehnerjo70@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh student Taylor Swanson, who was recently named Miss Oshkosh 2023, now aims at using her platform to advocate for mental health awareness at UWO and the surrounding community.

Swanson competed against five other women during the March 6 competition, winning a \$3,500 scholarship as well as the highest overall interview award and the Spirit of Miss America Award, earning her an additional \$300 of the nearly \$11,000 in scholarships provided.

Swanson said she gained an interest in pageantry around 2018 when her sister became involved. Her desire to continue, she said, comes from the enjoyment of performing on stage and the scholarship money available in pageantry.

Swanson said that her overall experience in pageantry has been positive and transformative.

“Every pageant I’ve done, I’ve walked out with different insights about my identity and where I feel I fit in,” she said. “Contrary to popular belief, the pageant girls are very nice and supportive. Everyone wants to see you do well.



Courtesy of Thom Hadel, Back Row Photography
UWO student Taylor Swanson is crowned Miss Oshkosh 2023 by Miss Oshkosh 2022 and UWO alumna Kianna Fiedler.

There’s definitely a ‘women support women’ vibe.”

Swanson said that pageantry differs from other group-oriented events like theater because it’s focused on the individual, their hobbies, how they want to appear and their social impact initiative.

Every Miss Oshkosh candidate

must pick a social impact initiative that they will advocate during their year of service, and Swanson chose “Mental Health Mindfulness,” as she has dealt with depression and anxiety and wants to help others who may be struggling.

“From what I’ve experienced, I’m not really happy about the

conversation around mental health right now,” she said. “My pitch — which is part of the competition — mentioned how I hear a lot about how it’s ‘OK to not be OK’ in regards to mental health. That’s a really good start, but I think that we need to move that conversation further to see some significant results. I think promoting a change in the conversation about mental health is another good start.”

Swanson said that, as a community adviser, which helps maintain safety and security in the campus dorms, she’s been constantly reminded of the campus resources as part of her training. She specifically mentioned the UWO Counseling Center, which provides a variety of resources for students struggling with stress, anxiety and other mental health issues.

“As a community adviser, we need to communicate those resources to the students,” she said. “But as Miss Oshkosh, I want to specifically use this public platform as a way to spread this message more to students. Basically, I want to talk to students the way I want to be talked to when I’m struggling with mental health.”

Michelle Hammett, co-director of the Miss Oshkosh Scholarship

Program, said that Miss Oshkosh averages about 60-100 appearances during her year of service, which includes volunteering, speaking, parade appearances and partnerships with organizations.

“Miss Oshkosh is viewed by many as an unofficial ambassador of Oshkosh and its surrounding communities,” Hammett said. “All contestants gain valuable experience and develop life skills that will benefit them throughout their adulthood. The greater Oshkosh area has been very supportive of the program and views Miss Oshkosh as a positive community role model to all ages.”

Hammett said that as Swanson prepares for the Miss Wisconsin competition, she also hopes to advocate her social impact initiative in a few different ways. The state competition will be held June 21-24 in Oshkosh.

“[Swanson] plans to reach others through reducing stigma through positive conversation, education on resources that are accessible to the public and promoting a message of positive self-image,” she said. “We are excited to work with her and are confident she will represent Oshkosh very well.”

Election: Wisco’s important 10-year term

From Page 1

litigator, law clerk and a special prosecutor, making him “uniquely qualified to uphold the principles of judicial conservatism that make Wisconsin a great state,” according to the Vote Dan Kelly website.

Kelly says constitutional conservatism is the “commitment to the original public meaning of that document and faithfully following that in every single case that we decide,” according to PBS Wisconsin.

Protasiewicz’s campaign calls

her a “community leader, a veteran prosecutor and a lifelong advocate for victims of crime.” Protasiewicz has served as a Circuit Court judge for almost a decade.

Before becoming a judge, Protasiewicz served more than 25 years as an assistant district attorney “where she prosecuted serious crimes, and successfully argued in front of the Wisconsin Supreme Court,” as stated by her campaign website.

She’s an active community member, having served on the

boards of the Association of Marquette University Women, the American Red Cross-Wisconsin Chapter, the Polish Heritage Alliance and Marquette University Law School Alumni Association.

In 2017, she received the Community Involvement Award from the Association of Women Lawyers and in 2018, the Women in Law Women of Influence Award from the Wisconsin Law Journal.

Protasiewicz has taken some backlash for running “based on her ‘values’ instead of the law,”

as Ben Voelkel, a senior adviser to Kelly’s campaign, put it.

She also has been criticized for her lack of public appearances with her opponent.

There has only been one debate between the two and there won’t be any more before the April 4 election, according to WisPolitics.com.

Kelly attended a newsmaker luncheon with the Milwaukee Press Club, WisPolitics.com and the Rotary Club of Milwaukee on March 14. Protasiewicz was invit-

ed to that luncheon, but declined due to scheduling.

However, Protasiewicz did attend a forum hosted on March 28 by All Voting is Local, Campus Vote Project and VoteRiders. Kelly’s campaign said they did not receive an invitation for that event.

The Supreme Court election will result in a new justice serving for a 10-year term.

To register to vote and find polling information, visit myvote.wi.gov.

Confused about the referendums? Read this

**By Kyiah Nelson
nelsok45@uwosh.edu**

Three referendum questions will be on the April 4 ballot in Wisconsin, and many people are complaining that the wording is so confusing that they’re not sure what they are voting for or against.

The first two questions are binding and concern conditions of release before conviction and cash bail conditions.

Question 1: “Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution be amended to allow a court to impose on an accused person being released before conviction conditions that are designed to protect the community from serious harm?”

The state of Wisconsin is considering amending its state constitution that allows the state legislature to impose bail conditions on someone awaiting a criminal trial to protect the community from serious bodily harm. “Serious bodily harm” is defined in the constitution as bodily injury that contributes to death or a substantial risk of death, causes serious permanent disfigurement or causes permanent or semi-permanent impairment.

This amendment would expand

the term “serious bodily harm” to “serious harm” and allow the state legislature to define the new term in state law. This expanded definition could include causing mental or emotional harm, physical pain or illness, or serious property damage or economic loss.

Question 2: “Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution be amended to allow a court to impose cash bail on a person accused of a violent crime based on the totality of the circumstances, including the accused’s previous convictions for a violent crime, the probability that the accused will fail to appear, the need to protect the community from serious harm and prevent witness intimidation, and potential affirmative defenses?”

The second proposed amendment of the state constitution has to do with how cash bail can be set. It proposes that “the totality of the circumstances” be included in consideration.

This includes factors such as “the accused’s past convictions for violent crime, the probability that the accused will fail to appear, the need to protect the community from serious harm and prevent witness intimidation, and potential

affirmative defenses,” according to the proposal.

Though there is already a state statute encouraging these considerations, Wisconsin Statute 969, it is not well-known. UWO criminal justice professor David Jones said the difference is in the goal.

“The gist [of statute 969] is to discourage use of bail and and encourage pre-trial release except under exceptional circumstances,” he said. “I think the proposed amendment would tip the balance more in favor of making it easier to keep the accused in custody.”

Wisconsin judges have previously focused more on the factors outlined in the state constitution, especially flight risk, or the likelihood the accused will not return for their court date.

Currently, the constitution says release conditions should be designed “to assure appearance in court, protect members of the community from serious bodily harm or prevent the intimidation of witnesses” and that cash bail “may be imposed ... only upon finding there is a reasonable basis to believe that the conditions are necessary to assure appearance in court.”

The proposed amendment would add “previous convictions

for a violent crime” and “potential affirmative defenses” (such as duress, self-defense or entrapment) to the conditions the court should consider when imposing cash bail in a case of violent crime. It may also open up considerations for other factors at the discretion of the court.

Those in support of these two amendments say these changes will empower judges to prevent criminals from reoffending pending their trial.

Some opposing the amendments say people who are deemed a danger to their community should not be released at all, regardless of how much money they can pay.

Other opponents say the wording of the amendments is ambiguous and misleading and will cause an increase in bail denial and pre-trial detention, which would disproportionately affect low-income individuals, increase racial disparity in the justice system, increase costs for local jails and violate the rights of people to be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Further, they argue that more bipartisan discussion must be had on these issues before any constitutional amendments are made.

The third referendum is advisory only, meaning the outcome of

this vote will not change any state policies.

Question 3: “Shall able-bodied, childless adults be required to look for work in order to receive taxpayer-funded welfare benefits?”

Many Wisconsinites are already subject to work requirements for certain taxpayer-funded benefits such as unemployment insurance and FoodShare benefits, though the latter currently has those requirements on hold due to the pandemic.

The Wisconsin State Journal criticizes the existence of these referendums, especially the third one, saying that “Republicans who run the state Legislature hope to lure more conservatives to the polls by highlighting controversial-sounding issues” and that the wording of the third referendum seeks to “manufacture outrage.”

On a more optimistic note, Jones said the cash bail referendum was intended to make people feel more empowered.

“Sometimes these votes are called for ‘symbolic’ reasons,” he said. “It really doesn’t really affect anything, but gives the appearance of doing so. It makes supporters look/feel they’re being ‘tough on crime.’”

Tiny homes help combat homeless children

**By Payton Murphy
murphypa14@uwosh.edu**

To many, homelessness can seem like a distant concept; it is something that only happens in movies or TV shows for dramatic tension, or something that only is talked about on the news.

Some Oshkosh residents might be generally unbothered by the concept of homelessness, believing that it is something that does not impact our small community and only takes place in far away cities. But the devastating fact of the matter is that homelessness is real and is present all across America, including in Oshkosh.

In the Oshkosh area school system alone, up to 200 students are identified as being homeless each year, according to the Oshkosh Kids Foundation.

The Oshkosh Kids Foundation is a local community organization that is attempting to help decrease that statistic by creating the Tiny House Village, a housing project focused on eliminating homelessness in the Oshkosh area.

The Tiny House Project is headed by Julie Dumke, co-founder and executive director of the Oshkosh Kids Foundation. The mission of the project is to build 32

tiny homes and a community center that will be inhabited by Oshkosh area families struggling with homelessness for durations of 18 months.

“Our target is getting the families and the children into stable living environments,” Dumke said.

According to Dumke, the Tiny House Village is a program somewhat inspired by previous services provided by the Oshkosh Kids Foundation, like motel assistance and security deposits. Unfortunately, after COVID-19 the need for this assistance grew in the Oshkosh area, while the cost of motel rentals also increased.

With the rising costs of motel rooms, the program became unsustainable for families struggling with homelessness. A limited number of shelters and resources in the Oshkosh area for families living through homelessness, along with, a lack of low-income housing in the region, exacerbated the problem.

After a brief period of brainstorming, the Tiny House Village was born. With help from Dumke, Oshkosh Kids Foundation board president Will Deppiesse, local architect Chet Wesenberg, local philanthropists TJ and Veleta Rog-



Advance-Titan File Photo

The tiny homes located in Oshkosh Wisconsin. The Oshkosh Kids Foundation hopes to reduce the homeless children population by giving families a place to live in exchange for civil services.

ers and the rest of the Oshkosh Kids Foundation board, the project was able to get off the ground.

The Tiny House Project not only aims to help demolish poverty by providing housing to families in need, but also aims to assist in other ways as well.

“[Families] are required to participate in services, so whatever brought them to homelessness in the first place, whether it was relationships or financial issues or they couldn’t get a job, they are required to do programming to help move that needle,” Dumke said.

Community members and UWO students can also help with the creation of the Tiny House Village.

The Oshkosh Kids Foundation is actively accepting donations to help with construction efforts for the project. Money can be donated on the Oshkosh Kids Foundation website via credit card or Paypal.

Dumke also suggests that students and student organizations can help the cause by holding donation drives for items such as bedding and towels.

After the Tiny House Village is established, Dumke says the Oshkosh Kids Foundation will be seeking tutors or people who want to do enrichment activities with the children to volunteer time to the project.

Dumke hopes said she hopes the

creation of the Tiny House Village will help families and children in need and give families dealing with homelessness hope for a better future.

“Really, any one of us could be one step away from being a homeless family,” Dumke said. “We’re just trying to give these people a leg up so hopefully they can get on their feet again, and start over, and hopefully be successful.”

The Tiny House Project is scheduled to be completed around July of 2023 and will be located in the city of Oshkosh, on Packer Avenue between Jackson Street and Main Street.



Scoreboard

Monday, March 20

Baseball

UWO - 16
RHIT - 5

Tuesday, March 21

Softball

Game 1:
UWO - 8
Washington & Jefferson College - 0
Game 2:
UWO - 7
Bates College - 1

Baseball

UWO - 4
MSOE - 5

Thursday, March 23

Softball

Game 1:
UWO - 4
St. Olaf College - 0
Game 2:
UWO - 8
Trinity College - 0

Friday, March 24

Softball

Game 1:
UWO - 10
Colby College - 2
Game 2:
UWO - 2
Tufts University - 4

Saturday, March 25

Gymnastics

UWO - 1/6, 192.525 pts.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 1

Baseball

Games 1&2: vs. UW-Whitewater at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Track and Field

Meet 1: at UW-Platteville Pioneer Open at 11 a.m.
Meet 2: at Washington University in St. Louis Invitational time TBA

Sunday, April 2

Baseball

Games 1&2: vs. UW-Whitewater at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4

Softball

Games 1&2: vs. Ripon College at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Baseball

at MSOE at 12 p.m.

A-Trivia

How many national championships has UWO won?

Answer: 49, with the two most recent titles earned by the gymnastics team

By the numbers

-Eli Tranel set the school record for pole vault with a 5.07-meter jump during the indoor season this year.

-Last weekend, Lauren Karnitz became the only coach in UWO gymnastics history to win multiple NCGA championships.

UWO prepares for outdoor season

By Nolan Swenson
swensonno56@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh track and field starts their outdoor season on Saturday after earning nine All-America honors at the indoor track and field national championship.

In comparison to the 2022 season where the men’s indoor team placed 10th nationally, in 2023 the team placed fifth. This was the best indoor placement since 2014, when the team placed third, showing a possibly strong men’s team going into the outdoor season.

Jonathan Wilburn, who earned All-America first-team honors in the triple jump, said that he has high expectations for the remainder of the season, but is weary not to burn himself out.

“Every season, there’s an expectation to perform, but knowing my ability and thinking of my accomplishments reminds me that I have and will succeed,” he said. “The beginning of every season is a slow burn, starting off slowly, and towards the end there is a lot of excitement.”

Wilburn earned a program record in the triple jump with a 15.56-meter mark and said that his plan to improve will be a combination of working on previous technique and experimentation.

“I try to be a technician, and pay very close attention to all parts of my triple jump technique,” he said. “From runway to take-off, phases and landing, I want to be as perfect as possible. With my schedule being as busy as ever, I try to get as much training as possible with the time I have. This includes looking for new exercises and making every rep count.”

Londyn Little said that after the performance at Alabama in the nationals, the team is ready to do better.

“Placing fifth and not being able to bring a trophy home by one point ... That’ll be the way we keep the spark going into the outdoor season,” he said. “Knowing we were right there competing with all the top schools in the nation and to fall just short only makes us want to come back even better and stronger when outdoor season hits.”

During nationals, Little set a season record 200-meter dash with a time of 21.79 seconds, a time that he said he has plans to improve.



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO pole vaulter Eli Tranel prepares for a jump in the UW Oshkosh Titan Challenge Feb. 18.

“My plan to improve my 200-meter is to first off stay in my lane,” he said. “Because at the conference championships this year I set a new PR of 21.76 and broke the school record again, but got disqualified due to lane violation.”

Little said that he can achieve between a high 22.6 and a low 22.7 in the 200-meter, but his goal is between a high 22.1 and low 22.2.

He said that he feels more prepared going into this leg of the season due to improved health.

“I feel way more confident going outdoors solely because my body is feeling great this time,” he said. “I was having hamstringing issues throughout the entire indoor season, but with a break I was able to rest and get my body feeling better.”

The women’s team placed 34th in the nationals, however the team has shown that they are capable of moving up in the national rankings. In 2019, the team moved from 27th to 23rd between the indoor and outdoor seasons.

Brenna Masloroff competed in two events, the 20-pound weight throw and shot put, earning All-America sixth team and 15th respectively. She said that her goal for the second part of the season is to continue developing herself while developing an improved team atmosphere.

“My goals for the second leg of the season is to continue growing my knowledge of throwing to help myself grow as an athlete, teammate and person,” she said. “Also, I want to have fun. I want to make memories with my amazing teammates that I can look back and laugh on.”



Brenna Masloroff

Masloroff said that the championship facilitated a strong team energy, despite most of the team not attending the Alabama meet.

While Katie (Fruth) and I are competing at nationals, we are obviously not on our phones,” she said. “When we finally got on our phones, our throwers group chat was blowing up. Everyone was

wishing us luck and congratulating us. It is an amazing feeling to know we both have teammates who support us, even being half way across the country.”

Masloroff said that she plans on making the next nationals, and that getting her foot in the door is an opportunity to do something amazing.

“My personal goal by the time outdoor nationals comes around is to be at the meet,” she said. “It is a big honor to qualify for the meet in the first place. Hopefully, once we are there, we can go out and compete. Everyone knows once you are at nationals it is an open field and anything can happen.”

Wilburn said that the team is energized and that the team unity will propel the group forward.

“Our track team is very passionate; we have a lot of energy and even more talent,” he said. “One of our main goals as a team is to hone in and focus that potential in the right direction, whether that be at the competition, at our training, supporting each other ... We try to harness and use that to our benefit. This is how we attack every season, and when we get it right, great things happen.”

The Titans will return April 1 at the Washington University in St. Louis Invitational and the UW-Platteville Pioneer Open.

UWO softball goes 9-1 at Spring Games in Florida

By Mattie Beck
beckm88@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh softball team played down in Clermont, Florida, in The Spring Games this past week, ending the week with a 17-1 overall record.

The first game took place March 18 against the Hamline University Pipers of Minnesota.

The game started slow, with no scoring happening until the top of the fourth inning when the Pipers scored the first run of the game.

In the bottom of the fifth inning, UWO’s Sophie Wery doubled to right center, scoring Gabby Buikema and Abby Garceau for the Titans’ first runs of the inning.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Morgan Miller hit a sacrifice fly, scoring Haylie Wittman and putting the score at 4-1.

The score remained the same throughout the last few innings, and the Titans won their first game of the day.

UWO’s next game of the day was against Wesleyan University of Connecticut, where the Titans won 7-0.

It was a fast start for the Titans this game, scoring four runs in the top of the first inning. Both Garceau and Buikema singled, and Wery doubled, advancing both to score.

The next two runs came from Miller singling to second base



Courtesy of UWO Athletics
UWO’s Haylie Wittman rounds the bases March 5.

leading Wery to score and Wittman to third. Wittman then scored on a wild pitch.

In the top of the second inning,

Hannah Ritter singled to second, leading Buikema to score and Garceau to score on a throwing error, bringing the score to 6-0.

The last scoring of the game occurred in the top of the fourth, when Morgan Rau singled to right center advancing Caitlin Williams to score the last run of the game. The Titans finished their day with two victories.

On March 19, the Titans started their day by facing the Buffalo State College Bengals of New York.

The Titans spent their first few innings running up the score, with an 11-0 lead by the top of the fifth.

Turn to Softball / Page 6

Sports

Herd misses playoffs for 2nd straight year

By Jacob Link
linkj13@uwosh.edu

The Wisconsin Herd won two of their final five games of the season to finish the 2022-23 season 13th in the Eastern Conference of the NBA G League.

Herd guard Elijah Hughes said the season has been full of ups and downs.

“We have gotten a lot of bruises and we have played through a lot of adversity,” he said. “We spent most of the year with a lot of different lineups and we spent a lot of time trying to figure it out.”

In the final home game of the year at the Oshkosh Arena March 21, Wisconsin defeated the Grand Rapids Gold 129-114 behind a 26-point performance from Herd center Paris Bass.

The Herd outscored the Gold 41-25 in the first quarter and maintained a 13-point lead by halftime behind 17 points from Bass. Grand Rapids cut the lead to four points midway through the third quarter, but Wisconsin responded with a 10-4 run to lead by eight points at the end of the quarter. The Herd maintained at least a double-digit lead for most of the final quarter and Wisconsin cruised to its 11th victory of the season.

The Herd had five players score over 20 points in the game, with A.J. Green scoring 25 points and MarJon Beauchamp (assigned to the team from the Milwaukee Bucks) adding 23 points. Both two-way guard Lindell Wigginton and Alex Antetokounmpo finished with 20 points in the contest and Wisconsin shot over 50% from the field.

Antetokounmpo said his role on

the team has changed from game to game throughout the season.

“I just focus on coming in and doing whatever is asked of me,” he said. “Whether it’s coming in and getting offensive rebounds, or being an energy guy off the court, whatever is asked of me I try to do it to the best of my abilities.”

The final game of the season took the Herd to Washington, D.C., where Wisconsin fell to the Capital City Go-Go 114-104 March 23. The Herd led by nine points early in the second quarter, but the Go-Go went on a 16-0 run at the end of the period to lead 46-43 at halftime.

Wisconsin climbed its way back in the third quarter to take a three-point advantage, but Capital City went on a 12-0 run late in the quarter to lead by seven points at the break. The Go-Go built a double digit lead in the final quarter to cruise to a 10-point victory.

The Herd, who only suited up nine players in the contest, were led by Bass and Jontay Porter, who each scored 23 points. Porter grabbed 11 rebounds to finish with a double-double while forward Deividas Sirvydis added 22 points. The Herd shot 41% from the floor and 30% from behind the arc.

The Go-Go were led by center Jay Huff who scored a game-high 31 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Guard Devon Dotson converted on 12 shots in the contest to finish with 27 points, and Capital City shot 42% from three-point land.

This season marks the second straight year under head coach Chaisson Allen that the Herd have finished at least 10 games under .500. The team finished the season with a -7 point differential, which



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

Wisconsin Herd’s Rob Edwards takes a jump shot at the Oshkosh Arena March 15.

was the lowest point differential in the Eastern Conference. Wisconsin, who had three separate losing streaks of at least four games, went 4-12 in its road games, tied for the worst road record in the Eastern Conference.

Even with all of the struggles Wisconsin had this season, five Herd players made appearances with NBA teams throughout the year. Forward Sandro Mamukelashvili, who served as a two-way player for the Milwaukee Bucks, was waived by Milwaukee March

1. Mamukelashvili signed with the San Antonio Spurs just days later and has become a starter in San Antonio. Forward Joe Wieskamp earned two call-ups with the Toronto Raptors and signed a multi-year contract with Toronto February 10.

Center Ibou Badji, one of the youngest players ever to appear in the G League, played seven games for the Herd at the beginning of the season before signing a two-way contract with the Portland Trail Blazers November 18, 2022. Guard Lindell Wigginton, who scored the

second-most points this season for Wisconsin, inked a two-way contract with the Milwaukee Bucks March 7 and has played four games with Milwaukee this season. Green has been on a two-way contract with the Bucks for the entire season and has appeared in 32 games for Milwaukee.

Shortly after the final game of the regular season, the Herd announced that they will return for their sixth season in the NBA G League during the 2023-24 campaign.

Softball: UWO starts season strong in Florida tournament

From Page 5

The Bengals came back and scored two runs in the bottom of the fifth, but the Titans held until the end of the game, earning their first victory of the day 11-2.

Next, the team faced the nationally-ranked Millikin University, where they held their undefeated record.

In the bottom of the first, Ritter doubled to left center, advancing Garceau to score the first run of the game.

Wery doubled to left field and then advanced to third on the throw. Rau reached, leading Wery to score.

The game remained at a standstill until the bottom of the fifth inning, when Wery singled up the middle, advancing Ritter to second and Garceau to score. A final run was scored in the bottom of the sixth inning by Ana Iliopoulos after a single from Garceau.

On the next day of tournament play, the Titans continued their winning streak, securing both games of the day March 21.

The Titans’ first game of the day was against Washington and Jefferson College of Pennsylvania, where UWO won 8-0.

After the first win, the Titans faced Bates College of Maine, winning the game 7-1, keeping



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO’s Brianna Davis hits the ball against UW-Superior March 5.

their undefeated record on the third day of tournament play.

Running up the score, the Titans held the score at 7-0 until the top of the seventh, when Bates scored one run, with UWO winning 7-1.

After a day of more wins, the Titans continued on to the next day of games March 23.

The Titans again shutout opponents, beating St. Olaf of Minnesota 4-0 in their first game of the day.

In the second game, the team faced Trinity College of Connecticut, and shut out the team 8-0, with the game ending in the fifth inning.

With two wins, the Titans advanced in tournament play to the last day March 24.

The first game of the day was against Colby College of Maine,

where the Titans won 10-2.

The second game of the day had the Titans face off against Tufts University of Massachusetts.

In the bottom of the first inning, Tufts scored the first run of the game, and the score stayed at 1-0 until the top of the seventh.

Iliopoulos singled down the right field line, advancing Zoe Malone to score and Buikema to score the first run for the team.

The score stayed tied at 1-1 until the top of the ninth, when Buikema hit a fly out to right field and Rau scored.

In the bottom of the ninth, Tufts scored 3 runs, beating the Titans 4-2, in their first loss of the season. The Titans finished the spring games with a 9-1 record.

Titan baseball falls

By Jacob Link
linkj13@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh baseball team fell to the Milwaukee School of Engineering 5-4 March 21, halting a four-game winning streak in Glendale.

Oshkosh’s Zach Taylor led the team with a home run, a single and two RBIs on the day. The Titans outhit MSOE 13-6 and left seven runners stranded on base. Matt Sorrells pitched a no-decision, allowing four runs on four hits and going six innings while striking out eight batters. Logan King was charged with the loss, allowing one run on two hits and pitching two innings.

After allowing three runs in the bottom of the first inning, the Titans battled back, scoring four unanswered runs to take a 4-3 lead in the fifth inning. UWO’s Connor Giusti doubled to right field in the fourth inning to drive Taylor and Chase Marsh singled later in the inning to bring in another run. Taylor blasted his fourth home run in the season, this time a two-run shot in the fifth inning to give UWO a one-run lead.

MSOE’s Kyle Labeledz drove in the tying run in the sixth inning with a single, and in his next at-bat, he hit another RBI single to score the go-ahead run. UWO was held scoreless in the final frame to drop to 9-3 on the season.

The Titans swept a three-game series against the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (Indiana) March 19-20, outscoring the Fighting Engineers 32-5 in three games in Terre Haute, Indiana.

In the first game, UWO held RHIT scoreless in all nine innings and the Titans went to take a 4-0 victory.

Pitcher L.J. Waco picked up his second win of the season by allowing no runs on nine hits and fanning nine batters in eight innings on the mound. King pitched one inning of relief, allowing no runs and no hits.

The second game was dominated by UWO from start to finish, with the Titans cruising to a 12-0 victory in seven innings.

On the mound, Cameron Mulvihill allowed no runs on four hits and struck out seven batters in seven innings pitched.

In the final game of the series, UWO fell behind early but stormed back to win 16-5.

UWO pitcher Connor Brinkman picked up his fourth victory of the season, allowing four runs on seven hits and striking out six batters in six innings pitched.

The Titans will play a double-header against UW-Whitewater in Oshkosh’s Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference home opener April 1 at Tiedemann Field starting at noon.

Sports

Gymnastics seniors go out on top

By Nolan Swenson
swensonno56@uwosh.edu

Two UW Oshkosh senior gymnasts, Haley Volstad and Trinity Sawyer, competed for their final time as Titans on March 25.

Volstad performed in the vault, earning a score of 9.550. Sawyer competed in both the bars and floor, earning scores of 9.625 and 9.700.

Volstad began her gymnastics career as a toddler when her mom was just trying to expend her and her siblings’ excess energy.

“I started when I was 3 [at] Twin city Twisters in Minnesota,” Volstad said. “Basically, my mom put my sisters and I in classes ... to get our energy out. My two sisters cried in class, but I loved every second of it.”

Volstad continued to grow and develop, and by her final year of high school, she was at the highest gymnastics level — level 10 — in the Junior Olympics Program.

She said that she began to investigate different schools, eventually deciding on Oshkosh.

“I did like UW-La Crosse, but I had a hunch that I wouldn’t click with the team,” she said. “I didn’t like UW-Stout’s campus. Winona University and Hamline University were small and I don’t think I would have grown as much, and I thought I would flourish at UWO.”

During her years at Oshkosh, Volstad said that she began to realize what it meant to be a member of a team, since during all of her other years of participating in gymnastics, she competed in a club as an individual.

“Freshman year was a wake-up for me,” she said. “I had to learn about being on a team as opposed to being an individual in a club. I had to let go of ‘me me me’ and change my outlook into more of a team aspect, which was huge for me.”

She said she was forced to step up for the team as a sophomore due to teammates being unable to compete, and then having her own experience of being unable to compete.

“Sophomore year was during COVID-19 and I competed all four



Courtesy of Trinity Sawyer and Haley Volstad

Sawyer, left, and Volstad, right, celebrate after their performances. In the national meet, Sawyer had an average score of 9.663 and Volstad scored 9.550.

events that year due to injuries and sickness,” she said. “I had to compete in those routines and help the team. Junior year, I broke my hand at the second meet of the season. Eventually I warmed up and got to put on my leotard and was an alternate at nationals.”

Volstad said that this year she’s played her greatest part in the team due to the order of events during meets.

“Senior year is my greatest contribution,” she said. “I’m first up on vault, so that’s huge for me and that sets up the entire meet.”

Sawyer also began gymnastics at the age of 3 due to her mother wanting her to flip over something other than furniture.

“My mom would tell me that I was flipping all over at home and she’d prefer me to do it in a safe and controlled environment,” she said. “I’ve been doing it since.”

Sawyer said that she excelled in high school, also achieving level 10 like Volstad. But during her later years, she experienced an injury that got her in contact with Coach Lauren Karnitz.

“My high school experience was pretty good,” she said. “But my junior year at regionals in Florida, I tore my achilles, which is where I first met Lauren Karnitz, who was scouting. She DM’d me and offered me an official visit during my recovery.”

Ultimately, Sawyer said what drew her to the team, was how the team wanted her there.

“During the visit, the team was great and very welcoming,” she said. “I think what really sold me was how interested Karnitz was in my recovery and how adamant she was about making me an addition.”

During her junior year, the team took the national championship,

an experience she said was one of her favorites. After nationals she said she needed to recover from surgery, leading her to not compete until the Titan’s first home meet the following season.

“Junior year was amazeballs,” she said. “We won conference and won nationals at New York. It was one of the best experiences of my life so far. After nationals, I got another surgery on my foot, and from April to January, I hadn’t done any vault or floor while recovering from surgery. During our first home, that was my first floor meet after surgery, and I’ve made every routine so far after that.”

Looking forward past gymnastics, the seniors said they have begun laying out their plans for the next step of their lives.

Volstad said that due to how intertwined UWO gymnastics has become with her life, it will be

a difficult adjustment, but she is looking forward to what comes next for the team.

“It’s definitely mixed emotions,” she said. “I’m getting ready to be done with gymnastics after 19 years. It’s going to be hard. We’ve grown over the years, even the freshmen who I’ve known for a year. It’s going to be really hard, but it’s time to let it go. Lauren is great in the recruiting class and I’m excited for the future of UWO gymnastics.”

Sawyer said that she expects the team to continue building on the foundations they laid and maintain their legacy.

“They’ll keep what we started going my freshman year,” she said. “That’s where they got the ball rolling with the championships and, I think the incoming class will continue to build on the legacy we started.”

UWO Cheer wins state championship

By Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh’s competitive cheer team brought home their fifth state championship last month, making them the first UW System school to complete this feat.

UWO cheer team ranked number one out of three teams in the “college all-girl” division. Their direct competitors were UW Madison Comp Cheer and UW White-water.

Their season runs from September through the state competition in February. Athletes spend most of their nights practicing stunts and skills getting ready for the final performance.

Jennifer Verbockel, the cheer and stunt sports club president, said she is extremely grateful for all of

the hard work and perseverance the team put forward this season.

“As a sports club, there are many obstacles we experience as being run by students,” said Verbockel. “We have fewer resources than other teams, and in spite of that, our students put in extra work to be successful.”

Verbockel said everyone on the team, including the executive board, contributes something important to the success of each season.

Brooke Witek, the vice president of the cheer and stunt sports club, has been on the team for five years.

“The athletes a part of this program have always strived to be the best. Jennifer and I worked extra hard this year, perfecting our routine,” Witek said. “We put in long hours going over score sheets and

possible skills for our team to learn. Our success this year would not be possible without the dedication of each athlete.”

Olivia Davel, a UWO sophomore, is on her second season on the UWO cheer team and her fourth season competing in cheer overall.

Davel said preparing for state is stressful for the whole team. Between injuries and class, the girls worked hard to stay unified and persistent through the struggles, she said.

“UWO succeeds so much at state because we are always down for trying newer and harder stunts or pyramids and because of the people we appoint on the executive board,” Davel said. “The president and vice president, Jennifer Verbockel and Brooke Witek, volunteer so much of their time to re-

view score sheets so that we work toward maxing out the difficulty of our routines.”

Though Davel has been competing for four years, she said she still often wonders how she will successfully perform in front of the crowd.

“All of the emotions that were going on just behind the floor before we competed are hard to explain,” Davel said. “This was the last performance for two of our seniors, so there were definitely some tears.”

Davel believes the next session will bring a sixth win for UWO’s cheer team and she’s hopeful there will be a national championship in the next few sessions.

“This past year we received the highest score UWO has ever gotten at nationals, and that showed us

that we have a chance of continually improving our routine, not only to hold the state champion title, but also to rise on the UCA national rankings,” Davel said.

Verbockel will be the first president continuing the position for a third consecutive year as she was awarded the position as a sophomore.

“The president is in charge of the large majority of administrative duties, choreography and leading the team throughout the season, so they are able to provide the strongest impact on the team,” she said.

Verbockel is hoping to continue state champion status throughout the upcoming seasons.

“I look forward to all of the other improvements I can make before I graduate in 2025,” Verbockel said.

Arts & Entertainment



Courtesy of Reeve Union Flickr
Reeve Union Board (RUB) holds many different events throughout the semester for campus to take part in, such as Zach’s Bingo Hall and Bye Gosh Fest.

Club Spotlight: Reeve Union Board

By Mattie Beck
beckm88@uwosh.edu

There are over 180 organizations on campus for students to join throughout their college career, one of which is Reeve Union Board (RUB). RUB is a student-run organization that aims to bring different kinds of programming to campus for students to enjoy such as entertainment, arts and crafts, games and more. Along with this, RUB aims to create an atmosphere of learning, inclusiveness and leadership throughout its organization. There are four different committees found in the organization that students can join, which include crafty adventures, entertainment, live music and special events. The organization is responsible for planning multiple events that are held on campus, including Bye Gosh Fest, Zach’s Bingo Hall and Titan Nights. RUB also has different executive positions for students to take on and gain leadership skills throughout their time in the organization. Emma Smith, president of the executive council for RUB, said



Courtesy of Dominic Lee
RUB holds many events in Titan Underground for students.

she enjoys being a part of RUB because of the atmosphere it provides. “RUB is a community of people who are always around to support you. It is an outlet for me during my busy work and school schedule, and I can have fun with a good group of people,” she said. This atmosphere comes from spending lots of time together as an organization. “We spend a lot of time together between meetings, event planning and event execution, so we

get to know one another really well, creating a great atmosphere to be a part of,” Smith said. RUB puts on a lot of events throughout the year that they spend planning together, including some well-known events on campus. “We host Battle of the Bands and Bye Gosh Fest every year for students as well as putting together Homecoming and Winter Carnival,” Smith said. Smith said these are events that RUB enjoys planning the for the student body.

“These events are always on the calendar and our team always looks forward to putting on the larger events for campus and having an impact on students’ semesters by giving them a place to be themselves and have fun,” she said. There are many benefits to helping plan these events and being a part of RUB when they happen. “Students in RUB get first choice at all craft supplies and often get to meet and talk with our artists and entertainers which is not only fun, but a great networking opportunity for students,” Smith said. Smith also said benefits include being immersed in the atmosphere that RUB provides for students. “Other benefits include being part of a community of people who always want the best for you personally and professionally and also personal or professional growth opportunities,” she said. There are also strong leadership opportunities provided when joining the organization, Smith said. “In addition, if a committee member then goes on to serve on the executive board for RUB,

they are given a monetary stipend,” Smith said. Olivia Klessig, who holds the crafty adventures position on RUB, enjoys being a part of the organization for the creative and communicative experience. “I am constantly learning new leadership skills with each of mine and my fellow executive members’ events. RUB gives me a place on campus to share ideas and create connections campus-wide with student attendees,” she said. Klessig also enjoys being involved with the organization due to the social experience it gives her. “Being on RUB shows me that as a student I am capable of having unique experiences,” she said. “It gives me a place to find new friendships and create exciting opportunities for campus to participate in.” RUB is open to all students on the UW Oshkosh campus, no matter what major a student is. For more information or interest in joining the club, visit the RUB office in Reeve on the first floor, or email advisor Dylan Bram at bramd@uwosh.edu.

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Actors reminisce on new podcast

‘Wizards of Waverly Place’ stars talk about time on the show

By Kelly Hueckman
hueckk24@uwosh.edu

Former “Wizards of Waverly Place” stars Jennifer Stone (Harper Finkle) and David DeLuise (Jerry Russo) reminisce in their rewatch podcast, “Wizards of Waverly Pod,” and reveal that everything was not as it seemed.

Since the podcast’s February debut, Stone and DeLuise have taken on the task of watching every episode of the Disney sitcom, which aired from 2007-2012.

Each podcast episode gives behind-the-scenes content about the audition process, unscripted moments and getting through high school as a teen actor.

Additionally, Stone, DeLuise and their guest stars nod to the most memorable parts of the show, including Harper’s marker dress, the famous “Hat Song” and the crude (yet charming) visual effects.

Actress and musician Selena Gomez, who played the infamous and magical anti-hero Alex Russo was featured as a guest on one episode, where she praised the relationships between cast and crew members.

“I can’t imagine it being any other way,” Gomez said. “I ended up being with everyone I needed to be in my life...I’ve never had that feeling that I’ve had with the whole Wizards crew.”

Stone also opened up about struggles with body image and criticism.

“I was, like, going through puberty,” Stone said. “Selena and I just had different body shapes... There was a lot of people like, ‘you’re fat, go kill yourself.’”

She said that these comments were directed at her as a teenager while social media platforms like Twitter and Instagram were first



Jennifer Stone (Harper Finkle) and David DeLuise (Jerry Russo) talk together on their podcast, which they started in February. Courtesy of Podco Podcast Company

entering the scene.

“It was the first time of people being anonymous and being able to just say anything into the void with no consequence,” Stone said. “Now, I laugh at it. But when you’re 14, 15, 16, that’s really hard.”

In Monday’s episode, “Wizards of Waverly Place” executive producer, showrunner and writer Peter Murrieta guest starred to reveal how he would have ended the series had he not left the show during its fourth and final season.

He said he would have Mason Greyback, Alex’s love interest, return after an almost-lethal vampire bite and have a healthy relationship with Alex.

“What I was hoping the fourth season would be about was the building of (Alex’s) and Mason’s relationship,” Murrieta said. “It was to have him come back and have them kind of be good for each other... Alex could become a little more selfless.”

With Murrieta’s ending, Alex’s selflessness would certainly

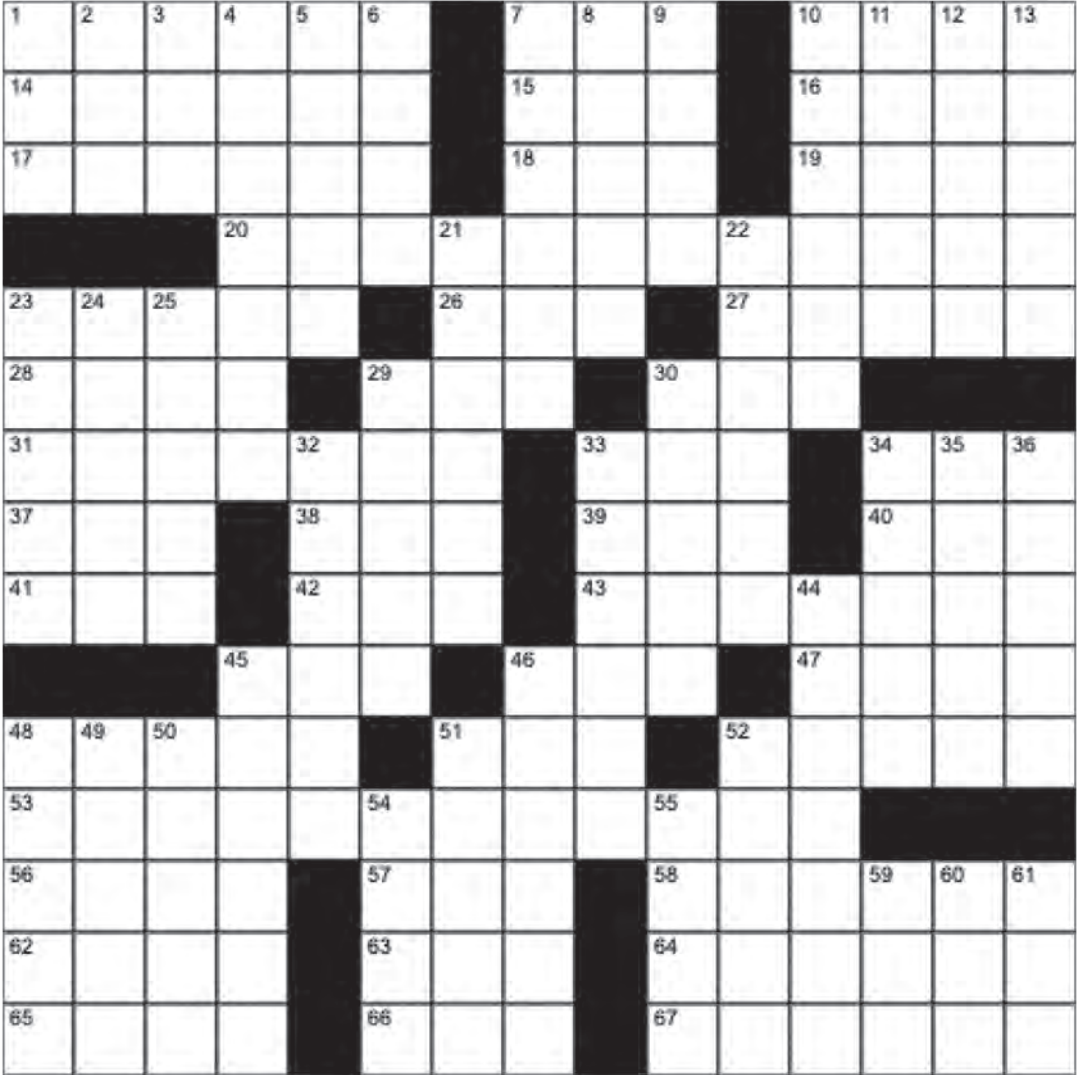
shine after winning the Family Wizard Cup, which allows the winner to keep their magical powers, he said. Murrieta said he would have scripted Alex giving up her powers to her studious older brother, Justin Russo.

“I wanted (Alex) to win, but to give it up because she’s in love with someone who’s not a wizard,” Murrieta said. “So, then (Justin) would get it.”

On top of behind-the-scenes content, “Wizards of Waverly Pod” listeners can also interact

with DeLuise and Stone during their “crystal ball” Q&A segments. Questions can be submitted via their “Wizards of Waverly Pod” Instagram stories.

If you’ve ever wondered who stole the most stuff from the set, who played the most pranks and what the “Wizards” cast members regret the most, listeners can tune in to “Wizards of Waverly Pod” every Monday on any major podcast platform.



Courtesy of bestcrosswords.com

- Across**
1- Apex
7- 1963 Paul Newman film
10- Warner ____
14- Wild
15- Chowd down
16- Alley
17- Closer
18- By way of
19-Romeo’s last words
20-Annulment
23-John of England
26-____ v. Wade
27-Thick-skinned charger
28- Bridle part
29- DC bigwig
30- Go head to head
31- The tiniest bit
33-Dance step used in ballet
34-LAX posting
37- Excavate
38-Refusals
39- Cheer for Manolete
40-Test site
41- Printing widths
42- Very cold
43- Convent
45- NASA affirmative
46- Frozen water
47-Nephew of Abel
- 48- Set straight
51-Bat wood
52-“Hyperion” poet
53-Carousel
56- To ____ (perfectly)
57-First name in Notre Dame football
58-Second drink
62- Writer Grey
63-Shoshone language member
64-Slush
65-French summers
66- Indian dish
67- Joined by treaty
- Down**
1- Sky light
2- French article
3-1959 Kingston Trio hit
4- Radio pioneer
5- That is to say...
6- Small gull
7- Wear
8- Helpful
9- What’s the big ____?
10- Cheerful
11- Spokes
12- Pungent bulb
13- ____ evil...
21- Easily wrinkled
- 22- Out of bed
23- Wear down, physically or emotionally
24- Russian revolutionary leader
25- Supermodel Cheryl
29- Inventory
30- Worth
32- Like some bagels
33- Blanketlike cloak
34- Actress Verdugo
35-Fortune-telling cards
36- Vast chasm
44- Necessary
45- Concurs
46- Sharon’s land
48- Astonish
49-Free to attack
50- Peace goddess
51- Trunk line
52-Mournful sound
54- Showy trinket
55- Bear in the sky
59- Despot Amin
60- Bigger than med.
61- Conducted

Opinion

Free speech or fake news?

FOX News fights \$1.6 billion defamation lawsuit

By Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

Dominion Voting Systems is currently suing Fox News for \$1.6 billion in a defamation lawsuit concerning how Fox handled the 2020 presidential election.

Dominion claims Fox didn't push back enough and instead chose to spread the false narrative that the election was stolen from former president Trump.

While Fox was publishing articles like "Tucker Carlson: Yes, the election was rigged for Joe Biden. Here's how: How Democrats, Big Tech and the mainstream media waged an unfair fight in 2020," behind-the-scenes news correspondents and chairman of the media giant that owns Fox News Rupert Murdoch privately admitted to knowing that the election was not stolen and was completely fair.

Why does any of this matter? Most people in the liberal media space have known for a long time that Fox News is one of the biggest proponents of spreading false information. This case is just more evidence of that.

The Washington Post put it this way, "The lawsuit carries significant implications not just for Fox financially ... but potentially for journalism itself, given questions about what responsibility a news outlet has not to promote misinformation."

Dominion is single handedly breaking open what it means to be a responsible journalist.

Stephanie Ruhle, host of MSNBC's 11th Hour, explains responsible journalism as "reporting the

news as a public service versus creating TV shows."

Fox News isn't reporting anything for public service – they are creating a TV show in hopes of leeching off right-wing politicians for higher ratings.

Fox blatantly disregarded the truth so they could keep viewership and ratings high when Trump was leaving the White House.

They were afraid of saying anything bad about the former president; Tucker Carlson said it himself.

"I hate him passionately ... What he's good at is destroying things. He's the undisputed world champion of that. He could easily destroy us if we play it wrong," Carlson texted to a colleague on Jan. 4, 2021.

Murdoch had sent an email saying he was worried Sean Hannity and Laura Ingram maybe "went too far" when talking about the "stolen" election on-air, but nothing was ever done to quell the flames they had started.

Murdoch even admitted Trump convincing Americans that the election was stolen was a "huge disservice to the country."

In another email on how to handle Trump post-election, Murdoch said: "Trump insisting on the election being stolen and convincing 25% of Americans was a huge disservice to the country. Pretty much a crime. Inevitably it blew up Jan. 6th. Best we don't mention his name unless essential and certainly don't support him. We have to respect people of principle and if it comes to the Senate, don't take sides. I know



he is being over-demonized, but he brought it on himself."

Fox knew they were spreading lies and hugely important political claims and they did it all for views and ratings.

Now that Dominion has chosen to sue, Fox is doubling down in a statement saying this suit is an "unprecedented effort to punish the press for covering and commenting on the most newsworthy story of the day" and an "effort to publicly smear a media organization just for having the temerity to cover and comment on allegations being pressed by the sitting president of the United States."

Fox is trying to frame this as an issue of free speech and free press. But as of March 23, Fox is being sued by yet another person for feeling coerced into giving a false testimony in the Dominion suit.

Abby Grossberg, senior producer for Tucker Carlson, claims

the network set her and other female colleagues up as scapegoats.

According to NPR, Grossberg was working for Maria Bartiromo at the time of the 2020 election. Bartiromo is now a key figure in the Dominion suit because she welcomed many guests who claimed Dominion Voting Systems aided in Joe Biden's election victory.

Grossberg had booked a guest for Bartiromo's show who had accused Dominion of "voting irregularities" in a memo. "Grossberg told Dominion's attorneys under oath that such a memo should not have been used as the basis of any such segments," according to NPR.

Now, Grossberg is suing Fox because she felt the lawyers set her up, making her give evasive answers and to avoid speaking

about how she felt there was a lack of staffing and support on Bartiromo's show.

Grossberg also said that while her male colleagues were allowed to review and correct transcripts of their depositions after being questioned, but she was not allowed to do so until after Dominion had cited her in legal briefs.

So much for free speech. Fox is denying any truth to Grossberg's case and claims everything she said in connection with the Dominion case are "baseless."

All of this adds fuel to the fire. After all of the evidence — thousands of documents, text message proof, emails and phone call recordings — shows that Dominion has a solid defamation case.

The trial is currently slated to start April 17 and it could be one of the most important defamation cases in history. Let's just hope that this time, the truth will prevail.

Is there a method to the madness?

By Katie Pulvermacher
pulvek45@uwosh.edu

Like 68 million other Americans reported by the American Gaming Association this year, I put my luck into a March Madness bracket. I'm no big sports fan, but for the past two years, I've taken part in the madness.

The tournament's unpredictability makes the competition more enticing to a wider group of people. Bracket competitions arise within families, friend groups and at work.

It's common for people who know nothing about college basketball to correctly guess a game's outcome. This makes the contest both entertaining, but frustrating for the self-proclaimed basketball fanatics in your bracket.

When it comes time to make your bracket picks, what do you make your picks based off

March Madness

What are the odds?

In 2023, 70 million Americans made March Madness brackets

The chances of having a perfect bracket:

1 in 9,223,372,036,854,775,808

Source: American Gaming Association

of? Who you truly think will do well? Team stats? Favorite teams? Whatever logo looks cooler?

Because of how random March Madness luck is, some people on TikTok are letting their dogs make their tournament picks. Maybe this is the route to go given that some-

one's dog named Piper is winning in my bracket group at work.

No matter what strategy you use to make your picks, it's all just luck. Maybe you don't want to hear that from me, but it's true.

According to the National Collegiate Athletic Associa-

tion (NCAA), no one has ever had a perfect bracket. Mathematically, the chances of picking a perfect bracket are one in 9.2 quintillion. To put that in perspective, a quintillion is the number one followed by 18 zeros.

The experts at NCAA worked out it's a 1 in 9,223,372,036,854,775,808 chance of winning if you just guess or flip a coin. Or, if you have a bit of basketball knowledge, you have a slightly better chance at 1 in 120.2 billion.

The longest verifiable streak of correct picks in an NCAA tournament bracket was established in 2019 by Gregg Nigl of Columbus, Ohio with a streak of 49. He correctly predicted the tournament into the Sweet 16. He broke the previous record streak of 39 that was set in 2017.

This year, the last verifiably perfect men's NCAA bracket

busted on the 25th game when No. 16 FDU stunned No. 1 Purdue. It's not a shock that most people chose Purdue to win – this was only the second time in men's history that a 16 seed beat a 1 seed.

In 2022, all verifiable brackets busted on the first Friday of the tournament when No. 11 Iowa State upset No. 6 LSU, 59-54.

For some, a money incentive is what's needed to join in the madness.

According to the American Gaming Association, it's estimated a total of \$15.5 billion will be wagered in this year's March Madness.

Just remember that next time you wager a portion of your paycheck, the chances of winning are dramatically low.

Don't let that take away from the fun, though.

Success cannot be measured

Love your career more than the numbers on your paycheck

By Aubrie Selsmeyer
selsmeyer72@uwosh.edu

I believe that loving what you do for the rest of your life far outweighs the number on your paycheck at the end of the year.

Success has become something we measure in status and wealth. But will you be truly happy leaving your office cubicle at the end of a 9-5 day?

In high school, my classmates and I had to use a website called Career Cruising to explore career fields that might be sufficient for us.

We had to take a survey where it asked us a bunch of questions about our personality and how we would go about handling certain situations, and then it assigned us potential fields we should pursue.

One thing that the website made very prominent was the average salary of someone in that field.

So, now you have some jobs looking far better than other jobs because of the amount of zeros tagged on in front of the decimal place.

This is where the misconception began for me.

I knew what I wanted to do, yet still became convinced that I would not make enough money to support myself before I even entered my first semester of college.

A study conducted at Princeton University revealed that happiness plateaus at a certain level of income, and it's not accurate to say that the more money a person has, the happier they become.

According to Penn Today, "foundational work published in 2010 from Princeton University's Daniel Kahneman and Angus Deaton had found that day-to-day happiness rose as annual income increased, but above \$75,000 it leveled off and happiness plateaued."

Matthew Killingsworth, senior



Courtesy of Marco Verch Professional Photographer Flickr

According to Penn Today, "day-to-day happiness rose as annual income increased, but above \$75,000 it leveled off and happiness plateaued."

fellow in Wharton People Analytics in the Wharton School and an associate in MindCORE in the School of Arts & Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania, said that money is merely a factor of happiness — not the secret to it.

"For emotional well-being, money isn't the be all end all," Killingsworth said. "Money is just one of the many determinants of happiness."

Chasing money is thought to be detrimental to success, but striving for status is equally harmful.

Why is it that some fields of study are frowned upon while others are placed high on a throne?

It is because of this unspoken judgment that status emerges. It places people above each other on a metaphorical ladder of success.

If everyone has a place and purpose in life, no one should be able to say that one purpose holds more importance than the other.

From a young age, schools have always placed emphasis on correct answers, ultimately eliminating creativity and ways of thinking that challenge the common belief.

No two people learn the same way nor want the same thing. The world would be a boring place if everyone thought and did the same thing — yet this is what is encouraged.

Teaching needs to be cultivated to the student, not the other way around. Kids should be encouraged from a young age to pursue what they love, not told what career will make them the most money.

Anthony D. Fredericks with

Psychology Today strongly opposes the way young people learn in classrooms from K-12, saying it programs them to believe that every problem has only one solution.

"Much of our educational experiences have been focused on learning the right answers to pre-established questions," Fredericks said. "Seldom have we been offered the opportunity to consider that there might be a multitude of potential responses to any problem."

Just as we are raised to answer "pre-established" questions, we are taught that the key to success and happiness is pre-established.

"Logic supports the notion that an excessive focus on a one-right-answer mentality forces us into a 'don't take any risks' mindset," said Fredericks.

Refusing to take risks leads to settling — settling on being comfortable, rather than being a little uncomfortable and doing what you love even if it means that the outcome is unknown.

Some people are content crunching numbers at a desk for the rest of their life — this doesn't mean you have to be.

No amount of money should be placed over your own happiness. Nor will your happiness increase exponentially if your salary does. One's wage and happiness are independent factors, not reliant on the other to be present.

If you feel like you're following a different path than your peers because you're following what you love, you're doing something right.

The Gripline

This weeks' UWO Yik Yaks

- "There needs to be a Pub Crawl for stoners."
- "Anyone else think our campus looks grungy?"
- "Would the Dollar Tree have cheap wine glasses?"
- "Who was that girl that fell over in Molly's last night?"
- "All I want for Christmas next year is functioning vending machines on campus."
- "All of the world's problems can be solved with the Crunchwrap Supreme from Taco Bell."
- "10:30 a.m. and I'm already pouring myself a drink."
- "If it wasn't for the snow, today would've been perfect for a darty."
- "Just remember, 99% of gamblers quit before they win big."
- "Bruh someone took my unassigned assigned seat."
- "Why did Pizza Hut just decide to burn all the breadsticks and have no seasoning on top?"
- "Sunday scaries hitting already."
- "I should text my ex."

UWO's own Bachelorette

A weekly series featuring
single UWO students

- Name:** Ella Sasse
Hometown: Pulaski, Wisconsin
Major: Business
Favorite movie: "The Hangover"
Favorite artist: Zach Bryan
Favorite number: 52
Best clothing store: 01 Vintage
Go-to aux song: "Pool House" – Backseat Lovers
Favorite food: Pineapple
Best Bubbl'r flavor: Pitaya berry nect'r
Fun fact: I play on the UWO women's soccer team
Hot take: Instagram is too official and should be casual again
Instagram: @ellasse





OUR
DOORS
ARE
OPEN.

