

The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUSES

VOL. 133, No. 10

APRIL 20, 2023

ADVANCETITAN.COM

'Who will tell these stories?'



Courtesy of Pat Flood

Left: Vicki Sadler, on the left, and her daughter Mandy Olesen, on the right, worked as custodial supervisors throughout COVID-19. Top right: UWO baseball player Tom Cermak in 2021. Bottom right: Malida Chang said COVID-19 showed her how precious time is while working as a CNA.

COVID stories highlight struggles

By Cory Sparks
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Humans of Oshkosh founder Grace Lim and four UW Oshkosh honors students will present "Campus Covid Stories" at 5 p.m. April 27 in the Theatre Arts Center.

Tanner Sarauer, MaryAnn Reindl, Emelia Smith and Cory Sparks will be telling an audio-visual story of various Titans impacted by the pandemic. They will present anecdotes from people of all roles on campus to display the struggles and perseverance of the community.

The UWO Music Department will also provide music to accompany the presentation.

The students worked under Lim with the goal of showcasing the storylines of students, professors, coaches and other faculty from 2020 to the present day.

Lim spearheaded this project dating back to fall 2021, when she started having students from a class interview individuals about how COVID-19 altered their lives and the lives of those around them. Lim and her students tell over 120 stories with over 1.5 million words that'll be archived for future generations to read.

Lim said that what started as a suggestion from Chancellor Andrew Leavitt turned into something much larger.

"My initial thought process was what stories do we want to tell?" Lim said. "Who will tell these stories? How will the stories be collected? Who will collect the stories? To tell you the truth, it was just a germ of an idea from Chancellor Leavitt and it grew into something truly important."

From there, Lim and the honors students transcribed, paraphrased and helped archive the interviews into stories about people in different segments of the campus. The stories are printed into a book about the shockwave that the pandemic sent through UWO.

Sarauer, a senior at UWO, has spent the last eight months talking to a variety of UWO students and faculty, including Chancellor Leavitt and Provost John Koker, to help recall the process of shutting down an entire campus with little to no notice.

He keyed in on students' unknown fate as they packed their bags and left town while the weight of the world was on Leavitt's shoulders during an unprecedented time.

Reindl, an Oshkosh junior, covered the stories of essential workers. While many fled home to take shelter during a horrifying and uncertain time period, essential workers didn't have that option. There were still bills to be paid, mouths to feed and work to be done.

Many of these people put their lives on the line, and Reindl documented what they had to go through.

Lim said that by creating a massive archive of Oshkosh's venture through the pandemic, she gained an increased appreciation for those unsung heroes.

"I had really little idea of what the members of the Emergency Operations Committee and the Recovery Task Force were doing," she said. "Talk about unsung heroes of the university during the time of COVID."

Smith, a UWO junior, covered the fall 2021 semester where classes were back in a hybrid format. COVID-19 cases were on the rise with students back on campus, faculty were reluctant to return to the university and Leavitt was doing everything from running the front desk at a residence hall to teaching a lab course. Leavitt's ability to

lead by example was one of many acts that guided UWO on the road to recovery.

Smith also talked about the nursing program and how so many brave students administered vaccines and ran the on-campus clinics.

Sparks, an Oshkosh senior, covered the spring 2022 semester, UWO athletics and the gymnastics program's historic run to a national championship. The gymnastics program, like other teams competing into the playoffs in March, was sent home right before traveling to the national championship.

Sparks covers their resurgence to glory after 24 long months of tripled practices, positive COVID-19 cases and an eventual national title.

Sarauer said that upon reflecting on his work throughout the past calendar year, he hopes that the thoroughness of this project is able to accurately describe what so many Titans have gone through.

"I have spent countless hours listening, reading, writing, cropping, editing, searching, you name it," Sarauer said. "We want to make sure that the campus story is told correctly, and hopefully our finished product does just that."

Sarauer and the other honors students are getting a thesis credit for this year-long project. He said that this route is one that he prefers as it differs from the style of papers he writes for his major-related school work.

"I am always writing very formal works on politics and government in my major course work, so it was nice to do something unique like this project for my honors thesis," he said. "It is so important to not only know what we went through, but how we were able to survive that time of extreme uncertainty."

Lim referred to the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918, happening just over a century prior to the year COVID-19 was declared a pandemic-level threat.

She said that there isn't nearly enough information available from that time, and while everyone may be eager to move on from this pandemic, they shouldn't be so quick to drop the lessons it taught.

"We humans are a forgetful bunch," Lim said. "We have lived through a defining moment in the 21st century. We have to preserve our stories before we forget them."

Doors to the Theatre Arts Center will open at 4:30 p.m. on April 27.

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About the Newspaper
The Advance-Titan is an in-
dependent student newspaper
published on campus since 1894.
The paper is written and edited
by students at UW Oshkosh who
are soley 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 commit-
ted to correcting errors of fact.
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Students compete for \$30,000

By Josh Lehner
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Ten UW Oshkosh student entrepreneurs pitched their business ideas to a panel of judges hoping to win part of the \$30,000 up for grabs during last week’s Culver’s Business Model Competition. The annual event provides students with the opportunity to gain funding and other resources for their startup businesses.

Presenters were given four minutes to showcase their business followed by two minutes of questions from the panel of judges.

The top three finalists took home splits of the \$30,000 prize, while first and second place qualified to compete in “The Pitch” — a startup business pitch competition for college student teams.

Colin Schuler won first place for his company, Spot2Hunt, which he called the “Airbnb of the hunting industry.” He received \$5,000 in cash and \$10,000 in kind.

Through an app, landowners would be able to rent their property to hunters for a designated period of time. By partnering with landowners, Schueler said his company already has access to over 1,200 acres of hunting land.

Schuler said the idea for his company came to him because he was always trying to improve his hunting.

“Hunting really is my true passion,” he said. “[But] I never thought I would be pitching a hunting idea ... I’ve been mean-

ing to do this competition for a couple of years, and I finally set aside the time. So it all just came together perfectly.”

Schuler plans on using the prize money to develop his app and website.

Baylee Cottrell won second place for her company, Blush House, which rents vacation-style homes that double as bridal suites. Her business would provide the proper lighting, seating and accommodations for stylists and photographers.

Cottrell, who won \$3,500 in cash and \$6,500 in kind, said that winning was a massive honor, especially as a woman in entrepreneurship, and that the prize money will be used to help develop key aspects of her business.

“I would love to start looking into properties in the Oshkosh area,” she said. “I’m excited to put it toward my education in bridal, weddings and my own business that I have now. [There are] lots of possibilities.”

Both Schuler and Cottrell represented UWO at the Pitch Event on April 19.

Cole Saathoff won third place — worth \$1,500 in cash and \$3,500 in kind — for his company, Luster Technology, which aims at creating fully customizable, touch-activated light switches.

Saathoff said his prize money will go toward patents.

Guests voted for the winner of the \$250 People’s Choice Award. Alex Ziegler won with his company, Zeki Tea, a specialty tea aimed at promoting mental and physical health.



Josh Lehner / Advance-Titan
Award-winners pose with their trophies after winning the Culver’s Business Model Competition. Finalists split \$30,000 in prizes.

In addition to various flavors and brews, the teas correspond to different aspects of health and wellness, such as stress relief, meditation and sleep wellness. Ziegler also designed an app that, in conjunction with the tea, helps promote wellness.

There were many other pitches proposed at the event.

Adrian Girone’s company, Rzad Softworks, centers around a restaurant reservation system that lays out a restaurant’s menu and seating availability in real-time through an app or website.

Maggie and Malik Baiyewu pitched their company Life Map, a mobile app that would store personal and family information, such as passwords and legal documents.

Ryan Sommercorn pitched VM Now, an on-campus vending machine that would provide over-the-counter pharmaceutical products, school supplies and every day essentials.

Among the event’s attendees was UWO alumnus and Culver’s founder Craig Culver, who spoke to guests about the Culver’s franchise and the student entrepreneurs.

“I’ve been doing this [speech] since the inception, and this was the 10 best presentations I’ve seen,” Culver said. “When I was going to school, I wasn’t thinking how they (the student entrepreneurs) are thinking. If you truly have passion for what you do, and you have a concept, I’ll almost guarantee your success.”

UWO climate event sparks concern

By Nolan Swenson
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UW Oshkosh will host ‘Climate Change: Crisis or Not? What is the solution?,’ a title a UWO professor views as problematic.

The event is sponsored by Freedom of Expression, a fund of the UW Oshkosh Foundation, and features speakers Robert Bryce and Steve Nieland.

In a press release from the university, the event will be a “discussion in which presenters will discuss differing perspectives on climate change, what can be done to address the situation and the role economics, available resources and differences of opinion play in developing solutions.”

Jim Feldman, professor of environmental studies and history, said that climate change is an undeniable crisis.

“There is absolute scientific evidence and policy-making certainty that climate change is a crisis,” he said. “The climate is changing because of human activity and it’s going to be bad. It’s going to cause dramatic displacements for people around the world and potentially in Oshkosh.”

Feldman said that hosting this event on campus is a hindrance to recent campus efforts to address its role in climate issues.

“The university has made really important decisions with climate change in mind,” he said. “[UWO] has committed to ... limiting our fossil fuel output by 2030. We’ve put sustainability as part of our education plan and our strategic plan. Having an event that calls into question whether climate change is a crisis or not really undermines that work.”

Some of the engineering efforts put out by UWO are the eight Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Buildings, as well as the implementation of a variety of renewable energy installations.

In 2018, UWO launched the Sustainability Institute of Regional Transformations that focuses on outreach to the community and students, offering learning opportunities to support sustainability initiatives.

He said discussion about climate change is important going forward, but it should be centered around how to address issues rather than whether or not there is an issue.

“I’m open to a huge range of perspectives, but there simply isn’t debate about whether climate change is a crisis or not,” Feldman said. “The title of the panel implies that there’s debate. That perpetuates the politically motivated idea that climate change is not a problem. There are political beliefs that are less likely to be supported on campus and this should be one of them.”

Feldman said that since a significant majority of experts say climate change is a problem, the

university shouldn’t expend resources on debating whether it is or not.

“When 99% of all climate scientists agree this is a problem, we shouldn’t be giving time to the idea that says it’s not,” he said.

He said that he still is open to hearing what the panel has to say, but it should be based around addressing problems as opposed to denial.

“I don’t know what they’re going to say at the panel,” he said. “I’m trying not to jump to conclusions that I necessarily disagree with everything. If what they’re saying is we cannot scale renewable energy fast enough and we need to use nuclear energy instead, that’s the range of divergent political and policy events that is really appropriate to debate; it’s the title of the panel that I’m concerned about.”

He said that there are better ways to address these issues on campus when hosting these events, and that the sponsors of the event should have gone

through academic channels.

“If the group had reached out to the sustainability experts on campus, we would have said, ‘Let’s come up with an event that brings the campus together to talk about important issues where there’s a range of opinion,’ instead of an event that seems to undermine the work we’re doing on sustainability,” he said.

In response to the upcoming event, Feldman encourages students to attend and ask thought-provoking questions in a professional manner.

“I encourage you to go and ask good, respectful questions,” he said. “In some times and places, disrupting events like this has happened, but I’m not advocating for students to go and disrupt this event; I think that would be inappropriate.”

‘Climate Change: Crisis or Not? What is the solution?,’ will be hosted in the Culver Family Welcome Center on Wednesday, April 26 at 6 p.m.

Corrections

A headline and photo caption were incorrect in a story about the UW Oshkosh Theatre Department in the April 13 issue. Only majors, not minors, are impacted by Provost John Koker’s decision to temporarily halt students from declaring a major in theater until enrollment increases. In addition, the Freedom of Information request information was misleading. The records requested did not exist; the public records custodian did not decline to provide the emails as first reported.

In another story on April 13, “UWO softball wins 7th straight game,” the spelling of one of the player’s names was incorrect. The correct spelling is Ana Iliopoulos.

Survey considers replacing Halsey

By Josh Lehner
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A survey was recently sent to students asking them their opinions on Halsey Science Center, as UW Oshkosh Chancellor Andrew Leavitt tasked a group with creating a document that makes the case for its replacement.

Students who utilize Halsey are encouraged to complete the survey, which can be found at <https://bit.ly/41BCZ9P>.

“The members of the Chancellor’s Science Building White Paper committee were charged to create a document demonstrating the limitations of the current Halsey Science Center and visioning the advantages to teaching, learning and research that could be provided in a new building,” the survey says.

Committee member and biology professor Robert Mitchell said a new building is needed because science has progressed in the 60 years since Halsey’s construction.

“Consider that Halsey was built only a decade after the structure of DNA was solved and still a decade before the first personal computer,” he said. “We now have entirely new fields like molecular biology, biotechnology and genomics, and modern research labs and teaching classrooms have very high technology and equipment demands that were not anticipated by the architects.”

Mitchell said that campus



Halsey (right) has changed little since the 1970s (left). Professors who utilize the building have pointed to the fact that Halsey hasn’t kept up with science and technology. UWO computer science chair George Thomas said that a more modern, welcoming space with more lounges and study space will benefit students.



UWO Archives and Josh Lehner / Advance-Titan

buildings aren’t simply classrooms and offices, and that they should include gathering spaces, studying areas and dining options — which are largely absent from the current building.

Chemistry department co-chair Kevin Crawford, who is also one of the committee members, emphasized the need for food and beverage options beyond vending machines, saying that a new building should be open for students to study and do group work, with faculty offices nearby.

“I think all academic buildings should be designed to help build connections between students

and faculty,” he said. “Modern science research is not done alone in a lab, so our building should encourage coming together outside the classroom for learning and research. More open and welcoming spaces would help with retention and recruitment of students, too.”

Crawford said that a new building should also provide more flexibility in classrooms.

“Many of our current spaces in Halsey can only be used in one way,” he said. “The large lecture rooms have fixed seating on tiers. Modern large classroom spaces often have moveable furniture to allow the space to be

used in several different ways, not just for traditional lectures.”

But Crawford said one of his concerns over a new building is sustainability, since Halsey is the second largest energy-consuming building on campus — next to the heating plant.

“That’s not unexpected since it is a science building, but we should have a goal of a very sustainability-minded construction process and energy efficient final building,” he said.

He also said he wants to ensure that money is allocated to update teaching and research equipment.

Halsey was named after Rufus

Halsey, who served as school president from 1899 to 1907. The first sections of the building were constructed in 1963 to address the school’s growing curriculum. The building was expanded afterward, with the fourth and final section being finished in 1969.

A replacement to Halsey would be constructed within the next five to ten years.

All of the survey responses will be incorporated into a paper that will be finished in late May, Crawford said. It will then be used by Leavitt to lobby the UW System and the state to add the building project to the state’s list of capital projects.

UWO looks to improve commuter experience

By Kelly Hueckman
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UW Oshkosh commuting students face additional challenges compared to residential students that can decrease their involvement and success, UWO staff and students said, although they are looking to improve the overall experience.

“Commuter students have many challenges, including family obligations, personal relationships, work, time management and acclimating to the university,” UWO Center for Academic Resources Director Jessica Spanbauer said.

Currently, there are 12,978 students living off campus of the 15,209 students enrolled at UWO during the 2022-23 academic year, according to UWO open records. This year, the number of students living in campus resident housing is the lowest it’s been in the past six academic years.

Meanwhile, the percentage of first-year students who commute to UWO has increased from 10.6% in 2018 to 15.3% in Fall 2022, according to Spanbauer, who wrote a research paper on the topic last summer. The percentage spiked to 23.6% in 2020, but never dipped below the 2018 percentage of 10.6%.

In her study, she found that although commuting students make up a significant portion of UWO, they have historically fallen behind in their academic career.

“Our first-year commuter students are lagging behind in both retention and graduation rates compared to their residential peers,”



Kelly Hueckman / Advance-Titan
Mikayla Morrell finishes homework in the commuter lounge, located on the first floor of Reeve Memorial Union in room 102C.

Spanbauer said. “They also earn fewer credits and have a lower overall cumulative grade point average compared to their residential peers.”

On top of their tendency to trail behind their peers in academia, commuters are also shown to be less involved in university activities and other extracurricular offerings, she said.

One reason commuters can feel disconnected from UWO is conflicting time schedules, UWO commuter student Luiza Nelson said.

“Most events happen at night, and most commuter students cannot wait around from the end of class to the start of the events, which can take hours,” she said.

New Student and Family Programs specialist Emily Brooke said that when talking with stu-

dents, she received comments that university events were also not as relevant to commuter students as to other students.

“When I had Titan Welcome last fall, a lot of feedback that I got from students, primarily non-traditional and commuter students, was that there were not a lot of specific events that pertained to them,” Brooke said.

Brooke also took part in hosting a commuting student panel in January to encourage conversation and questions about navigating college as a commuter student.

Second year commuting student Sophia Runge said difficulty finding a parking space is one of her main daily concerns, a common complaint from commuting students.

“Being a commuter student is not the most convenient,” Runge

said. “I would say parking is a big issue when it comes to driving to college; there’s not enough space for the passes the school gives out.”

Currently, there are 2,760 parking spaces available to commuting students, residential students, faculty and staff, according to the UWO Police Department. A parking lot with 74 spaces is allotted for commuting students only.

The total number of parking spaces commuters are allowed to park in is less than 25% of the population of UWO students living off campus.

More introductory resources, especially concerning parking, to first-year commuting students would have been helpful, Runge said.

“I think it would be helpful if UWO had videos for incoming commuter students on how to navigate campus and which parking lots are best for certain buildings,” she said. “I had to learn that on my own and it took me a little bit to figure out.”

Brooke said that because incoming commuting students tend to have difficulty navigating campus and finding events that pertain to them, they can struggle making connections at school.

“The big point is getting involved because you don’t have that natural connection,” she said. “You kind of have to make a more intentional effort to seek out communities like getting an on-campus job or getting involved in a club.”

To encourage student involvement, New Student and Family Programs and commuting students have discussed creating an orga-

nization for UWO commuters, Brooke said.

“Currently, there is no commuter student organization,” she said. “There was, many years ago, but it dissolved over time. That is something that people are interested in reviving to have a specific space or club that commuters can connect in.”

Spanbauer said that after gathering commuter student data, she and New Student and Family Programs are currently fleshing out different strategies to increase these students’ involvement and success.

“I knew that in general, commuter students struggled with their connection to campus,” she said. “However, seeing the data of our first-year commuter students made me realize that something more needs to be done to support these students.”

Some strategies include identifying first-year commuting students to maximize outreach efforts, including a specialized portion in Titan Takeoff for commuters and implementing a summer bridge program geared directly toward these students.

Brooke said reaching out to commuting students and giving them more relevant resources is a priority for Spanbauer and New Student and Family Programs.

“We’re really trying to adapt our programs to cater to commuter students,” she said. “What’s being offered is really hard for them because a lot of commuter students are on the road or have a job to get to, so we are trying to be more intentional about meeting that population’s needs.”

Sports



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO’s Nicholas Shiu hits the ball against Eau Claire April 8 at Tiedemann Field. Shiu had his first career multi-home run game April 14.

UWO baseball wins Stout series

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh baseball team won both games of its doubleheader against UW-Stout, taking down the Blue Devils 14-7 and 12-8, respectively, at First National Bank Field in River Falls April 15.

With the victories over Stout, the Titans are now tied for first place in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and UWO head coach Kevin Tomasiewicz became the third coach in program history to reach 200 career wins. Oshkosh is currently ranked No. 21 in the country by d3baseball.com.

In the first game of the doubleheader, LJ Waco picked up his fourth win of the season, allowing three earned runs on 10 hits and striking out six batters in 7.2 innings pitched to remain undefeated on the year. Logan King pitched 1.1 innings of relief, al-

lowing three hits and no runs.

Offensively, UWO was led by first baseman Zach Taylor and left fielder Mason Kirchberg, who each had a four-hit game. Taylor finished the contest with a double, three singles and three RBIs while Kirchberg had four RBIs and was a triple away from hitting for the cycle.

Oshkosh jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning after Stout walked in a run with the bases loaded and from a pair of RBI singles from Taylor and Kirchberg. UWS responded by scoring five runs in the first three innings to take a 5-3 lead, courtesy of a couple of Titan errors and an RBI double from Jacoby Andreas.

The two teams traded runs in the fifth and sixth innings with Kirchberg driving in another run with an RBI single and Stout’s Riley Boushach hitting a solo homer.

The Titans found themselves down 6-4 in the top of the sev-

enth inning, but UWO exploded for seven runs behind a pair of two-RBI singles from Taylor and Kirchberg to give Oshkosh an 11-6 lead. Kirchberg homered in the eighth inning and Jake Surane hit a two-RBI double to right-center field as the Titans cruised to a 14-7 victory.

In the second game, UWO starting pitcher Cameron Mulvihill picked up his fourth win of the season, pitching seven innings and giving up six earned runs on nine hits and striking out eight batters. Aaron Huibregtse pitched two innings of relief and recorded his first save of the year, going two innings on the mound and allowing one hit and no runs.

Scherrman finished the game with three RBIs, two walks, two singles and two runs scored to pace all UWO batters. Taylor also had a three-RBI day, smashing a home run and getting walked once.

Stout scored two runs in the

first inning from a Titan error that scored Justin Sedin and an RBI double from Jack Schirpke. In the top of the second inning, the Titans erupted for seven runs behind a three-run home run from Taylor and an RBI single from Ethan Schreier to give UWO a 7-2 lead.

The Blue Devils responded in the third inning when Schirpke drove in a run with an RBI single. In their next frame, Stout cut the Oshkosh lead to two runs in the fourth inning after Parker Hagebock brought in a runner with an RBI single and Sedin hit an RBI double.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, Kirchberg drove in Nicholas Shiu on a hard-hit ball, but was thrown out at second base. UWO would extend its advantage to five runs in the eighth inning after Kirchberg hit an RBI single to center field and Scherrman hit an RBI single to left field.

Turn to **Baseball** / Page 5

Softball defeats UWEC

By Mattie Beck
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The Titans had their first shutout against UW Eau Claire Blugolds since 2008 this past weekend.

The first game of the doubleheader was a close game, with the final score at 3-2.

In the bottom of the first inning, the Titans scored the first inning of the game.

Abby Garceau singled to center field and stole second on a strikeout from Sophie Wery.

Morgan Rau singled down the infield line and advanced to second on the throw, also scoring Garceau.

In the bottom of the sixth, Sydney Rau singled and advanced to second on a throwing error by third base.

Brianna Davis walked, and Ana Iliopoulos singled, scoring Morgan Rau, and putting the score at 2-0 UWO.

At the top of the seventh, the Blugolds scored two runs, tying the game.

In the bottom of the seventh, Hannah Ritter singled up the middle and advanced to second on a bunt from Wery.

Morgan Rau was intentionally walked, and Gabby Buikema singled to right field, advancing Morgan Rau to third.

Sydney Rau singled to short-stop, scoring Morgan Rau and ending the game with a 3-2 score.

The second game was another close one for the Titans.

No runs were scored until the bottom of the third, with Garceau tripling to right field and Ritter singling up the middle, scoring Garceau.

The game stayed at a standstill until the bottom of the sixth.

Turn to **Softball** / Page 5

Track and field competes at Platteville Invitational

By Evan Stapleton
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The UW Oshkosh men’s and women’s track and field teams competed in the UW-Platteville Invitational on Friday, April 14. The men’s team finished fourth with 88 points and secured three event wins, while the women’s team took seventh place with 41 points.

The men’s track and field team at UWO had some impressive performances from 2022 outdoor All-Americans.

Senior Steven Potter won the 800-meter run with a team season-best time of 1:51.69.

“After each race, I ask my coach for feedback, especially about my time,” Potter said. “My goal is to get a national qualifier, which is 1:51:06 or faster

and I’ve run a personal best of 1:49:51 before so I’d want to break that again.”

Potter was able to achieve his second win and top-three finish of the season by putting in the work and executing a solid strategy during his race.

“We had a rabbit from Madison who got out pretty far and I was able to use that as a starting point around 200 meters out,” said Potter. “I threw a surge in there with 300 meters to go, listened to my coaches from the side, and checked out the shadows to see where everyone was until nobody caught up to me.”

Potter says he aims to get the conference and national qualifier out of the way in any meet and knows that experienced runners can help with those times.

“This Friday is a fast race with

guys from all different divisions in my heat,” Potter said. “Going against these experienced runners can give me an edge in future events.”

Confidence is one thing that allows Potter to be successful while always maintaining his nerves during his races.

“It’s easy to approach a race and be nervous and that’s okay,” Potter said. “If I were nervous at some point in the middle of the race, it could affect everything else so having confidence in myself is the best.”

Junior Rashaad Henderson who took first place in the 200-meter dash with a personal career-best time of 21.24 seconds, the second-fastest in program history.

“The 200 has been my favorite race since I first ran it in high school and I kind of struggled in



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO’s Steven Potter runs in the UW-Platteville Invitational.

the event in college,” Henderson said. “My confidence has honestly never been higher than it is right now in regards to the 200.”

Henderson hasn’t missed a step

since transitioning from indoor to outdoor but says his training and lengths of the races are the biggest differences.

Turn to **Track** / Page 5

Sports



Scoreboard

Friday, April 14

Track and Field
Men's - 4/14, 88 pts.
Women's - 7/13, 41 pts.

Baseball
Game 1:
UWO - 15
UW-Stout - 4
Game 2:
UWO - 10
UW-Stout - 8
Softball
Game 1:
UWO - 3
UW-Eau Claire - 2
Game 2:
UWO - 2
UW-Eau Claire - 0

Saturday, April 15

Baseball
Game 1:
UWO - 14
UW-Stout - 7
Game 2:
UWO - 12
UW-Stout - 8
Golf
UWO - 4
Marian - 1

Sunday, April 16

Golf
UWO - 1
UW-La Crosse - 4

Tuesday, April 18

Softball
Game 1:
UWO - 9
Carrol University - 1
Game 2:
UWO - 9
Carrol University - 5

Upcoming Events

Friday, April 21

Track and Field
at UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Chal-
lenge 10:30 a.m.
Golf
at UW-Whitewater Spring Invite

Saturday, April 22

Track and Field
at UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Chal-
lenge 10:30 a.m.
Golf
at UW-Whitewater Spring Invite

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

Sunday, April 23

Baseball
Games 1&2: vs. UW-Platteville at
12 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Softball
Games 1&2: at UW-Stevens Point
at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

A-Trivia

Besides Kevin Tomasiewicz,
what other UWO baseball
coaches have over 200 ca-
reer wins?

Answer: Tom Lechnir (728-292-
(1) and Russ Tiedemann (501-
1891-2)

Softball: UWO win streak reaches 9

From Page 4

In the bottom of the sixth, Garceau reached first on a throwing error by the shortstop. Ritter doubled to left field, advancing Garceau to third. Morgan Rau was intentionally walked, and Lizzie Slobodecki pinch ran for Ritter.

Buikema flew out to center field with a sacrifice fly, Morgan Rau advanced to second and Slobodecki advanced to third on the throw, and Garceau scored the last run of the game.

The Titans swept the Blugolds 3-2 and 2-0 respectively.

The team played a doubleheader against Carroll University April 18 and won both games.

In the second game of the series, the Titans battled the Pioneers, defeating Carroll 9-5.

In the bottom of the first, Buikema doubled to left field, scoring Ritter and Garceau.

The Pioneers scored at the top of the fourth, and the Titans scored in

the bottom of the inning with a homer from Davis, scoring herself and Haylie Wittman, putting the score at 4-1 UWO.

In the top of the fifth, the Pioneers scored three runs, taking the lead for the game.

With the score at 5-4, the Titans came back with a single from Morgan Rau scoring Garceau to tie the game in the bottom of the fifth.

In the bottom of the sixth, Garceau reached on a fielder's choice, scoring Davis.

To end the game, Wery homered to left field, scoring Ritter and Garceau.

The first game was a shut-out, with the Titans winning 9-1 against Carroll.

In the bottom of the first, Wery homered to center field, scoring Morgan Rau and Ritter and starting the game with a 3-0 lead.

Carroll scored in the top of the third, but the Titans came and scored six runs in the bottom of the fifth inning.

From Page 4

"From a practice perspective we lengthen the duration of our pushes a considerable amount to compensate for this change of distance," Henderson said. "I also place more of an emphasis on speed over endurance in my training, as my indoor season was tailored more towards endurance/lactic training."

As Henderson's confidence continues to improve off back-to-back wins in the 200-meter dash, he attributes his success to his self-belief on the track.

"My belief in my ability is the main contributor to my overall success on the track," Henderson said. "I have zero self-doubts before I step into the blocks for the 200 and that allows me to perform at my best under any circumstance."

Freshman Aden Sears placed third in the 110-meter hurdle finals running a time of 15.04 seconds, while Devin Williams ran a

team season-best to finish third in the 400-meter dash with a time of 49.09 seconds.

Junior Elijah Pena ran a time of 57.18 seconds to finish eighth in the 400-meter hurdles with a new team season-best time, and Sophomore Caleb Cornelius won the high jump for the second consecutive week with a team season-best mark of 6'9" (2.06m).

Abdul Karim Toheeb-Lawal set a team season-best jump in the long jump of 23'1 1/4" (7.04m) and finished fourth overall.

The Titans' only competitor in the pole vault, sophomore Zach Zirgibel, finished third with a height of 14' 6 1/4" (4.43m).

On the women's team, several athletes stood out with their performances at the UW-Platteville Invitational.

Jamie Catania won the 5,000-meter run with a time of 19:57.66.

Meanwhile, Libby Geisness finished third in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:16.05.

Baseball: Oshkosh enters first place tie

From Page 4

UWS scored three runs in bottom of the eighth inning, but Scherrman knocked in two runs with a single as the Titans hung on to win their 18th win of the season.

UWO split its doubleheader against Stout April 14, defeating the Blue Devils 15-4 in the first game and falling 10-8 in the second game at Wakanda Park in Menomonie.

Shiu, who is batting .310 on the season, had his first multi-home run game of his career in the first game with a solo shot and a two-run homer to help the Titans to victory.

UWO starting pitcher Connor Brinkman remained undefeated on the season, allowing four runs on eight hits and striking out eight batters in 6.2 innings pitched to pick up his sixth win of the season.

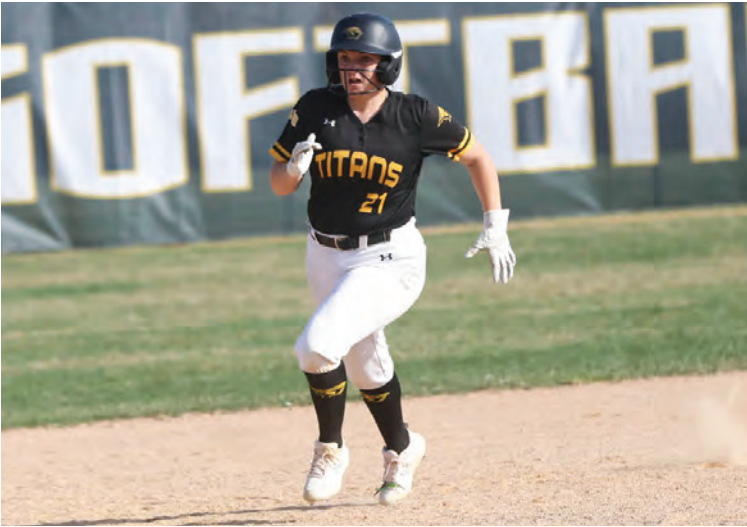
UWS jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning when Andreas smashed a three-run homer to



Connor Brinkman

right-center field. Shiu responded with a two-run blast for the Titans in the second inning and UWO cut the deficit to one run.

Oshkosh took the lead for good in the third inning when Scherrman hit an RBI single and Taylor hit a sacrifice fly to center field to give the Titans a 4-3 advantage. UWO tacked on three runs in the fourth



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO's Abby Garceau touches the bases against Eau Claire.

The Titans ended the game with a 9-1 win.

UWO took on Marian University in a doubleheader April 19 at Smith Field in Fond du Lac.

The Titans will take on UW-Whitewater for Alumni Day at home April 22 starting at 1 p.m.

WIAC Standings

UW Oshkosh	-----	4-0
UW-River Falls	-----	2-0
UW-Whitewater	----	4-1
UW-Platteville	-----	3-3
UW-Stevens Point	---	1-3
UW-La Crosse	-----	1-3
UW-Stout	-----	1-3
UW-Eau Claire	-----	1-4



Micky Barrette

The 4x400-meter relay squad also performed well, finishing third with a team season-best time of 4:03.15.

In addition, Rachel Castelli had a strong showing with a sixth-place finish in the 100-meter dash, clocking in with a personal career-best time of 12.28 seconds. Her time tied for the 10th-fastest time in program history.

Castelli also finished sixth in the

200-meter dash with a team season-best time of 25.48 seconds, the fourth-fastest finish in program history.

Micky Barrette had a notable second-place finish in the discus throw with a personal career-best and team season-leading cast of 141' 11" (43.27m).

Finally, freshman Haley Kanitz had a solid performance, finishing ninth in the triple jump with a skip of 35' 1" (10.69m) for the best jump by a Titan this season.

"Winning multiple events is cool but our coaching staff keeps us grounded so our heads don't get too big," Henderson said. "When talking about the week after a successful meet, we just leave it in the past because anything could happen in the following meet."

The Titans will look to further their success on the road April 21 and 22, competing in the UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Challenge. Events will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Friday and 1 p.m. on Saturday.

inning from an Ethan Schreier RBI single and a pair of throwing errors from Stout's catcher and third baseman.

In the fifth inning, Shiu and Kirchberg each hit solo home runs as UWO's advantage grew to five runs.

UWO exploded for six runs in the sixth inning behind RBI singles from Taylor, Connor Giusti and Jake Andersen, increasing Oshkosh's lead to 15-4 and ending the contest due to the NCAA's 10-run rule.

In the second game UWO's Matt Sorrells allowed four runs on six hits in 2.1 innings pitched to pick up his second loss of the year. Trey Tennesen pitched 1.2 innings of relief, allowing four runs on five hits and striking out two batters.

UWO opened the scoring in the first inning when Taylor hit an RBI double to give Oshkosh a 1-0 lead. Stout responded in the bottom half of the inning with a two-run homer

from Justin Sedin to give the Blue Devils a 2-1 advantage. UWS put two more runs on the board in the second inning to give Stout a three-run lead.

The Titans narrowed the UWS advantage to 4-3 in the third inning but the Blue Devils responded with four runs in the fourth inning to give Stout an 8-3 lead.

UWS scored two more runs in the sixth inning, but in the eighth inning UWO erupted for five runs to narrow the Stout advantage to two runs. Taylor drove in a run off a ground out to the second baseman in the eighth inning, but it was not enough to send UWO past Stout.

The Titans faced off against UW-Stevens Point in a doubleheader April 19 at Tiedemann Field. Check the UWO athletics website for more information.

UWO will take on UW-Platteville in a doubleheader for Senior Day April 22 at Tiedemann Field starting at noon.

Arts & Entertainment

RTF students plan film festival

By Josh Lehner
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The UW Oshkosh radio/TV/film (RTF) department will be hosting their annual student film festival — titled “Their Majesties Film Fest” — at the Time Community Theater, 445 N. Main St., May 14 at 6 p.m.

Students of the advanced visual production course at UWO have been planning, shooting and editing four different films throughout the semester.

Each year’s show sports a theme, and this year’s theme is royalty. Guests are encouraged to dress in their best royal attire.

UWO student Bailey Laird is a cinematographer for a film titled “You’ll Be Okay.”

“It follows a young woman fearing the possibility of being pregnant, as the world tries to tell her how to feel about the possibility,” he said.

Laird is working on the film with three other students — a producer, editor and writer/director. He said that, as a cinematographer, he focuses on the camera and visuals of the film.

“The director expresses their vision and works with the cinematographer to accomplish or enhance that vision, to give the audience the best possible product,” he said. “My overall job is to structure, light and compose each shot you see in the film.”

Joely Hurkman is the producer for a film titled “Now We Wait,” which follows a character named Rae, an anxious young adult who battles a fear of dying.

Hurkman said that the script was written in early February, and pre-production and filming began in March. Now, they are in the editing phase.

Hurkman has worked with three other crew members to produce the film: a writer and director, a director of photography and a sound-mixer and editor. But as the film’s producer, Hurkman said that her role is ensuring that production moves along and the requirements are met.

“Right away, I met with our writer, Megan, and together we



Courtesy of Bailey Laird

The RTF department will be hosting their annual film festival at the Time Community Theater on May 16 at 6 p.m.

finalized the script — breaking it down and strategically planning how long each moment would take to film,” she said. “I oversaw the finding of talent. As a group, we created a casting call that I published on Facebook ... For the rest of our crew, I spoke with classmates and gave them each a position for the filming day that worked for them. I reserved the equipment and ensured that it was picked up in a timely manner and dropped off at the scheduled time.”

Hurkman said that her crew’s film, which focuses around the unexpected nature of death, aims to strike a chord with viewers

and encourage them to vote for change.

She pointed out the more than 100 mass shootings that have occurred in the U.S. during her film’s production.

“The feeling of safety in a public space is so low right now, and each student is just waiting for this to happen on their campus,” she said. “‘Now We Wait’ really is about all of us, anxiously waiting and wondering what day will be our last.”

The festival is hosted through RTF professor Beth Hubbard’s class. But planning for the films began before the spring semester.

“The script ideas or rough drafts

for the films tend to come from previous class work that students want to make into a short film,” Hubbard said. “The work toward forming groups and working on scripts is actually done once the fall semester ends. The goal is to come into the spring semester with scripts and groups ready to go because making a short film in 14 weeks is a demanding ambition.”

The course, Hubbard said, teaches students all aspects of the filmmaking process, from developing concepts to distribution.

“From casting, location scouting, framing, exporting and submitting to festivals, this course

teaches students the techniques independent filmmakers are using to gain exposure, network and build careers,” she said.

Laird said that the opportunity to showcase a film in front of an audience is a surreal experience.

“For a lot of us, this is our first major project, so for it to be on display for the public in a legit movie theater is kind of crazy!” he said. “As one of the marketing coordinators for the festival, my biggest hope is that people come and enjoy the films.”

Students, friends and family are all encouraged to attend. There is no cost for entry and no tickets or sign-up required.

UWO theatre department presents spring play

By Brandon Cobb
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The UW Oshkosh theatre department is suiting up to present “The (One-Act) Play That Goes Wrong” by Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer and Henry Shields, which is being directed by UWO alumnus Ryan Schabach.

The play puts a spin on the classic murder mystery story by adding multiple comedic elements that cause the play to take a form of its own.

Schabach said the play is a series of unfortunate events and bad luck for its characters.

“It sounds a bit silly, but it is written right in the title: the play that goes wrong,” Schabach said. “So someone is trying to do a play and it’s not one thing that goes wrong, it’s just



BY HENRY LEWIS, JONATHAN SAYER & HENRY SHIELDS

things cascading over and over. Every single thing that could go wrong, it goes wrong.”

Along with just its comedic side, Schabach spoke on the uniqueness of the play.

“Even if something in a play goes wrong, the audience doesn’t know, but what’s so unique about this play is that they make it so the audience knows exactly what went wrong,” he said. “Along with that, the play has another play within it, requiring each actor to work on two characters in one.”

The play is also filled with countless instances of audience interaction and perfectly-rehearsed accidents, Schabach said. “I remember one of my classmates saying that something unique about comedies is when you rehearse them they are extremely serious because every moment is so precise and you have to make it look like an accident on stage while it’s been rehearsed within an inch of its life,” he said.

The actors are slated to deal with a plethora of disasters from missed lines to falling props for an hour, which present a lot of precarious situations that you will have to see to believe. With the premiere being a week away, Schabach reflected on what he had felt after seeing the play.

“Even though everything is going wrong onstage, everyone is having a great time,” he said.

“The (One-Act) Play That Goes Wrong” will have showings on April 27, 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee on April 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available on the UWO theatre department webpage and will be sold on the day of the showing until they are sold out.

Beyond the textbook

UW Oshkosh ROTC students taught skills that last a lifetime

By Aubrie Selsmeyer
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Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) teaches students lessons and leadership skills that far outweigh what can be taught in a standard classroom.

Members of the UW Oshkosh ROTC set off in Black Hawk helicopters flown in by the National Guard to take them from Oshkosh to Fort McCoy for CFTX (combined field training exercise).

Cadets (young trainees in the armed services) arrived on Wednesday and immediately put their skills to the test.

The trainees participated in shooting range practice, obstacle courses and other evaluations.

UWO Cadet Emily Rivero said ROTC gave her the opportunity to represent her country whilst being a normal college student.

“From a young age, I’ve always looked up to a soldier in uniform,” Rivero said. “ROTC was able to give me a normal college student lifestyle as well as grant me all of these amazing opportunities in the military.”

CFTX is meant to prepare cadets for the summer of their junior year of college where they complete cadet summer training (CST).

This 35-day training applies everything a cadet has learned the past three years of college and determines what branch of the military they will be assigned to.

Not only does the ROTC program help students afford their college education, but it works to develop character and life skills that can only be learned through experience that students work through first hand.

CST is meant to push participants to their limits mentally and physically, Cadet Christian Hecht said.

Roughly 7,000 cadets from

across the nation are sent to train at Fort Knox, Kentucky, each summer.

“It’s a test of willpower because you go in there thinking you’re prepared and you realize that you’re hopefully not,” Hecht said. “It forces you to quickly adapt and it will either make or break you. It’s meant to assess where cadets’ skills will be best utilized in the field.”

As a sophomore, Rivero has already competed in what is considered the hardest race in ROTC in February of this year.

The Northern Warfare is a 16.7 mile ruck [fast-paced walk with a 35lb bag on your back] through Grandad Bluff in La Crosse.

One team of five cadets was sent from the Fox Valley Battalion to compete against teams all over the country, Rivero being one of five sent.

Oshkosh ROTC belongs to the Fox Valley Battalion, which consists of five schools: UWO, Marion University, Ripon College, St. Norbert College and UW Green Bay.

Rivero is also the only one from UWO who was selected for an air assault slot at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, this May where she will be taught how to repel from helicopters.

In their senior year, ROTC students are taught how to be an officer and assigned a platoon of 40 soldiers to be in charge of.

By the end of the first semester of senior year, they are assigned their branch of choice based on how well they were assessed at CST the summer before.

Upon graduation as an officer, Rivero said she hopes to go active duty in May of 2025 and into military intelligence.

“Military intelligence uses information collection and analyst approaches to provide commanders with intelligence



Cadet Emily Rivero ascends a rope as a part of the confidence obstacle course out at Fort McCoy. Courtesy of Fox Valley Army ROTC Battalion

that will allow them to make informed decisions on the battlefield,” Rivero said. “My job would be to collect intelligence on the enemy and provide assessments to assist combat units in planning their missions.”

Rivero said that ROTC has provided her with a multitude of experiences that will last far beyond her college years.

“I have an amazing academic support system and have made

many lasting friendships,” Rivero said. “I personally like that if I want to have a career in the army, I can, and if I don’t, I can do it for a few years and become a civilian using my army training and leadership skills in the real world.”

The ROTC program positively impacts students’ lives and provides them with lessons that cannot be learned in a classroom.

These lessons of leadership, discipline and accountability directly translate to the workforce.

Whether cadets choose to continue their lives in the military post-graduation or find work elsewhere, ROTC leaves an everlasting impact on the lives of those who partake in the program.

This can’t be derived from a textbook.

Letter to the Editor

Make the choice to attend college; it’s worth it.

By Grace Riedl
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Over 15 million students, as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics, start a new chapter of life – college.

College comes with a lot of expenses, and one should ask themselves, “Is college worth my time?”

From a young age, I was taught in school that everyone should attend college. That college was the key to the luxurious life everyone wants.

Throughout middle school and high school, we were told to explore colleges and desired majors.

Knowing I had to pay for my college education made me nervous. I would ask myself, “What if I’m stuck in debt forever?”

That day I had to make a choice, and boy am I glad I chose to attend college.

Elka Torpey with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics said, “Workers with a bachelor’s degree had median weekly earnings of \$1,305 in 2020, compared with \$781 for workers with a high school diploma.”

For students like myself, gaining a bachelor’s degree has been proven for a higher-paying salary and work benefits, such as faster promotions, better select-

ed insurance and more paid time off.

Obtaining a college degree allows for you to continue pursuing your education - whether that be a Master’s program or PhD.

Additionally, gaining a college degree provides more economic stability.

Northeastern University stated, “Six percent of bachelor’s degree holders live below the poverty line, while an alarming 22 percent of people without a college degree live in poverty. Earning a bachelor’s degree will help afford you economic stability and security for the future.”

Leaving home and knowing

almost nobody is difficult, even for social butterflies.

Attending college allows for one to expand their social circle. Meeting people and making connections in college has a large impact on future networking opportunities and forever memories.

Loans. FAFSA. Debt. All those words are scary.

Paying back loans after graduation may take time, but for most, it is doable. Having a bachelor’s degree and an upcoming job makes paying back loans less stressful.

Forbes stated, “The time it takes to repay your student loans

depends on the type of loan you have, which repayment plan you choose and how aggressively you want to repay your debt. In one survey with more than 60,000 respondents, it took the average person a little more than 20 years to pay off their student loans.”

Deciding whether to attend college is an individual’s choice. However, as you’re deciding on your future education, remember the long-lasting and powerful benefits of a college degree.

Investing in a college education can be risky and scary, but is extremely beneficial in the long run. So, is college worth it? In my opinion – yes.



OUR
DOORS
ARE
OPEN.

