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Signs of Chronic Wasting Disease

Excess salivation
& teeth grinding

Head tilting
downward

Gradual weight loss

Katie Pulvermacher / Advance-Titan

Hunters in Wisconsin need to watch out for Chronic Wasting Disease, which has recently been identified in Winnebago County. A healthy deer is shown in the photo, but if a deer were to have the disease, the symptoms listed above would be present.

Hunters in Wisconsin, beware!

DNR bans deer baiting, feeding in Winnebago County

By Nolan Swenson
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Deer baiting and feeding will be banned in Winnebago County after the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) confirmed a case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) for the first time in Winnebago County in the town of Nepeuskun.

The positive deer was found in Nepeuskun within 10 miles of Waushara County, Green Lake County and Fond du Lac County borders.

CWD is an infectious nervous system disease in the cervid, or deer, family. It was first detected in Wisconsin in 2002, and has spread to 30 U.S. states, according to the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.

In compliance with state law, the DNR will enact a three-year ban of feeding and baiting within Winnebago county, as well as a two-year ban in the adjoining counties within 10 miles of the positive. These counties include: Waushara County, Green Lake County and Fond du Lac County.

The feeding ban is put in place to prevent unnatural congrega-

tion of deer where the disease may spread rapidly.

Infected deer can spread CWD either through direct contact with healthy deer or by leaving behind infectious prions – or damaged proteins – in saliva, blood, feces and urine.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is “no strong evidence” of CWD being spread to humans, but they recommend hunters take precautions to reduce exposure to infected animals.

They urge hunters harvesting deer or elk in CWD-positive areas to have their game tested for

CWD before eating it and to ask it to be processed individually to avoid any contamination.

Additional ways to avoid CWD exposure is to avoid deer that look sick or are behaving strangely, minimizing contact with organs while dressing deer and using specific tools for field dressing.

To learn more about feeding and baiting regulations in Wisconsin, visit the DNR website at dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/hunt/bait.html.

For more information on CWD, visit dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/cwd.html.

PRSSA ‘Launch Life’ a success

By Mattie Beck
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Every April, the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) on campus creates a campaign for National Organ Day Awareness Competition (NODAC) in order to encourage students to sign up to be organ donors.

The campaign has a different theme every year; this year’s theme being “Launch Life,” a rocket-themed project.

Jocelyn Nunez, the vice president of events on their executive board, explained the rationale behind the theme.

“For our theme this year we wanted to focus on the idea of creating a new life for someone when you are an organ donor,” she said. “We came up with ‘Launch Life’ to showcase that idea – ‘launch’ inspired us to use NASA/space/rocket-like colors and graphics.”

Nunez was one of the members of the executive board who helped plan the campaign, along with others in the organization.

“We had about eight other members who helped us out along the way, which was nice because we are still trying to improve our numbers since COVID happened,” Nunez said. “Also, the public relations techniques [course] helped us plan our social posts and create graphics.”

There were a lot of different steps to this process, which included planning from the whole team working on the campaign.

Nunez herself liked the planning stage for the experience she got from it.

“Planning this campaign was a super fun experience,” Nunez said. “We started with coming up

Turn to **NODAC** / Page 2

Last Lecture offers opportunity to empower

By Josh Lehner
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What if you were given one last opportunity to address your friends, family and peers?

UW Oshkosh’s biannual Last Lecture series does just that.

Inspired by Carnegie Mellon University professor Randy Pausch’s last lecture, which he delivered after being diagnosed with terminal cancer, UWO’s two speakers presented the speech they’d give if it had to be their last.

This semester’s two speakers were UWO student Sam Sasin and assistant anthropology professor Heidi Nicholls, who both spoke about their childhood dreams and how they realized their passions.

Nicholls: One journey to empowerment and success

Nicholls said that she grew up in a loving family that helped shape her outlook.

“With a great family, I was allowed an opportunity to dream in all sorts of ways,” she said. “Our families have so much influence on how we dream.”

Nicholls had many childhood dreams, one of which was to become an astronaut.

“To me, space represented the dream beyond that I couldn’t touch,” she said.

She wanted to become a horse trainer like her grandfather, as well as a dancer who would be able to travel the world.

Nicholls also said that she wanted

to become a researcher, showing a picture of a journal entry from sixth grade where she signed her name as “doctor.”

Though she was a good student through middle school, Nicholls said that she began to let academics slip in high school and would often skip class.

“I found out I was going to graduate high school the night before graduation,” she said.

And, though she enrolled in college, she’d often skip class and ended up flunking out. She tried college once more but failed again.

“So, I failed out of college twice,” she said. “I had a solid year of Fs on transcripts, and I had to pay the bill.”

Turn to **Last Lecture** / Page 2



Courtesy of Tori Deptula

Senior speaker Sam Sasin said making hard decisions equals growth. She was one of two presenters at Last Lecture on April 20.

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



Josh Lehner / Advance-Titan

Heidi Nicholls talks to a packed room about achieving her childhood dreams during last week’s Last Lecture series event. The event offered Nicholls and UWO student Sam Sasin the opportunity to present the lecture they’d give if it was their last.

Last Lecture: Passion

From Page 1
While considering alternative options to college, her parents convinced her to try school one more time, and she began to do well.
“I spent that first year learning that I could do it,” she said. “I had some great professors who believed in me and told me that I should try college.”
She then transferred to Cleveland State University where, to pursue her dreams of becoming an astronaut, she decided to become an aeronautical engineer.
But things changed for Nicholls when she was encouraged to take a biological anthropology class, which related school to her childhood dream of becoming a dancer.
“I learned about how we move and about bipedalism,” she said. “I learned about how our tendons and muscles connect to our bones. That’s dance. Now, I could academically look at dance.”
Nicholls, who was double majoring, went to Guatemala to help document a language that was being lost in the Guatemalan genocides.
She also spent time in Anguilla — an island in the Caribbean Sea — and Costa Rica.
But after traveling, she decided to study at home while working toward her PhD, which

she eventually received.
“Suddenly I realized, as I was looking at my journey, and I graduated with my PhD, that I achieved the doctor dream.”
Nicholls said that she also achieved her dream to become a dancer, as she was on the dance team in college and, after graduating, joined the Cleveland Contemporary Dance Theater. She was also a choreographer for Bollywood Fusion performances.
Nicholls also accomplished her horse trainer dream in grad school when she joined the equestrian team.
She related her childhood dream to become an astronaut with her love for Star Wars and Marvel movies and shows.
“That’s how I experience space,” she said. “And you know what, not all dreams are necessarily meant to be achieved in the way you think. The process of going there is what teaches you the lesson.”
Nicholls said that there’s tremendous power in understanding and accomplishing childhood dreams, and she also encouraged everyone to engage in dialogue and learn about other people, cultures and practices.
“If you’re Republican, go watch the Democrats stuff and learn Democrat stuff,” she said. “If you’re a Democrat, go learn

Republican stuff. If you are a Christian, go and learn about Islam and Buddhism. Only when we step outside of the ‘me’ are we able to able to start working on ‘we.’”
Sasin: Feel better, love better, grow better
At 13, Sasin said she started developing mental health issues. She started seeing a therapist and was diagnosed with persistent depressive disorder.
She also started developing anxiety-related issues and was suffering from emetophobia — the fear of vomiting.
“It got to the point where I was having multiple panic attacks a week,” she said. “It feels like you’re basically dying.”
Additionally, she said her family has a history of physical health issues. Through her rough patch, her main comfort was stuffed animals. Sasin showed a stuffed animal named Lamby, which she brought with her to the talk.
A woman who worked with Sasin’s grandfather gave him Lamby. Although she doesn’t know her, Sasin said that the woman had a massive impact on her.
“[Lamby has] been my greatest comfort in my darkest moments, but has also been there through all my triumphs,” she said. “If it wasn’t for this woman who

worked with my grandfather, I wouldn’t have that.”
Sasin said she started bringing stuffed animals to school, since they provided her with a sense of comfort.
“I was bringing different stuffed animals every single day,” she said. “I realized that it was bringing other people joy, and that’s why I continued to do it. I didn’t necessarily need it for myself anymore.”
She said that stuffed animals have helped her to grow, especially during her journey at UWO.
Sasin was originally a computer science major but switched to radio/TV/film (RTF) in the second semester of her junior year.
“I decided to change my major because I was unhappy, uninspired and stressed out,” she said. “I had to make a hard decision, [but] you must do hard things in order to grow.”
Though her family was skeptical of the decision, she said that she persisted and rediscovered her passions for photography and videography through RTF.
“The point of all this is making hard decisions equals growth,” she said. “I think that we owe it to the people who built us up in our lives to find our passion and to grow for them. They know we can do it.”

NODAC: Donors PRSSA collects student pledges

From Page 1
with a theme, research and our event, which was a great success.”
The team did run into some struggles when planning the campaign, mainly with upping the campaign from previous years according to Anna Murphy-Pociask, the president of PRSSA on campus.
“Some of the bigger struggles we ran into when planning the campaign were making it more creative and unique from previous years,” she said. “We received first place last year, so we have a big standard to uphold.”
As for the campaign, Murphy-Pociask said her favorite part was working with her team.
“My favorite part of this campaign was working with my awesome PRSSA team to help raise awareness about such an important and life-changing topic,” she said.
After working with her team and doing all the planning to put

together the campaign, they hosted a tabling event on April 25 in Sage Hall.
“The day-long event is a tabling event where we share meaningful conversations and information with people on campus and in the community,” Murphy-Pociask said.
At the tabling, they ask the student body questions related to organ donation.
“We ask questions such as, ‘Are you a current state organ donor?’ as well as ‘Would you like to sign up to save up to eight lives and help people in need of organs?’” Murphy-Pociask said. “If they show us that they signed up to be a national organ and tissue donor, they receive a ‘Launch Life’ themed cookie.”
The event engaged students going to and from class, which was the goal of the campaign according to Nunez.
“The event went really well, and we had a great turnout,” she said.



Courtesy of Pat Flood

Instructor Grace Lim with Honors College students, from left, Tanner Sarauer, Cory Sparks, Emelia Smith and MaryAnn Reindl.

Campus COVID Stories tonight

The Campus COVID Stories presentation will be held Thursday from 5-6:30 p.m. in the UW Oshkosh Music Hall.
The presentation, a special Humans of Oshkosh project, had UWO students interview 120 people to detail how the campus community came together to respond to the pandemic. The resulting 250-page book tells an tale of strength and resilience.
Stories were collected by

Grace Lim and her students in the Quest III, Telling Stories for Fun, Profit and World Peace classes in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 and by students from the Honors College. Interviews were done in person, via email, phone and video chat.
UWO photographer Pat Flood captured many of the images, including the stark black and white photos found throughout the book.

Sports



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO’s Connor Brinkman pitches against Platteville April 22 at Tiedemann Field. Brinkman is an undefeated 7-0 on the year.

UWO sweeps Platteville series

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh baseball team recorded 33 hits in two games as the Titans completed the series sweep of UW-Platteville April 23, defeating the Pioneers 17-2 and 7-4, respectively, in a doubleheader at Tiedemann Field.

With the victories, the Titans (22-6, 13-3 WIAC) moved up to No. 16 in the recent d3baseball.com Top 25 poll and UWO remains tied for first place with UW-La Crosse (22-6, 13-3 WIAC) in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference standings.

In the first game of the doubleheader, Oshkosh recorded 17 hits in the game and scored nine runs in the first inning to cruise to UWO’s fourth straight win over Platteville (10-20, 7-13 WIAC) dating back to last year.

Oshkosh pitcher LJ Waco recorded his fifth win of the season

to remain undefeated on the year, allowing two runs on six hits and striking out nine batters in five innings pitched. Aaron Huibregtse and Logan King each pitched one inning of relief, allowing a combined one hit and no runs.

UWO shortstop Matt Scherrman went 3-for-5 in the game with two doubles, a single and four RBIs to lead all Titan batters. Designated hitter Nicholas Shiu finished the contest 3-for-4 with three singles, two RBIs, a walk and a run scored.

UWO opened the scoring by posting nine runs in the first inning behind two doubles to center field from Scherrman that scored a total of three runs and a two RBI double from center fielder Jake Surane. Platteville scored two runs in the second inning after Spencer Robertson hit an RBI single and Charlie Breen scored later in the inning on a wild pitch to cut the Oshkosh lead to 9-2.

The Titans added three runs in the bottom of the second inning when Mason Kirchberg knocked a solo homer to left field, Surane drove in a run off a fielder’s choice and Jack McNamara stole home plate. UWP pitcher Josh Belgrave walked in a run in the fifth inning, and in the sixth inning UWO tacked on another four runs behind RBI singles from Scherrman and Shiu. UWO built a 17-2 advantage by the seventh inning, and the game ended due to the NCAA’s 10-run rule.

In the second game of the doubleheader, Oshkosh led the entire game and survived a rally in the eighth inning to pick up its 22nd win of the season.

UWO pitcher Cameron Mulvihill earned his fifth win of the season, allowing two earned runs on five hits and striking out eight batters in seven innings on the mound. Huibregtse and King each combined to pitch 0.2 and 1.1

innings of relief, respectively, allowing a combined three hits and one run. Offensively, Oshkosh first baseman Zach Taylor had a three-RBI game, going 3-for-4 with a double, two singles and a run scored to lead all batters.

The Titans jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the second inning when Connor Giusti singled to the shortstop, driving in a run. UWO added two runs in the fourth inning after Scherrman drove in a run on a ground out and Taylor hit an RBI single to right field. The Oshkosh lead grew to 5-0 in the sixth inning behind sacrifice flies from both Taylor and Shiu.

Platteville scored a run in the seventh inning from a Mitchell McLaughlin RBI double and the Pioneers added three more runs in the next frame behind a two RBI single from Jordan Collins and an RBI single from Ian Merry to cut the UWO lead to 5-4.

Turn to **Baseball** / Page 4

Track places fifth

By Evan Stapleton
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The nationally ranked UW Oshkosh men’s track and field placed fifth at the UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Challenge April 21 and 22. In the meet, the Titans finished with 65 points, while UW-La Crosse won with 166 points.

The UWO men’s team dominated the recent meet in a few key events, specifically the decathlon, securing top finishes in several. Notably, the team swept the top four positions in the 100-meter dash and took first place in the decathlon, 110-meter hurdle, long jump and shot put.

Oshkosh swept the top four positions in the 100-meter dash, with freshman Aden Sears winning with a time of 10.97 seconds, followed by Charlie Nolan, RJ Bosshart and Payton White.

Sears won the 400-meter dash with a time of 50.10 seconds in his third decathlon event, and a personal record with the third-highest score in program history.

Sears followed up by winning the 110-meter hurdle with a time of 15.08 seconds.

Freshman Charlie Nolan finished third in the 400-meter dash with a time of 50.90, and White took fifth.

Senior Denzel Thomas finished third in the 100-meter dash finals with a time of 10.84 seconds as the only Titan to start the race.

Nolan won the long jump in the decathlon with a distance of 22’ 7” (6.88m), followed by White, Sears and Bosshart.

Nolan then followed up by winning the high jump with a height of 6’ 4 1/4” (1.94m).

In the shot put, Isaiah Isom placed second, throwing 49’ 10” (15.19m).

Turn to **Track** / Page 4

Titans softball drops two games to Whitewater

By Mattie Beck
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The UW Oshkosh Titans softball team fell to the UW Whitewater Warhawks last weekend, losing their first games in conference action.

The first game was a victory for Whitewater, with a final score of 12-1.

The Warhawks scored throughout the early innings, with two runs in the top of the first and second innings and one in the third.

A run was scored by the Titans in the bottom of the third, with Abby Garceau singling through the left side, advancing Ana Iliopoulos to second and scoring Haylie Wittman.

The top of the fourth inning had three runs from the Warhawks, and they continued scor-

ing until the end of the game with four runs in the top of the sixth, ending the game with a 12-1 score.

Throughout the second game of the doubleheader, the Titans put up a fight against the Warhawks, scoring throughout the innings.

In the top of the first inning, the Warhawks scored one run, then scored two in the top of the third, the score at 3-0.

The Titans came back with a run in the bottom of the third, with Gabby Buikema reaching first on a fielding error by the shortstop, scoring Garceau.

One run came in the bottom of the fourth for the Titans, with Hannah Ritter singling up the middle and scoring Brianna Davis, the score 3-2.

Turn to **Track** / Page 4



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

UWO’s Sophie Wery stands on second base against UWW April 22 at UW-Oshkosh Softball Park.

Sports



Scoreboard

Friday, April 21

Golf
UWO - 4/14

Saturday, April 22

Baseball
Game 1:
UWO - 11
UW-Platteville - 0
Game 2:
UWO - 14
UW-Platteville - 2
Softball
Game 1:
UWO - 1
UW-Whitewater - 12
Game 2:
UWO - 3
UW-Whitewater - 7
Golf
UWO - 6/14
Track and Field
Men's - 5/18, 65 pts.
Women's - 5/19, 49 pts.

Sunday, April 23

Baseball
Game 1:
UWO - 17
UW-Platteville - 2
Game 2:
UWO - 7
UW-Platteville - 4

Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 27

Softball
Games 1&2: vs. Marian University at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Friday, April 28

Track and Field
at Drake University Relays 8:30 a.m. and at UW-Eau Claire Dick & Mary Johnson Invitational at 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

Baseball
Games 1&2: vs. UW-La Crosse at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Softball
Games 1&2: at UW-River Falls at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.
Track and Field
at Drake University Relays 8 a.m.

Sunday, April 30

Baseball
Games 1&2: vs. UW-La Crosse at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m.
Softball
Games 1&2: at UW-Stout at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Baseball: UWO wins sixth straight game

From Page 3
Oshkosh posted two runs in the eighth inning when Taylor doubled to left-center field, scoring a run, and Kirchberg drove in a run after hitting into a double-play as the Titans hung on to win the game.
UWO took both games of its doubleheader against UWP April 22, defeating the Pioneers in the first game 11-0 and 14-2 in the second game at Tiedemann Field on Senior Day.
In the first game, UWO pitcher Connor Brinkman pitched a complete game shutout, going seven innings and allowing six hits while fanning seven batters. Brinkman picked up his seventh win of the season to remain undefeated on the year.
Offensively, Scherrman had a five-RBI game, going 3-for-3 with a three-run home run, two singles and a run scored. As a team, Oshkosh recorded 12 hits in the game and combined for 11 RBIs.
The Titans kicked off the scoring with three runs in the second inning after Jake Andersen hit an RBI double to left field and second baseman Chase Marsh singled to left field, driving in two runs. Scherrman drove in a run in the third inning with a sacrifice fly to center field, and in his next at-bat in the fourth inning, he smoked a three-run homer to left-center field to put UWO ahead 7-0.
Oshkosh added four runs in the next final frame to increase

its advantage to 11 runs after Surane hit a two RBI double to right field, Scherrman hit an RBI single to third base and Taylor drove in a run with a sacrifice fly. Neither team scored the rest of the way, and the game ended after seven innings due to the NCAA's 10 run rule.
In the second game, UWO scored 13 runs in the first four innings to cruise to its 20th win of the season.
Oshkosh pitcher Connor Walters picked up his first win of the season, allowing one earned run on five hits and striking out two batters in five innings on the mound. Josh Jansen and Hoyt Keller each pitched one inning of relief, allowing a combined three hits and no runs.
Shiu went 2-for-3 in the game with two RBIs, hitting a solo home run and a single while scoring three runs. Marsh had a four-RBI day, going 1-for-4 with a single and a run scored.
Marsh started the scoring for the Titans in the second inning of the game, driving in two runs on a fielder's choice to the second baseman. Surane singled up the middle later in the inning, driving in two runs and extending UWO's lead to 4-0. The Titans tacked on two more runs in the third inning after Shiu blasted a solo shot to left field and Kirchberg scored a run on a throwing error by the UWP third baseman.
The Pioneers scored their first run of the day in the fourth



Courtesy of UWO Athletics
UWO's Mason Kirchberg touches the bases against Platteville.

inning when Justin Fago hit an RBI single up the middle to cut UWO's advantage to 6-1.
The Titans exploded for seven runs in the fourth inning behind a two RBI triple from Scherrman, a two RBI single from Marsh and an RBI single from Giusti to increase Oshkosh's lead to 13-1. Platteville responded with a run in the top of the fifth inning, but Shiu singled to right field in the sixth inning, driving in a run. After seven innings, the Titan advantage had grown to 12 runs

and the game ended due to the NCAA's 10 run rule.
UWO will take on UW-La Crosse in a doubleheader at Tiedemann Field April 29 starting at noon.

WIAC Standings

UW-La Crosse	-----	13-3
UW Oshkosh	-----	13-3
UW-Stevens Point	---	11-5
UW-Whitewater	-----	7-9
UW-Platteville	----	7-13
UW-Stout	-----	4-12
UW-Eau Claire	-----	1-11

Track: UWO impresses at La Crosse meet



Courtesy of UWO Athletics
UWO's Aden Sears participates in the 110-meter hurdle event.

From Page 3
It was Nolan who won the high jump event in the decathlon by clearing 6' 4 1/4" (1.94m) in the final.
Senior Steven Potter was able to keep his streak of top-three finishes alive and ran the 1,500-meter run in 3:50.17, grabbing third place.
Sophomore Zach Zirgibel took third in the pole vault, clearing the bar with the best height of 15' 3" (4.65m).
In the long jump, Oshkosh swept the top four positions, with Cole Spanbauer tied with the UW-Eau Claire Blugolds for seventh with a mark of 20' 5" (6.22m).
Sears finished second in the decathlon with a score of 6,553 points, which is his personal best and the third-best in program history.
Nolan finished fourth with a personal best of 6,470 points, which is

the fourth-best in program history. White finished eighth with 5,639 points.
For the women's track and field results, UWO had several notable finishes in various events.
Cyna Madigan placed second in the 800-meter run.
Rachel Castelli took third place in the 200-meter dash and fifth place in the 100-meter dash.
The UWO relay teams were impressive, with the 4x100-meter relay teams placing second and fourth, the 4x400-meter relay team taking third and the 4x100-meter relay team securing fourth place in the competition.
The Titans will participate in two upcoming track and field events: the Drake University (Iowa) Relays April 28-29 and the UW-Eau Claire Dick & Mary Johnson Invitational.

Softball: Titans lose first WIAC games of year

From Page 3
In the top of the fifth, the Warhawks scored 3 runs, putting the score of the game at 6-2.
The bottom of the fifth had one run, with a homer to left-center by Sophie Wery, the last run of the game for the Titans.
To end the game the Warhawks scored one run in the top of the seventh, winning the game with a score of 7-3.
The Titans play a non-conference doubleheader against Marian University starting at 3 p.m. April 27.

The next conference action for the Titans will be against UW-Stevens Point, which has been scheduled for May 2 at 2 p.m.

WIAC Standings

UW-Whitewater	-----	7-1
UW Oshkosh	-----	4-2
UW-La Crosse	-----	5-3
UW-Platteville	-----	6-4
UW-Stevens Point	---	2-4
UW-River Falls	----	2-4
UW-Eau Claire	-----	2-6
UW-Stout	-----	2-6



Courtesy of UWO Athletics
Sophie Wery hits a home run against Carroll University April 18.

A-Trivia

How many times has the UWO baseball team swept the season series against UW-Platteville since 2000?

Answer: Since the year 2000, the UWO baseball team has swept the Pioneers eight times.

Sports



Courtesy of Maddie Fink

Left: Maddie Fink winds up for a pitch. Right: Fink cheers on her teammates. This season Fink has an earned running average of 1.21, down by 0.82 from last season.

One of the best to ever do it

Fink excels on mound during senior year

By Cory Sparks
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Senior pitcher Maddie Fink has embodied dominance on the softball field for UW Oshkosh since she stepped on the Titan diamond in 2019. Now she’s doing everything she can to enjoy the last moments of her collegiate career.

When all is said and done, Fink will go down as one of the greatest pitchers in UWO softball history. In four years, she has accrued a 47-13 record in 403.2 innings with an earned run average (ERA) of 1.72. The Stevens Point native has also racked up 318 strikeouts while relinquishing just 119 walks.

Fink is the 2021 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) Pitcher of the Year and is looking to claim that title once more this year, as she is 12-2 in 98 innings with a 1.21 ERA.

Fink said her passion for softball started early, and coming from a competitive family was one of many factors that pushed her ahead of the pack.

“In my first season in the rec league, I wanted to try out for the competitive travel team in my city,” she said. “I was the youngest one there, one of the newest players, but the coaches of that team saw something in me.”

When it came time to graduate high school in 2018, Fink chose Madison College as the next stop for her academic and athletic career.

After a year, where she led the team with 20 starts and was named to the Region IV Division II All-Tournament Team, Fink sought to join a four-year university.

“I wanted to be part of a program that had a tight-knit, team-oriented culture of people working towards one goal together,” she said. “When I first reached out to coach Beyer, from our communication I had a good feeling that I would find that there.”

UWO head coach Scott Beyer recruited Fink from her high school days at Stevens Point Area Senior High.

Beyer said that upon seeing Fink enter the transfer portal, he was thrilled to see that his team would receive a competitive, selfless personality on the mound.

“I really liked her competitive drive. She was a multi-sport athlete, and that competitive edge was easy to see early in her career,” Beyer said. “She is the type of kid that puts the team first and makes everyone around her better.”

During Fink’s search, she said that she wanted something that embodied a family atmosphere.

While Fink’s first season as a Titan was shortened due to the pandemic, the right-handed hurler showed her potential in a small sample size. She put up a 4-0 record in five appearances with a 1.12 ERA in 25 innings.

In 2021, not only did Fink win WIAC Pitcher of the Year, but she also spearheaded a rotation that took Oshkosh to their best College World Series finish in program history when the team finished in fifth place.

Senior Hannah Ritter has nothing but high praise for her ace. Ritter, who is on pace to have the best career batting average in WIAC history at .490 (the current record is .446 by Tera Burr from 2006-09), said she considers herself lucky that she doesn’t have to face off against Fink.

“I can’t lie, Maddie the player can be a bit intimidating,” Ritter said. “She is always locked in during every pitch, and I would hate to be on the receiving end of her pitches. However, Maddie the person is one of the most genuine people I have ever met.”

As Fink settled in at UWO and improved, she found herself scrambling during a stage where she was hypercritical of her play on the field.

Tweaking one’s play is one thing, but Fink said she reached a point where she was constant-

ly attempting to outdo a prior version of herself.

That mindset was a counter-productive one.

“I tried so hard to change things to become a better pitcher, and the amount of stress and pressure I put on myself did not translate into success on the field,” Fink said.

Now, the ace has found that living in the moment and being the best version of herself is the way to go. Having the most wins and second-best ERA in the conference this season would indicate that it’s working.

Beyer said he has noticed Maddie’s mindset as a leading factor in her production. Whenever there is a high-stakes moment, Fink is involved and eager to excel.

“Maddie has a unique ability to live in the moment, but not let her emotions take over,” he said. “She bottles it up and uses the energy of a big pitch in a very positive way. I think a lot of pitchers can let that moment get too big for them and crumble under pressure when Maddie thrives in that situation.”

While Fink’s individual performance has helped her team on numerous occasions, the pitcher’s impact stems from beyond her physical ability.

Encouraging others, specifically players who look up to her due to the dominance and poise

she exudes on the mound, has always been at the forefront of who Fink is as a teammate.

Ritter said that Fink’s team-first mentality makes for a positive atmosphere, and it helps in multiplying the high moments.

“Maddie is always the first person to celebrate other teammates’ successes,” she said. “She is the first one off the bench during a big hit and can be super loud and encouraging throughout the game.”

While Fink has experienced everything from complete game shutouts to as much as 11 strikeouts in a single contest, she said the stats aren’t what she’ll remember.

She said the bonds that she has built with the women around her, which is exactly what a freshman from Madison College was looking for in 2019, is what she’ll hold with her.

“I can say for certain that I have found some of my forever friends on this team,” she said. “I was so fortunate to enter a group of girls that all genuinely cared about each other more than any trophy or accolade.”

Fink will lead Oshkosh (27-3) as they begin an eight-game road trip with a doubleheader against Marian University on Thursday before wrapping up the season at home against UW-Platteville on May 6.

Arts & Entertainment



“This is WinnebagoLand” and “A Woman Who Can” are open at the Oshkosh Public Museum and showcase different aspects of Wisconsin culture. Willem Flaughter / Advance-Titan

Oshkosh Public Museum unveils exhibits

By Payton Murphy
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The beloved Oshkosh Public Museum has recently added two new exhibitions to their ever-growing collection of local historical artifacts. The exhibits, a long-term exhibition named “This is WinnebagoLand” and a special, short-term exhibition titled “A Woman Who Can” have recently garnered public attention for their innovation, nuance and celebration of local achievement.

Emily Rock, the curator of exhibitions for the Oshkosh Public Museum, said that these new collections are the beginning of a new era for the institution.

“This is WinnebagoLand” is a new long-term exhibition opened to the public on April 1 and focuses on the Lake Winnebago region’s previous identity as “WinnebagoLand,” a vacation hotspot

for outdoor recreational activities. A main focus of the exhibition is to show how sports and other activities can make one feel connected to their community.

According to Rock, most of the artifacts originate from somewhere between the late 1800s and the 1930s and showcase the region’s involvement with year-round outdoor activities and team sports, most notably bowling and its significance to Wisconsin culture.

According to Rock, this exhibition has been in the works for a long time. The exhibit team behind “This is WinnebagoLand,” made up of Rock, Assistant Director and Chief Curator Anna Cannizzo, Exhibit Technician Greg Witthun, Registrar Emma Eisner, Archivist Amy Fels and other staff at the Oshkosh Public Museum have been working tirelessly since 2019 to create “This

is WinnebagoLand,” which was planned to be the first of many new exhibits to mark a new era for the institution.

The team behind the creation of this exhibit originally planned to have the exhibition completed by 2021, but due to the impact of COVID-19, work on the exhibit was halted.

“This is WinnebagoLand” houses many interesting historical artifacts, all of which belong to the Oshkosh Public Museum. Some notable objects in the collection include an arrangement of wooden, hand-carved ice fishing decoys displayed in a way to make it appear as if they are floating. The exhibit is interactive as well, being home to a vintage bowling arcade game that can be played by museum attendees.

“I think it’s important because sports and leisure are one way to view the community,” Rock said.

“Sports really touch a lot of people’s lives and knowing the history of sports and the community is interesting.”

The second exhibit being unveiled by the Oshkosh Public Museum, “A Woman Who Can,” celebrates Wisconsin local and Miss America titleholder, Grace Stanke.

The special exhibit, created in partnership with the Miss Wisconsin Organization, was opened to the public on Feb. 19 and will remain at the Oshkosh Public Museum until July 31.

As well as celebrating Oshkosh’s 60th anniversary of hosting the Miss Wisconsin competition, the exhibition also focuses on

Stanke and her platform and the connection of the Miss America competition to the Oshkosh area. Stanke uses her platform to advocate for clean energy and for women in typically male-domi-

nated fields such as science and technology. She is especially passionate about these topics, given that outside of her life as 2023’s Miss America, she is a nuclear engineer and alumna of UW-Madison.

The exhibit houses many significant items to the story of Stanke and her journey earning the Miss America title. Some of these items include the dress that Stanke was wearing when she won the title of Miss Wisconsin and the dress that she was wearing when she won the title of Miss America.

The Oshkosh Public Museum is located at 1331 Algoma Blvd. Oshkosh and is open from 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Sundays. General admission is \$8 for adults but \$6 for college students with a valid ID. To learn more, visit oshkoshmuseum.org

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JOIN US IN REEVE 19 ON WEDNESDAYS AT 5:15 P.M. FOR THE STORY PITCH MEETING

*Journalism major not required
*Office is located in the basement of Reeve through TUG

Arts & Entertainment



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Let’s talk performance etiquette

By Mattie Beck
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Concerts have been a big deal in post-COVID-19 life, with many people attending at least one concert yearly.

From concerts to music festivals, people attend concerts to see their favorite artists or just to experience hearing live music.

When entering a venue, people are usually held to standards such as respecting the artist and their time, but what is the etiquette of the artist performing?

Over the past few weeks, many artists performing live have caused issues with their concerts and how they act at them.

The biggest example in recent media is country artist Morgan Wallen canceling his concert on Sunday evening after his two openers, country artists Hardy, Ernest and Nate Smith, performed.

The manner in which the concert was canceled has been criticized, with a message appearing on the big screens above the stage that read:

“Ladies and gentlemen, unfortunately, Morgan has lost his voice and is unable to perform tonight – therefore, the show has been canceled. Please make your way safely to the stadium exits. Refunds for tonight will be available at point of purchase beginning tomorrow.”

Concertgoers were forced to leave the stadium after watching two openers perform, some people traveling from far and wide to see the show.

People were angry and confused, some even spreading rumors that Wallen was too drunk to perform.

Another example of bad concert etiquette from an artist is Frank Ocean’s performance at Coachella on April 16, his first concert in six years.



Courtesy of Ashlynnne Amundson
Morgan Wallen kicks off his One Night At A Time Tour at American Family Field with back-to-back nights April 14 & 15.

Ocean headlined the night, yet his performance was anything but headline-worthy.

The first criticism of his performance came from him starting his festival-closing performance an hour late, and performing most of his concert from backstage with a camera projecting his image on a screen.

He also went over the time he was supposed to perform, ending the show after he was told he went over curfew.

Ocean is said to have had an ankle injury, which may have caused the interesting performance and the cancellation of sets later in the festival, but that is still unclear.

Either way, fans didn’t get the experience they were expecting when attending his show, similar to Wallen’s canceled performance.

With all of this said, what does that mean for artists and their concert etiquette?

Are they expected to hold up their end of the bargain for paid attendees and perform no matter what, even if it means a subpar show due to a lost voice?

Is there too high of a standard set for musicians these days, or is it expected to treat them just like everyone else, meaning they can cancel their shows at will due to illness?

In the case of Ocean, what is the standard for concerts and artists to perform with an injury?

Recently, Taylor Swift got a deep cut on her hand after falling backstage pre-show but still performed an entire concert after that.

That being said, should Ocean be held responsible for a bad show even with injury because someone else was able to perform? Although he did start his set late which is unrelated to injury.

With people who attend con-

certs held to etiquette standards when they enter a concert venue, should artists also be held to etiquette standards?

Personally, I think that artists are expected to have a standard of human decency when holding their concerts.

Starting a concert an hour late after people paid a lot of money and even traveled far to be there is plain-out rude and disrespectful. Canceling a concert after openers perform is not cool.

Artists should be held accountable and to some etiquette standards, especially when it comes to their devoted fans.

The Gripeline

This week’s UWO Yik Yaks

- “Scotts are giving out free condoms in the lobby. W.”
- “Do they expect me to lug my loft all the way to Kolf?”
- “Bro we gotta get a mf like T-Pain back at Bye Gosh Fest wtf.”
- “WE GOTTA THROW THE BIGGEST PARTIES IN MAY BEFORE SCHOOL ENDS!”
- “My hangxiety is through the roof right now.”

Letter to the editor

UWO should resurface the track

The athletic department needs to support one of their historically best teams

By Joseph Hertel
herteljo44@uwosh.edu

UW Oshkosh athletics holds 32 NCAA Division III national championships and 112 trophies (the top four teams get trophies at nationals.)

And if we add sports like women’s and men’s gymnastics that are not in the NCAA D-III, it would bring our total to 49 national championships and 129 trophies.

The men’s and women’s track and field teams hold 20 of those D-III national championships and 60 trophies. And including cross country, the teams would have 28 national championships and 83 trophies.

So I would say it is surprising that they don’t have an outdoor track to compete on, especially when you put into perspective that out of the 32 D-III national championships UWO athletics holds, the track and field and cross-country teams have gotten more than 85% of them.

But because the UWO athletic department has repeatedly failed to resurface the outdoor track year after year, the UWO track and field team hasn’t hosted an outdoor track and field meet since the spring of 2014.

And since the athletic department has decided to wait another year to resurface the track, there will not be a collegiate outdoor meet hosted by UWO for an entire decade.

Now, tracks are expensive (some can even get up to half a million dollars), so you may be wondering if it would make any sense to spend that much money just to resurface a track for a good team. And I would say yes.

We can look at UW-La Crosse, which during the two-day weekend of the WIAA state meet has an estimated impact on the town of \$4 million and an average of 21,000 spectators annually in the past five years.

UWO has a long history of athletic excellence with a significant number of national championships and trophies, particularly in track

and field and cross-country.

However, I would say it is disappointing to see that UWO athletic department has repeatedly failed to resurface the outdoor track, preventing the track and field team from hosting meets for several years.

With the economic impact of hosting such events and the potential benefits to the university and community, it would make sense for the athletic department to invest in resurfacing the track.

By doing this, the university could not only continue to support its athletes, but will also bring in revenue and create positive community relationships.



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