

Graphic by Katie Pulvermacher

Rebuilding trust and reputation at UWO

By Aubrie Selsmeyer
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“We’re trying to put together this big puzzle on what our reality is going to be come spring semester, but we don’t have any idea where all the pieces are because they’re scattered everywhere,” Cindy Schultz, academic department associate in the department of advertising, multimedia journalism and public relations (AMP) at UW Oshkosh, told WORT 89.9FM in an interview on Monday.

It has been only a week of processing the heartbreaking staff lay-off announcements and it seems this grief isn’t going away anytime soon. The recent news in regards to the \$18 million budget deficit has been anything but expected and – in many ways – worse than

members of the university were led to believe, according to many faculty members.

Pascale Manning, associate professor of English and president of the Faculty Senate, acknowledges the impact the budget deficit has had on the university and student body and hopes to make people aware that the budgetary issues stem from roots that run deeper than what the university has control over.

“The students have already felt some of the impact of the layoffs, both because we have many students working as university employees and because our students have meaningful relationships with university employees who are either being laid off or are, as in the case of our valued instructional academic staff, facing

nonrenewal,” Manning said. “My hope is that our students realize, first, that their professors are doing and will continue to do all they can to protect the world-class education they receive at UWO.

“Additionally, it is my hope that our students will come to understand the forces that have conspired to bring this budgetary crisis about,” Manning said. “While there are financial choices we can and should point to as causal factors at this university, the fact that Wisconsin ranks 43rd nationally in per-student funding for its public universities should be recognized as a decisive cause of this crisis.”

New information is unraveling day-by-day in light of the budget deficit and campuswide trust in upper administration seems

to be wavering; however, David Siemers, president of the United Faculty and Staff of Oshkosh (UFSO) and a UWO political science professor for 23 years, said administrative authorities at the university tarnished their reputation long before news about the budget deficit and subsequent layoffs broke.

“Trust in the Administration was low before the layoffs,” Siemers said. “Last year alone, they threatened 100+ jobs by proposing the outsourcing of our custodial and grounds crews. They abandoned our longstanding commitment to running our day care center and increased the teaching load for instructional staff. So relations were strained long before this.”

Siemers said administration failed to share the degree in which

these layoffs would affect programs at the university, and in doing so, they’ve left behind a mess for the remaining faculty and staff to clean up, long after these administrators have moved on.

“They didn’t tell us that the Office of International Education would be closing its doors,” Siemers said. “They didn’t tell us that they would fire everyone who runs our general education programs. There are really good people going away who did their jobs so well and (who) helped a lot of students,” Siemers said. “(UFSO members) are just gobsmacked about how many of the people were laid off. We don’t know why an outside consulting firm has a better sense of who does what job here and how well than people at

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‘Safety walk’ calls for student input

By Josh Lehner
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Topics ranging from outdoor lighting to building security were discussed during Tuesday evening’s ‘safety walk’ event, held by Acting Chief of Police Chris Tarmann and other UW Oshkosh staff and administrators.

“The safety walk is a unique opportunity for you to join Chancellor Andy Leavitt, acting Chief of Police Chris Tarmann and other campus leaders as we walk through the Oshkosh campus,” Tarmann wrote in the event’s email announcement. “The event promotes an open dialogue on safety, fosters a sense of community and strengthens



Kelly Hueckman / Advance-Titan

Acting Chief of Police Chris Tarmann walks alongside OSG Vice President Jakob Rucinski in the safety walk on Tuesday.

our commitment to ensuring the UWO campus remains a safe and welcoming place for everyone.”

Chief of Staff Alex Hummel, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Erin Grisham, Chief Facilities Officer JoAnn Rife and Police Lieutenant Greg

Weitz were also in attendance.

The walk began in front of Polk Library, headed to parking lot 34 across from Polk, and made its way to the front of Horizon Village before working its way to the Culver Family Welcome

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SAC moves student org budget timeline to fall

Campus art galleries can't pay artists under this agenda

By Katie Pulvermacher
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The UW Oshkosh Student Allocations Committee (SAC) tentatively decided to move back the student organization budget request timeline, and therefore funding for each organization would be decided next fall.

Budget requests would normally be due this October, but that date is being pushed back significantly. This decision left student organizations concerned for how they would go about funding their events. A prime example of this is the Student Art Gallery Board, which runs the on-campus Allen Priebe and Annex Galleries.

“The change in the SAC budget process severely impacts the Gallery Board’s ability to have exhibitions at UW Oshkosh,” Department of Art Gallery Director Leslie Walfish said.

The Student Art Gallery Board is made up of students from all over campus who are interested in bringing art and artists to UWO to be displayed in the two galleries in the Arts and Communications Center.

“The student board researches and selects exhibitions for the galleries which are free and open seven days a week for all visitors,” Walfish said. “Many classes and community members take advantage of having this unique opportunity to see art, right here in Oshkosh.”

Last year the galleries welcomed 4,305 visitors. Thanks to the work of the Gallery Board, artists from around the world come to campus to meet with students to speak about their artistic practice and what it means to be an artist today.

In an email sent out at the end of September, SAC announced



Advance-Titan File Photo

A UWO student looks at art displayed on campus at the Allen Priebe and Annex Galleries.

that all student organization budget proposals will be submitted in fall 2024 for the working budget for the 2024-25 academic year.

With budgets not submitted until after the fall semester has begun, SAC’s approval wouldn’t be approved until late fall at the earliest.

This would be an issue for the galleries, because planning for the exhibitions starts a year in advance.

“Artists require sufficient time to create work and to design unique exhibitions for UW Oshkosh,” Walfish said. “Arranging for the shipping of art, for the artist’s transportation and stay, advertising and installing exhibitions all takes months of planning and advanced scheduling.”

The artists, just as any other guest presenter on campus, are promised compensation for their time and travel expenses.

“The new SAC budget timeline makes it nearly impossible

to schedule exhibitions and visiting artists for the academic year,” Walfish said. “It would also impact the group’s ability to plan activities and recruit more members to the group, as many activities are planned in the first few weeks of the semester.”

Luiza Nelson, Chair of the Student Allocations Committee, sent out an email on Oct. 20 asking student organization leaders to share their input on the budget timeline change.

The survey asked what was the preferred timeline: submit budgets as part of the organization recognition process during spring semester, submit budgets in spring and fall separately from the recognition process, submit budgets in fall at the beginning of the semester with funds needed for September to be requested in the spring or submit budgets in the spring outside of the recognition process.

“[Luiza] and all of SAC has been very open to hearing from us,

inviting anyone interested to share their concerns,” Walfish said. “I hope all student organizations take time to fill out this survey so that they can have their wishes heard.”

Nelson said she’d like to get student feedback on timelines for student organization budgets.

“I am always available to help student orgs on campus with their budgets,” Nelson said. “Please reach out with any questions, comments or concerns.”

Walfish said as faculty advisor, it is her aim to help the Student Art Gallery Board members be able to plan programming and events that serve the entire campus community.

“Our students take great pride in welcoming thousands of visitors into the galleries each academic year with dynamic exhibitions that represent a variety of perspectives,” Walfish said. “We hope that we can continue to work with SAC to find a solution that is best for all student groups.”

Trust: Cooperation key moving forward

From Page 1

UW Oshkosh. It is frustrating because many of us will be here long after these administrators leave, and we will have to deal with what they leave behind.”

Moving forward, Siemers said the union is more than willing to improve the alliance with administration, but it requires a valiant effort from both parties.

“The chancellor insists that we don’t exist, but we do,” Siemers said. “Collectively, we have many centuries worth of experience here at UWO. We are ready to have a more productive and collaborative relationship with the administration, but that requires them being open to collaboration.”

Oshkosh Student Government (OSG) President Ben Blaser, Vice President Jakob Rucinski and Director of Staff Frances Kerkhof collaborated on the following responses and said they have been working relentlessly to share UWO student perspectives and concerns within shared governance meetings. They said they recognize that communication between other shared governance groups can always be improved.

“In those meetings, we have voiced our concerns and brought forward the concerns presented to us by students; the current events are a prime example of why students need to be at the table,” Blaser, Rucinski and Kerkhof said. “Nonetheless, we recognize that there is room for improvement within the shared governance dialogue. We will continue to push for student representation and voices in those discussions.”

Blaser, Rucinski and Kerkhof added that rather than focusing on how things could’ve been handled differently, OSG is focused on how things should be handled moving forward. This begins with transparency from the university.

“While it is easier to look back and critique how something should have been done or handled differently, OSG believes that our energy and attention are better spent focusing on what will happen next,” Blaiser, Rucinski and Kerkhof said. “We feel that more work needs to be done for the sake of transparency with students. From the concerns and questions we have collected from the student body, we have

gathered that many students don’t fully understand all the changes.”

For this reason, OSG will hold a town hall on Nov. 1 at 5:30 p.m. in Reeve 307; a live stream should also be available if students cannot attend in person.”

OSG has been fortunate to avoid cuts to staff members of their organization, but recognizes that various student services, administrators and staff across campus they work alongside will be significantly impacted and voiced their concern over student experience going forward.

“We are certain that the student experience will be affected in more ways than one,” Blaser, Rucinski and Kerkhof said. “OSG is deeply concerned with how the budget cuts and notices will affect academic programs, vital resource centers on campus that help support underrepresented and minority students, as well as the overall student experience on campus, student retention and enrollment. We pledge to have student voices be present at those meetings and, in turn, will be transparent about the changes — especially in those that affect the student body directly.”

Placing Wisconsin’s per-student funding

- Per-student funding in Wisconsin for four-year institutions is \$15,979, according to a 2023 report by the Wisconsin Policy Forum.
- This places Wisconsin at 43rd in the nation, below the national average of \$17,733.
- The report cites a more rapid drop in enrollment as one of the factors.
- Wisconsin’s enrollment fell by 5.4% between 2019 and 2021 — more than the national average of 3.6%.
- However, Wisconsin’s decline is congruent with other Midwest states, which had an average decline of 5.3%.
- Two-year enrollment has dropped by 19.2% over the same period — the third-worst of any state.

Safety walk: Kids on campus, above-ground pipes

From Page 1
Center and ending near Kolf Sports Center.

During the walk, Tarmann addressed the neighborhood children who have been wandering onto campus, into buildings, and making comments to UWO students who walk by. He said that these children come from all around the city, including nearby refugee housing.

“For the last two months, I’ve been working with World Relief ... (to bring) together a community conversation between a few families,” he said. “We’re just going to navigate what that looks like because some of those folks came here, and they were in a refugee camp where they could go wherever. And then they came here and they have this tiny little building with really no grass space to do their thing.”

Tarmann said that a lot of the nearby refugees have been making use of UWO’s green space instead.

He also said that he has been working with the chief of the Oshkosh fire department and the chief of the city to build relationships with the children by finding common ground.

“We’ve done a great job of trying to build relationships with them, but there’s some dialect issues and there’s also a lack of cultural understanding for space,” he said. “Our goal is to help build a bridge of how we navigate those

spaces — respect for area and stuff like that.”

The university has addressed this in part by requiring student IDs to open residence hall doors at all times, which Tarmann said reduced the impact of random people entering during the day.

“If you go into an apartment building, you have to get buzzed to get into a space in the room,” he said. “That’s where we were trying to head with that.”

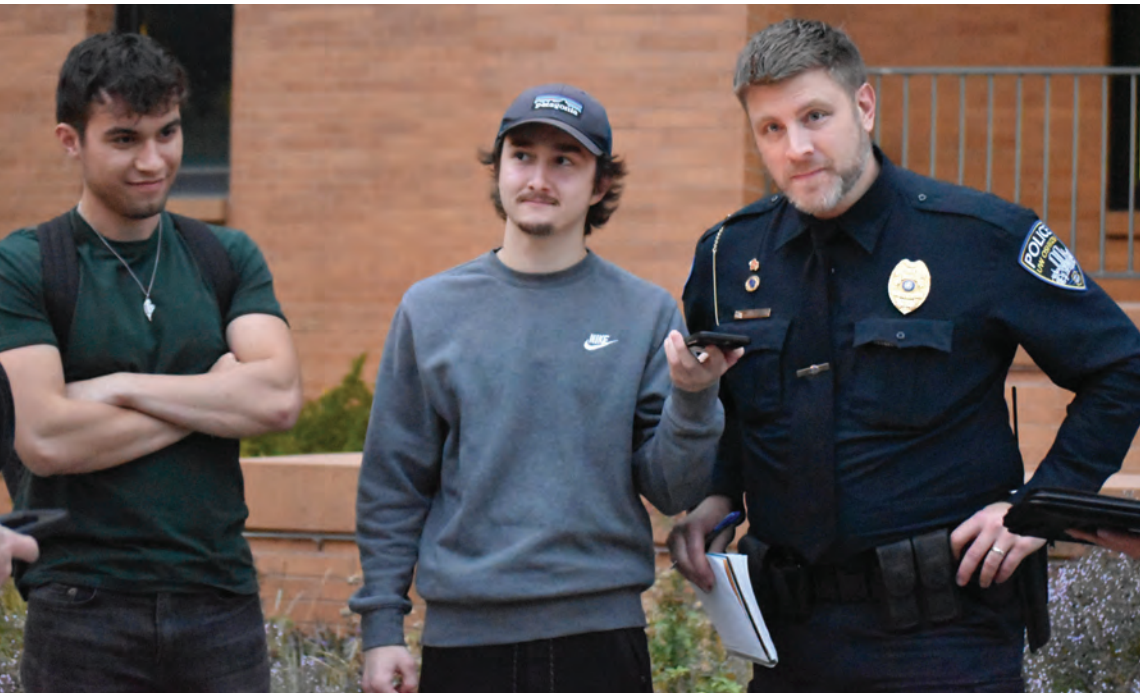
The overground pipes running across campus near Harrington, Halsey and Swart were another topic brought up during the safety walk. Rife said that it’s still an on-going project.

Issues with the old, underground pipes arose when they began to rot and water flowed into and flooded the basement of Polk Library. She said that facilities management had to rush to find a temporary solution for the heating and cooling pipes.

But putting them back underground is a state-level project, which has exacerbated the timeline.

“We have submitted it to the state, but we have to wait for them to assign an architect and engineering team to do the design work,” she said. “I don’t have a timeline yet about when that’s going to happen. I would not expect that to be done yet this year.”

Rife and Tarmann also addressed burnt out lights in parking



Kelly Hueckman/ Advance-Titan

Acting Chief of Police Chris Tarmann (right) and Oshkosh Student Government President Ben Blaser (center) test the Mobile BlueLight feature in the UWO Mobile App. The feature directly connects the caller to a UWO police dispatcher, who can trace the caller’s location through the call.

lots and along walkways through the campus.

“Everyone can put in a work order to the facilities management website and just let us know,” Rife said. “Each light pole has a number on it, so if you give us the number of that light pole, it would be extremely helpful.”

Alternatively, Tarmann said that an email can be sent to the UWO Police, who can fill out the work order and send it to facilities management themselves.

Rife addressed certain dark spots across campus, such as near Horizon Village facing Elmwood Avenue, where light levels are low during the night. She said that facilities management monitors the light levels needed for good visibility; nonetheless, there are restrictions about what can be done that have been problematic.

She also added that more construction projects are underway, including construction on Cherry

Street next summer, as well as a water main replacement on Prospect Avenue.

All of the faculty who joined the safety walk expressed their appreciation for the campus, including Hummel.

“We have an awesome campus,” he said. “With the reconstruction of Algoma Boulevard, it is so much better. ... I’ve served here now for 12 years and, in my opinion, it’s a pretty darn-good campus.”

Public health pushes lead safety

Submitted News

The Oshkosh Department of Public Health urges residents to schedule service line inspections for potential lead in their water lines to reduce lead exposure. There is currently no known safe level of lead in the human body, and exposure can lead to many significant implications, including:

- Brain damage
 - Learning and behavior problems
 - Slow growth and development
 - Hearing and speech problems
- Winnebago County officials warn residents that older homes are at higher risk of having traces

of lead in their homes.

“We have many older homes in Winnebago County, and the fact is that about half of the homes built before 1978 have lead-based paint,” said Scott Fischer, Lead Abatement Project Coordinator for Winnebago County Public Health. “With the launch of our Lead-Safe Homes Program about a year ago, we have been able to remove dangerous lead from many homes in our community, making them safer for children and people who are pregnant.”

The Lead-Safe Homes Program helps fund the removal of lead-containing materials from people’s homes, including rented spaces.

In 1978, the federal government

banned consumer use of lead-containing paint, which is why the Lead-Safe Homes Program focuses on homes built before 1978. When lead-based paint gets old, it can start to chip, crack or chalk and become a serious health hazard, especially for young children and pregnant people.

In general, young children will not show any symptoms of lead exposure, so it’s best to get a blood test if it’s suspected that a child has lead poisoning. Adults, however, may show the following symptoms after being exposed to lead-containing materials:

- High blood pressure
- Joint and muscle pain
- Difficulties with memory
- Headaches

- Abdominal pain
- Miscarriage, stillbirth or premature birth

Oftentimes, these paint chips or dust can go unnoticed, which is why Oshkosh encourages homeowners to schedule a free 15-minute service line inspection. Concerned homeowners can schedule an inspection online at <https://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/PublicWorks/WaterUtility>.

If the public health department deems the home hazardous, homeowners could qualify to have up to 100 percent of lead abatement costs paid for.

Homeowners and landlords of properties built before 1978 are encouraged to apply for the Lead-Safe Homes Program. If you are a

renter, talk with your landlord and encourage them to apply.

Homes may be eligible for the program if:

- Children or pregnant women live in or regularly visit the home and are on Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus.
- The home or rental property was built before 1978.
- The property is insured and taxes are up to date.

Concerned homeowners can schedule an inspection online at www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/PublicWorks/WaterUtility.

For more information about lead poisoning or the Lead-Safe Homes Program visit www.winnebagopublichealth.org.

The magic of compound interest

Making money on your money puts you on the path to financial well-being

By Candice Wagner

Interest is a factor in many financial endeavors. When it comes to credit or loans, you want to find the lowest interest rate possible. However, when it comes to savings, interest rates work in your favor.

With a little bit of knowledge and understanding of interest rates, you can really make your money work for you.

Compound interest

We talk about the “magic” of compound interest because it can work wonders when you leave your money in a savings account



with a generous rate.

Compound interest can accrue daily, monthly or quarterly.

With compound interest, earn-

ings are added to your principal to form a new base on which you earn the next round of interest. Remember, your principal is the original amount of money you deposited into your account.

Interest on your interest can really add up — this calculator shows how.

Simple interest

Another type of interest is simple interest. Your money can also earn money off of simple interest, which is calculated annually on the amount you deposit.

How can you tell the difference?

If the nominal rate (the interest rate before inflation is taken into account) and the APY are the same, you’re earning simple interest.

If the APY is higher, you’re earning compound interest.

Want to see the difference in action? Try out this handy simple vs compound interest calculator.

Where do I find these types of interest?

Compound and simple interest are a part of savings accounts, money market accounts and certificates.

These accounts differ on minimum balance requirements, term limitations and access to cash. Talk with a financial specialist or compare accounts online to figure out which one is right for you.

Saving is an important part of financial well-being because it involves making money on your money without lifting a finger. Now isn’t that magical?



Above: A small silver-haired bat was spotted on a window at Fletcher Hall. Right: Students look for the bats using the new echometers purchased through the Green Fund.

Bat fever hits!

UWO begins bat detection program



By Willem Flaugher
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Bat fever has hit Winnebago County. And it’s not just because Halloween is almost here.

Thanks to a Green Fund project submitted by the Wildlife Conservation Club (WCC) in spring 2023, UW Oshkosh has been given three bat detectors. These bat detectors pick up the echolocation calls of the eight types of bats found in Wisconsin.

In fact, these bat detectors are essential pieces of conservation equipment, and are currently being used in the university’s first-ever bat monitoring program. The program was started in September by biology and environmental studies professor Shannon Davis-Foust and UWO student Willem Flaugher, a music education major.

For Davis-Foust, starting this program was a year-long endeavor.

“In summer of 2022, I encountered someone who was doing a bat monitoring program,” said Davis-Foust. “I went to see if there was any data reported for Winnebago County, and found almost none.”

This sparked Davis-Foust’s interest, and she began meeting with members of the WCC about a potential Green Fund project to get bat monitors.

“I found a group of students who were really passionate about it, but then they all graduated, and it sort of fell into my lap,” she said. That’s when Willem reached out, who had previous bat monitoring experience from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, and together they started the program.

In less than two months, the program has completed three successful public bat walks, both on- and off-campus. The walks usually last about 1-½ hours. During the walks, students are able to test out the new bat detectors and follow a predetermined route in hopes of spotting bats in the area. If a bat is present, its echolocation call is inaudible to the human ear. But the

bat detectors utilize ultrasonic microphones to record the bat calls, display the waveform on the screen and lower the pitch of the call so you can hear it through the device. Afterward, students can submit these recordings to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ Bat Monitoring Program, which will make a map of the route and the species of bat recorded.

“These walks were amazing,” said Myles Dixon, a multimedia

journalism major who attended all three walks. “The highlight of the walks for me was when we were crossing a bridge in Omro, and all of a sudden the bat monitors went crazy. Bats were all over this bridge, and we didn’t even see them. It was just the kind of experience that left you with a new perspective on bats and the world around you.”

The start of such programs is becoming more common throughout the U.S., as bats are facing more and more conservation problems. Throughout the world, the population of bats has declined rapidly, leaving about 50% of the 1,200 bat species endangered.

There are two main causes for bat deaths. The first cause of population decline among bats is a result of a nasty fungal disease called White-Nose Syndrome (WNS), which was first found in Wisconsin in 2014. This fungus tends to grow and thrive in cool, damp and dark places, and infiltrate caves. When bats hibernate in caves for the winter, they become prime targets for the disease.

When the fungus infects a bat, it causes a white powder to grow along a bat’s nose, causing it to awake from hibernation and spend its saved-up energy. Bats with WNS face a 95% mortality rate, and the little brown bat is the most impacted in Wisconsin; it is now listed as threatened and placed under state protection.

Bat monitoring programs, like the one established in Oshkosh, have shown a devastating drop in the number of little brown bats detected when compared to pre-2014. This is cause for concern, as bats are a major consumer of insects in the U.S.

“The type and number of insects eaten by an insectivore like a Wisconsin bat will depend on the species,” says J. Paul White, a mammal ecologist for the WDNR. “A little brown bat, for example, may consume up to 1,000 mosquito-sized insects in an hour during the summer. We also know that Midwest bats eat many agricultural pests (corn borers, cutworm moths, potato beetles and grasshoppers), which means fewer applications of pesticide. A 2011 Science article ... projected that in Wisconsin, the pest-control services of bats save the agricultural industry \$658 million to \$1.5 billion depending on whether it was a low or high pest year.”

The second cause of bats’ declining population is human predation. Public perception of bats has reached an all-time low as most people see bats as scary when they are just misunderstood.

Too many people believe bats are blood-sucking, rabies-carrying, creatures of death, which couldn’t be further from the truth. For starters, only vampire bats drink blood, almost exclusively from livestock and not humans, and they are found exclusively in Central and South America. According to Merlin Tuttle, the world’s leading bat ecologist and founder of Bat Conservation International, only about 0.5% of bats carry rabies, which is no different than any other mammal, including the dogs or cats you sleep with at home.

Efforts to change public perception on bats have seen some major victories in the U.S. Nowhere is this more evident than under the Congress Bridge in Austin, Texas, where 1.5 million bats live and that take to the night sky every

summer. When these bats were first discovered, the city wanted them to be quickly eradicated.

But bat conservationists stepped in to prevent the mass murder of bats and change public perception. Since then, millions of people have traveled from all over the world to safely view this spectacle generating over \$12 million for the city’s economy every year.

It is through programs like UWO’s public bat monitoring walks where public perception of bats have changed. As humans, we are often most afraid of the things that we understand the least. By participating in these walks, people learn some of the science and cool facts that go with bat conservation, and leave with a new appreciation for local wildlife.

“Programs like these support both environmental health and human health. On the environmental side, it’s good to get out there and learn about the species around you and the concerns they face. On the human side, it’s great to have a small group of like-minded people gather and promote community. And those hour-long walks require a lot of energy, too,” Davis-Foust said.

By changing public perception, scientists are able to better protect bats and the places they call home.

To get involved in the fight for bat conservation, join the WDNR’s bat monitoring program at wiatri.net/inventory/bats/. Or, stay tuned for the UWO Bat Monitoring Program to start back up in the spring. For more information on how to use these bat monitors and the student-led research opportunities that they could be used for, contact Davis-Foust at davisfos@uwosh.edu.

Arts & Entertainment

Homecoming week in full swing

By Mattie Beck
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UW Oshkosh Homecoming week this year has been full of fun events for students and alumni alike.

Homecoming week has provided students with different opportunities to participate in different activities throughout the campus.

Maddy Horstman, a senior, has participated in these events since her freshman year with her sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma.

Horstman said she had mixed feelings going into the week as it will be her last homecoming as a student.

“[I’m feeling] happy . . . as I have made so many memories during this time, but sad since it will be my last one as a student,” she said. “I am super excited, as Tri Sigma is ready to retake first place and win the spirit award again.”

Horstman’s favorite event of the week is the flag football tournament that takes place.

“I am most looking forward to flag football, as it has always been my favorite event every year because it gives everyone a chance to bring out their competitive spirits,” she said. “Some of my favorite memories at my time at UWO have been during flag football.”

The events left for the week include:

- Thursday, Oct. 26 - Halloween Carnival
- Friday, Oct. 27 - Homecoming Concert, featuring The Astronomers
- Saturday Oct 28 - Titan Tailgate Celebration, UWO football vs. UW-Stevens Point

For these events, Greek chapters are paired together to compete against other groups such as the residence halls. Horstman said she is confident in her sorority’s pairings for homecoming.

“I couldn’t have asked for a better team and a better group of chapters (Alpha Xi Delta and Sigma Pi) to work with,” she said. “The three know how to embrace school spirit and want to compete to their fullest potential.”

All the events are planned by the Reeve Union Board (RUB), and this year the Spirit Events Chair Taylor Johnson enjoyed the planning process.

“I really enjoyed planning the Homecoming events for RUB. I am new to this role, so I had a lot to learn about what goes into planning events,” Johnson said. “Luckily, I have an amazing team who helped me along the way.”

The theme for Homecoming this year is Enchanted Gardens, which was partially voted on by the student body.

“[RUB Advisor Dylan Bram] sent me a list of themes that were voted on last year by the student body,” Johnson said. “I really wanted to make sure that the theme was different from what has been done in the past few years for more variety.”

Johnson hopes students attend the events this week, as some changes were made this year to the homecoming events.

“We changed some aspects of Homecoming week in order to have less events, but to make the events bigger,” she said. “The goal for Homecoming this year is to try to get more of the student body involved in Homecoming



Meagan McDowell / Advance-Titan

Homecoming week at UWO provides many different opportunities for students to get involved.

week, even if they don’t belong to an organization.”

Johnson said she is looking forward to watching the events of the week unfold and an event new to homecoming.

“I am most looking forward to seeing these events that we have been planning come to life,” she said. “I am especially excited for the homecoming concert featuring The Astronomers since it is a new event this year.”

One of the last events of Homecoming week is the game on Saturday, which includes the crowning of Homecoming royalty.

Maxwell Rinn, one of the members of the court, is excited about all the events that come with

Homecoming week.

“[I’m looking forward to] all the events happening on campus and having my friends and family coming down and supporting me,” he said. “I’m also looking forward to being recognized as being someone that’s super involved in campus like Titan TV, 90.3 WRST.”

The event he’s most looking forward to is Zach’s Bingo Hall.

“I’ve attended a couple of times and it’s always been a fun time,” Rinn said.

Rinn also has family coming to Oshkosh for the Homecoming crowning on Saturday.

“I’m looking forward to my family coming down for Satur-

day’s football game and just seeing me at the 50-yard line (and cheering on for me,” he said.

The game will begin on Saturday at 1:35 p.m. with the Titan Tailgate Celebration event beforehand in Reeve Memorial Union.

The Homecoming events are welcome for all students to attend throughout the week leading up to the big game, and Horstman gave advice to students about attending.

“Homecoming is one of the best things at UWO, and just embrace it and show up to events,” she said. “It’s the best way to make friends and lasting memories for the rest of your college career.”

RTF student film brings home award

By Anya Kelley
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Over and over again, UW Oshkosh’s radio/TV/film (RTF) majors have proven to be among the best student filmmakers in the state. Through the summer and into the beginning of fall semester, RTF majors have been bringing home awards spanning all across the board.

“Achieving multiple awards in a single season is no small feat,” Beth Hubbard, an associate professor of post production, said.

“It’s the product of passion, determination, and a love for storytelling that radio/TV/film students embody,” Hubbard said.

Hubbard describes her students as filled with grit, creativity and the undying urge to tell stories that matter.

“This summer, their tales have left an indelible mark on audiences across the nation,” Hubbard said.

One of those films is Megan Kitzman’s “Now We Wait” a film addressing gun violence in America. At the Milwaukee short film festival, Kitzman won best script.

“The countless hours invested in scripting, filming and editing ensured that the film deeply resonates with a wide audience,” Hubbard said. “Many who contributed to this project have been person-



Courtesy of the RTF Department

Lauren Terrill (left) and Megan Kitzman (right) accept the award for best script at the Milwaukee short film festival.

ally affected by gun violence and placed immense significance on the call to action.”

Kitzman was inspired to make this film by the constant gun violence she was seeing in the news.

“Almost every day I go to school, I think, ‘what if today is the day?’ I find myself constantly looking for exits, and if I need to defend myself, I’m looking for objects I could use to do so,” Kitz-

man said. “When I’m not a student, I’m a bartender. Every time I bartend, it’s the same story.”

The story follows a young woman named Rae who has an intense fear of dying. On a night out with friends they encounter death “too soon, too young and without warning,” Kitzman said.

“I decided to write this film as a response to the lack of action being taken in the slew of murders

that have taken place all over the United States,” Kitzman said.

“People go to school scared; they go to bars scared; they go to parades scared; their neighborhoods scared; the beach scared; their homes scared; the mall scared; sacred places sacred,” she said. “Clearly, nowhere is safe anymore, but nothing is being done about it.”

Kitzman describes herself as a team player. When she works with others, her creative process thrives.

“I love working with a team,” Kitzman said. “As much as I appreciate the simplicity and tranquility of working alone, being able to work with a group of people elevated the creative process.”

Her background in performance arts as a child got her into filmmaking. She was in plays and musicals and had a short stint in the improv comedy world.

“After I graduated high school in 2019, I decided to put it all behind me and head on to my next adventure,” Kitzman said. “My ‘hiatus’ lasted all of maybe two years. In the fall of 2020, I transferred to UWO and decided to major in RTF. When I started the RTF major, I realized that I didn’t want to be in front of the camera; I wanted to be behind the camera however I could.”

Kitzman described winning best script as “surreal and so overwhelming.” At the time, she wasn’t expecting to win anything, and neither was her team.

“Just being selected to screen at the festival was exciting enough. Finding out that we won an award was crazy!” Kitzman said.

“Now We Wait” was her first big project and knowing that other people valued the story she was sharing meant everything to her.

“At least for me, it felt so vulnerable having an audience view my work, especially when I’m in the room with them,” Kitzman said. “Every time I’ve watched the film with other people in the room, my heart starts racing, I get all sweaty and I feel like I’m going to throw up. However, after the credits roll, my sense of pride for what was created is overwhelming.”

She said the anxiety comes from how much she cares about the film and how important she feels the message is.

Kitzman said “Now We Wait” couldn’t have been done without Joely Hurkman, Lauren Terrill, Kenzie Wolfe and their professor Beth Hubbard.

“In the RTF department, you have the resources to make virtually anything. If you have the idea, create it,” Kitzman said.

UWO '70s superhero more than just a comic strip

By Katie Pulvermacher
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Augmento, UW Oshkosh's first fictional superhero, was featured in a comic strip of the same name in The Advance-Titan created by UWO alumni in the '70s. The series, which started as a hobby for three friends, became a form of edgy rebellion, creativity and expression for opinions on people and things around campus.

In the beginning . . .

The Arts and Communications Center (A&C) opened in 1971 and hosted the fields of visual and performing arts, theater, broadcasting and music. Many artists and performers found their place in the fine arts department headquartered in A&C.

Some of these creative students included Bill Bukowski and Mark Gruenwald. One of their finest collaborations was Augmento, UWO's first comic superhero.

The comic strip first started as a hobby of Bukowski's as he worked as an artist for the Advance-Titan.

Before joining the A-T, Bukowski worked both in the cafeteria and as a janitor in Nelson Hall in an attempt to use his work study. He hated both of those jobs and sought other opportunities.

"I went to the Advance-Titan and said 'Hey, can I draw for work study?' and they said 'Sure.' So, then I was doing illustrations and eventually started the Augmento comic strip," Bukowski said.

He modeled Augmento off his roommate Rick Gilbertson not only from his looks.

"We actually came up with the name Augmento from my music theory dictionary, paging through and finding what looked like it had interest in terms of humor," Gilbertson said. "Augmentation was one of the (words) we came up with. An augmented chord shortened to Augmento."

Episode 1 of the comic strip was released on Feb. 1, 1973 that introduced Augmento. The strip details meeting Murray Marquardt and his happenings upon a misplaced pitch-pipe that he found in an "ancient volume" in the library. He blew a high C note on the pipe and he turned Augmento: defender of justice.

Augmento was an "anti-hero" who lived in a world similar to students. The comic strip oftentimes included personalities around campus, including Roger Guiles, who held the chancellor position from 1959-73. The A-T's edgy reputation at the time was shown through the light roasting in the comics.

All of a sudden . . .

After the printing of 11 episodes, the A-T canceled the Augmento comic strip in fall 1973. While the editor of the paper blamed a "paper shortage," Bukowski figured otherwise. A character named Nympho was featured in comics mildly relating to sexism and misogyny from Augmento, which led to the hero's demise.

In 1974, Augmento returned to the

A-T as a collaboration between Bukowski and Gruenwald. The pair saw great potential and found a creative outlet in the comic.

"Mark and I met in a life drawing class in the art building," Bukowski said. "He was a very friendly young man and we both eventually found out that we enjoy comics. He was one of the most creative people I've ever met. He had so many ideas and so he was very serious about Augmento, and before we got started, he already had the whole script done."

Bukowski realized that individually, he lacked the ability to make more complex storylines. And that's where Gruenwald came in. The pair restarted the comic by addressing Augmento's earlier sexism.

They tried to make amends with the character Nympho with the introduction of Iron Maiden, a force of women's liberation and adversary. She made appearances dueling with Augmento in the comics and in a radio drama play on WRST, UWO's student radio station.

Not long after . . .

In spring 1975, Bukowski transferred

to Mankato State University, which left Gruenwald with Augmento. He introduced a cast of characters with diverse racial and sexual identities.

One of those characters included homosexual superhero Kellery Tiel, a.k.a. "The Gay Blade," who came to Augmento's defense and saved the day in the comic strip's final battle. Tiel was introduced to the comic when industry code banned mainstream comics from depicting homosexual characters and themes.

"I think he liked to be cutting edge and if that was going to be what was happening, he's right there," Bukowski said. "He liked to use anything he could in order to tell the story . . . to be interesting or relevant."



The strip ran until Gruenwald's graduation in December 1975.

It seemed like this was Augmento's last appearance in the A-T, but he resurfaced in the paper multiple times thereafter.

Bukowski and Gruenwald stayed in contact for many years after.

What became of the heroes after graduating

Gruenwald never lost interest in comics and upon graduating, moved to New York City.

He wrote a book, "A Treatise on Reality in Comic Literature," in which he coined the word "omniverse." He developed a fanzine – traditionally a magazine produced by an amateur – on the study of the timelines of omniverses, metaverses and more.

Marvel Comics saw his work and hired him as a penciler, writer and eventually, executive editor. As a writer, he had cameos of himself and Augmento in his work.

Gruenwald was the creator and sole author of Marvel's "New Universe D.P.7," which featured a whole new set of characters, unrelated to previous heroes and villains. The "displaced para-

normals" he wrote about were largely Wisconsin-based and the series began in the fictional Winnebago County General Hospital.

Gruenwald died of a heart attack at age 43. He was honored in the Disney+ Loki series through the character Mobius M. Mobius, played by Owen Wilson, who was styled after Gruenwald.

Bukowski grew in his aspirations of becoming a professional artist and became an art professor at Bethany Lutheran College 1980.

Oftentimes, he would visit Gruenwald in New York and bring his students.

"I would take a group of 10 (students) to New York City," Bukowski said. "Mark would arrange a visit to Marvel when he was still alive. The first time we came, he had a guy dressed like Spiderman to give us a tour."

Bukowski said he and Gruenwald always stayed close, but he didn't think Gruenwald understood why he left comic books.

In his art career, Bukowski participated in 175 Midwestern exhibitions and designed altarpieces and religious paintings for churches across the U.S.

He retired from teaching after 40 years and donated his original Augmento collection to the UWO Archives and Area Research Center in 2020.

Gilbertson started a career as a musician after graduating, and later became a mailman for the U.S. Postal Service.

After retiring from the USPS, he continues to perform music. He runs a Facebook page for Augmento, his alter ego, sharing memories from those glory days.

While the Augmento comic series ended its time in the A-T and at UWO, its legacy lives on through the memories.

"I do think those times in Oshkosh were very creative and very exciting," Bukowski said. "I think as a university, they should be proud of those times. (Great things) can happen in Oshkosh – you don't have to be in New York or on the East or West coast."



Meet the cast:



Bill Bukowski –
Native of Wisconsin Rapids.

From 1972-74, Bukowski was an art student at UWO. He is the original creator of Augmento and aspired to be a professional artist.

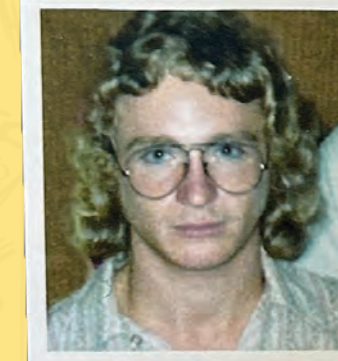
"I remember consciously in kindergarten I was always an artist," Bukowski said. "I was trying to decide if I should go into film or art (in high school). I kind of flipped a coin and decided art. I wanted to be a comic book artist when I came to Oshkosh. It just seemed like the right thing."



Mark Gruenwald –
Oshkosh born and raised. Died Aug. 12, 1996, in Paulding, New York.

Gruenwald joined Bukowski in developing "Augmento" into a more elaborate comic strip. His encyclopedic knowledge on comics contributed to his impressive storytelling.

"In high school he was very much into comics when I first met him," Gruenwald's high school friend J. Mark Madison said. "He had a lot of (comics). He had these shelves, and each one in a special plastic sleeve. He was attracted by storylines and by the artistry of it."



Rick Gilbertson –
Hailed from near Columbus, Wisconsin.

Gilbertson, a music major, was Bukowski's college roommate and was the inspiration for the look of Augmento with his "good looks" and "curly locks."

"I guess my fame comes from Augmento, but that was really my best friend at the time and roommate who drew the comic strip," Gilbertson said. "I was basically just the face that he thought had comic potential."



Photos by Meagan McDowell
Page design by Katie Pulvermacher

Sports

Titans XC places first

By Brandon Cobb
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The UW Oshkosh cross-country team ran its final regular season race at the UW-Whitewater Warhawk Open. In the women’s 6,000-meter, the Titans placed first out of four teams, with Oshkosh runners taking up seven out of the top 10 spots at the finish line. In the men’s 8,000-meter race, the Titans placed third out of five teams, with four Oshkosh runners placing in the top-20 on Oct. 20.

In the women’s race, UWO was led by senior Meygan Benzing who set the pace with a season-best 25:19 finish for third place. Junior Paige Hagner followed directly behind with a time of 26:08 for fourth place and Olivia Schwarm finished with a time of 26:11 for fifth place.

Five more Titans filled out the top 10 in this race, with freshman Kate Haffner in sixth with a season-best time of 26:12, freshman Allison Van Der Wegen in seventh with a time of 26:17, freshman Dana Valdez-Berber in eighth with a time of 26:26, junior Katelyn Puetz in ninth with a time of 26:46 and sophomore Ella Galaszewski in 10th with a time of 26:55.

In the men’s race, UWO was led by freshman Jason Skinkis who ran a time of 27:53 for eighth place. Sophomore Owen Bostwick placed 11th with a time of 28:11 and Nate Gindt placed 19th with a time of 28:32.

Skinkis said the course was difficult, although he managed to keep pace despite the terrain.

“Whitewater was definitely the hardest course we’ve seen this year,” he said. “There was a big hill on the backside of the course which made the finish a little challenging. I just found a group of people that I was able to run with, which made the first few miles easier than expected.”

UWO will head to Prescott High School for the WIAC Championships Oct. 28. The men’s race is at 12 p.m., followed by the women’s race at 1 p.m.



Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan

UWO setter Izzy Coon sets the ball over the net in Oshkosh’s 3-1 win over UW-Eau Claire Oct. 11 at the Kolf Sports Center.

Titans one win from record

By Nolan Andler
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The nationally ranked UW Oshkosh women’s volleyball remained unbeaten with a tough win at UW-River Falls and a sweep over nationally ranked North Park University (Illinois) on Oct. 20 and Oct. 21, respectively.

With the victories, UWO improves to 28-0 on the season and the Titans are one win away from tying the program record for most wins to begin a season.

The Titans, ranked No. 2 in the nation by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, edged out the Falcons in a 3-2 win with set scores of 25-22, 25-18, 24-26, 11-25 and 15-8. Sami Perlberg and Riley Kindt led the team in kills on the night, as Perlberg recorded 13 kills and Kindt recorded 12. Kalli Mau and Izzy

Coon led the team in assists, both recording 20 each. Abby Fregien and Amelia Hust led the team in digs, with Fregien recording 13 and Hust recording 11.

In the first set the Titans never trailed. UWO jumped out to a 9-5 lead to start the set, thanks to two kills each from Perlberg, Kirsch and Kindt. However the Falcons never allowed the Titans to pull away as UWRF had an answer for every UWO run. Thankfully for the Titans, the Falcons were never able to reel them in completely and UWO won set one 25-22.

Set two was an easier win for the Titans. UWO jumped out to another 9-5 lead behind two kills from Perlberg and four Falcon attack errors. However unlike set one, the Titans never allowed the Falcons to get the score closer than five points, as UWO won 25-18.

Set three was a back and forth set, as neither team could build a lead higher than two points. UWO was in position for the match win with a 24-23 lead. Unfortunately the Titans were not able to get that 25th point first as the Falcons were able to tie it back up and then score the last two points to win a wild set three 24-26. Then in set four it was all Falcons as UWRF cruised to an 11-25 set four win and sent the game into set five.

Much like the rest of the season, the Titans once again did not let adversity get the best of them. Coach Jon Ellmann said that the team was not fazed by the pressure they were faced with.

“There was real pressure prior to the fifth set and we acknowledged that,” he said. “Those are the moments we look forward to. They are a sign of opportunity.” The Falcons tried their best to

upset the Titans as the set started out with a 6-5 UWO lead. After that UWO pulled away on a 9-2 run to win the set 15-8 and the match 3-2. Riley Dalhquist scored the match winning point with a service ace.

The Titans traveled to Stevens Point the next day to play in the UW-Stevens Point Papa John’s invite against the No. 18 ranked North Park University. It was a much better showing for the Titans as they swept the Vikings 3-0.

Kirsch and Kindt were the leaders in kills for the team as both recorded 10. Mau and Coon were once again the leaders in assists, both recording 15. Fregien recorded 11 digs on the night leading the team.

UWO started the first set trailing to the Vikings until they were able to tie the set up at 9-9.

Turn to *Volleyball* / Page 11

UWO football falls to La Crosse 31-28

By Jacob Link
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Quarterback Kobe Berghammer threw for 337 passing yards and three touchdowns, but the UW Oshkosh football team fell to nationally ranked UW-La Crosse 31-28 at Roger Harring Stadium at Veterans Memorial Field Oct. 21.

Berghammer, who is three touchdown passes away from breaking the school record for most touchdown passes in program history, leads Division III with 29 touchdown passes on the year and has the third-most touchdown passes in the nation at any level.

Berghammer finished the game against UWL, ranked fourth in the nation by d3football.com, 32-45 for his fourth game of the season, throwing for more than 400 yards. He was also

UWO’s leading rusher for the fourth straight week, scoring a touchdown and gaining 23 yards on the ground on nine carries.

UWO wide receiver Dan Fynaardt had a career-high six catches for 96 yards and a touchdown in the loss. Oshkosh’s Trae Tetzlaff, who leads the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference with 47 receptions, recorded nine catches for 85 yards and a score.

As a team, Oshkosh outgained UWL through the air 337 yards to 203 yards, but the Titans were outgained on the ground 275 yards to 48 yards.

UWO senior defensive back Chris Doherty said it was a very disappointing loss for the team.

“If we would have won, then we would have been tied for first atop the conference,” Doherty said.

Turn to *Football* / Page 11



Courtesy of Jim Flood

UW-La Crosse quarterback Keyser Helterbrand runs for a touchdown against the Titans Oct. 21 at Roger Harring Stadium at Veterans Memorial Field.

Sports



Scoreboard

Friday, Oct. 20

Volleyball
UWO - 3
UW-River Falls - 12
Cross-Country
Men's - 3/5, 79 pts.
Women's - 1/4, 25 pts.

Saturday, Oct. 21

Football
UWO - 28
UW-La Crosse - 31
Soccer
UWO - 2
UW-River Falls - 1
Volleyball
UWO - 3
North Park University - 0

Sunday, Oct. 22

Tennis
UWO - 4/7

Tuesday, Oct. 24

Soccer
UWO - 2
Concordia University - 1

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Oct. 26

Wrestling
Black and Gold Classic at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 28

Football
vs. UW-Stevens Point at 1:30 p.m.
Soccer
at UW-Platteville at 6 p.m.
Swimming and Diving
vs Carroll University at 1 p.m.
Cross-Country
WIAC Championship at River Falls
Mens at 12 p.m. & Womens at 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 31

Volleyball
vs. Alverno College at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 2

Basketball
Black vs. Gold Scrimmage at 7:30 p.m.

A-Trivia

What is the UWO football team's all-time record against UW-Stevens Point?

Answer: 50-61, winning ten of the last 11.

A-Trivia

How many kills does Riley Kindt have in her UWO volleyball career?

Answer: She reached 1008 kills during this weekend's game against North Park University.

Titan coach committed to success

By Kelly Hueckman
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UW Oshkosh men's basketball head coach Matt Lewis has transformed the Titans into a Division III powerhouse after his fourth NCAA tournament-qualifying team in five years, according to his players and coworkers.

"When I was a freshman, I learned real quick why Oshkosh won a national tournament [in 2019], because coach Lewis is an unbelievable coach," senior guard Will Mahoney said.

Lewis took over the men's team in 2019 as interim head coach before accepting the position the following season.

Lewis closed his fifth season as head coach March 11 after the Titans fell to Mount Union 78-67 in the third round of the NCAA tournament.

The game marked the program's fifth appearance in the Elite Eight. It was Lewis' second Elite Eight appearance as a UWO head coach, the first of which resulted in the 2019 NCAA Championship victory.

Lewis and the Titans began their quest for a third straight regular season Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference last week with their first practices of the 2023-24 season.

Mahoney said he attributes the team's success to Lewis' dedication to the school and the university.

"I mean, that man lives and breathes Oshkosh basketball," he said. "He cares so much about his players and winning and it shows."

UWO Athletic Director Darryl Sims said Lewis' commitment and drive made him a clear option for the head coach position when he was hired in 2019.



Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan

UWO head basketball coach Matt Lewis watches the team on the floor during a game last season.

"It was clear to me that he was a hard worker, had a passion for the job and maintained a relentless pursuit to win," Sims said.

On top of his work ethic, Lewis has proven he has the ability to curate a skilled and well-rounded team during his time with the Titans, Sims said.

"[Lewis is] a staunch recruiter and [has] a sharp eye for recognizing talented student athletes," he said. "That has not changed since he was the interim head coach in 2019 until today."

It's Lewis' in-depth research and analytic skills that ensure the team is prepared for upcoming obstacles, Mahoney said.

"I guarantee no coach does the recruiting he does at the level he does it and I know for sure no coach scouts our opponents like he does," he said. "He has stayed up almost the whole night scouting the

team we're gonna play on days we have to play back to back."

According to Lewis, the feeling is mutual. Lewis said Titan success in the past several years was earned by students' talent.

"The success we have had is directly attributed to the student-athletes and assistant coaches," he said. "Our assistant coaches work very hard to recruit high character, great teammates into our program and then develop them while they are here."

Lewis said he built off the work of the previous head coach, Pat Juckem, who revitalized the team after a nearly decade-long dry spell with no NCAA tournament qualifications.

"Pat has a gift for connecting with people," Lewis said. "I spent a ton of time learning how he interacted with those around him in many different settings."

Learning to communicate effectively with players and coaches has allowed Lewis to form his coaching philosophy, he said.

"I believe in bringing energy and passion to our program," Lewis said. "Providing confidence and self-belief, while challenging us all to raise our standards."

After spearheading Titan success for the past five years, Lewis said he has gained a deep appreciation for the program.

"UW Oshkosh is a special place that allows you to recruit high character, great teammates who are also really talented at basketball," he said. "It was easy to fall in love with this place and our program as we were building it."

The Titans will kick off their season with a matchup against the Illinois Institute of Technology Nov. 8 at the Kolf Sports Center.

Oshkosh wins third straight match

By Owen Larsen
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The UW Oshkosh women's soccer team extended its season-high win streak to three games after defeating UW-Stevens Point 4-1 on Oct. 18, taking down UW-River Falls 2-1 on Oct. 21 and besting Concordia University (Wisconsin) 2-1 on the road Oct. 24.

UWO (5-9-3, 3-3-0 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) entered its home game against the Pointers (6-7-1, 3-1-0 WIAC) Oct. 18 with only one win in the Titans' previous nine matches.

After a fairly quiet first 35 minutes of action at Titan Stadium, the matchup between the Titans and Pointers heated up when in the 37th minute, freshman Gabriella Mattio scored her second goal of the season. Mattio's goal put the Titans up 1-0 and UWO went into halftime with a one goal advantage.

It would not take long for the Titans to pick things back up after the break, scoring goals in the 51st and 57th minutes by Alayna Clark and Brynn Higgins, respectively, putting the Titans up 3-0 with 33 minutes remaining.

The Pointers responded with a goal in the 61st minute. However, the Titans would put the game away with another goal in the 79th minute.

The two teams combined for 39

shots taken in the game, with the Titans accounting for 23 of them.

For Senior Day, the Titans hosted the Falcons (6-6-3, 1-2-1 WIAC) on Oct. 21 in the final home game of the season.

The match did not start ideally for the Titans, as it only took until the 14th minute for the Falcons to find the back of the net. However, UWO was able to close the first half by answering with a goal of their own in the 35th minute, scored by Molly Jackson, deadlocking the match at 1-1.

The second half would see 11 Titan shots, and luckily for the Titans one of those shots on goal ended up in the net courtesy of a shot from Ariana Gonzalez in the 73rd minute, pushing UWO to a 2-1 victory.

The Titans took the lead early and went on to claim their third straight win over Concordia 2-1 on the road Oct. 24.

UWO took the lead in the 24th minute when Gabby Born scored on an assist from Alayna Clark.

The Falcons responded with a goal in the 41st minute, but the Titans were able to take the lead once again after a goal from Brianna Kehl in the 62nd minute to help the Titans to their fifth win of the season.

The Titans will finish off the season on the road at UW-Platteville Oct. 28 at 6 p.m. If UWO defeats the Pioneers, the Titans are guaranteed a spot in the WIAC Tournament.

Up next for UWO soccer:



Oct. 28
at UW-Platteville



Oct. 31
at WIAC
Tournament



Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan

Oshkosh's Maris Heun evades a UWRF player at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium.

Sports

UWO ends season at WIAC championship

By Emily Buffington
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Kayla Gibbs and Jameson Gregory led the UW Oshkosh women’s tennis team at the 2023 WIAC Tennis Championship on Sunday in the No. 2 doubles competition. The Titans, who finished fourth in the regular season standings with four points from their six league dual matches (3-3), added another eight points in the final rounds of play on Sunday in Madison for 12 overall championship points. UW-Whitewater won its 17th-straight conference title with 21 points. UW-Eau Claire followed in second with 18 and UW-La Crosse took third with 15. Finishing behind Oshkosh was UW-Stevens Point with nine points, UW-River Falls with five points and UW-Stout with four points. Gibbs and Gregory started on a bye in the first round before defeating Grace Henes and Brooklyn Steier from Stevens Point 8-7

in the second round. They then went on to face Anna Lee and Liv Herzog of Eau Claire in the championship round, however were defeated 8-1. Olivia Pethan and Alysa Pattee both placed fifth in the No. 1 and No. 2 singles matches. Pethan was defeated by Tristin Jantz in the first round and received a bye in the second round. Pethan went on to win against UWRF’s Chloe Struss 6-0, 6-1 for fifth place. Pattee fell in the first round to UWSP’s Quinlyn Mack 6-4, 6-2, and received a bye in the second round. Pattee defeated UWRF’s Sydney Wiener 6-4, 6-3 in the fifth-place match. In the doubles matches, both Pattee and Pethan and Courtney Carpenter and Nguyen took home fifth place in the No. 1 and No. 2 positions. Pattee and Pethan fell to UWSP’s Jantz and Scharf 8-6 in the first round and received a bye in the second round. They then defeated Grace Aerts and Wiener 8-0 for the fifth-place position.



Doubles partners Ella Nguyen and Carpenter took home fifth place at the WIAC Championship.

Carpenter and Nguyen fell to UWSP’s Mack and Leithhold 8-6 in the first round and also received a bye in the second round. Winning fifth place, the pair defeated Ashlyn Dellemann and Lexie Stein 8-0.

Pattee was named to the All-Sportsmanship Team at the event. The Titans will own the No. 4 seed at the 2023-24 WIAC team tournament, hosted by No. 1 seed UW-Whitewater. UW-Eau Claire

and UW-La Crosse will join the Titans and Warhawks in Whitewater on April 27, 2024. The winner of the team tournament will earn the conference’s automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Championship.

Senior looks to leave legacy

By Nolan Swenson
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This fall is the conclusion of UW Oshkosh’s soccer senior Rylie Kaufman’s career as an athlete and Titan, leaving a legacy of leadership and love of the sport. Kaufman said that as long as she can remember, she’s played soccer and that it’s come to her naturally through friends and family. “I have been playing soccer all of my life; I couldn’t even tell you when I started,” she said. “My older sister also played, so we’ve always been a soccer family... I stuck with soccer because it felt the best and I gained a lot of friends by being there.” Kaufman’s career leading to collegiate level involved two different clubs and playing in high school. While in high school, she had conflicts with a coach that led to her joining a men’s club in order to continue playing the sport giving her a more competitive experience. “My senior year, I practiced in the boy’s club and that ended up helping me in the long run as it was a faster paced game,” Kaufman said. She said that while observing her older sister search for schools, Kaufman had seen what different schools required of athletes, leading Kaufman to choose a lower division. “When it came to looking at colleges, I had already seen where my brother and sister looked,” she said. “My sister had gone Division I at Northern Illinois University, so I saw the different levels of play. I came to a realization that as much as I love soccer and I want to go to a high level, it would be best for me to go to a Division III school.” During her junior year of high-school, Kaufman began talking to UWO’s head soccer coach, Erin Coppennoll about oppor-



Rylie Kaufman prepares to shoot while being pursued by a UW-Stevens Point player in a game earlier this season.

tunities to play at UWO and Kaufman later committed at the beginning of her senior year. While looking into Oshkosh, Kaufman described her connection to UWO as “automatic” due to campus and its proximity to family. “It was an automatic feeling of this was home, and that’s something I wanted from college,” she said. “I see my grandma every week and my aunt and uncle every other week. I also just have a big group of supporters to come and watch me.” Kaufman said that one of the attractions of campus is the size and the amenities it offered for her. “I love the campus not being super big,” she said. “The fact that I can walk while living on or off of campus ... It’s a beautiful campus and the benefits and amenities are really helpful. It was the right fit and it’s exactly what I wanted.”

This season, UWO has a 5-9-3 record and the Titans are currently in fourth place in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Oshkosh has won their last three matches and the Titans are one win away from securing a spot in the WIAC Tournament next weekend. After graduation, Kaufman said that she plans on teaching in Wisconsin. She said that she also hopes that her teaching career includes coaching in order to share her love of the sport. “The hope is to find a teaching job in Wisconsin either in the middle or high school level,” she said. “I don’t have a preference as to where. I’m going to be a new teacher out of college and I don’t have the ground to stand on to say no to a job. Where I find a job that suits me is where I’ll go. I also hope to coach soccer and extend my love of it.” UWO will take on UW-Platteville on the road Oct. 28 at 6 p.m.

Schiro takes 2nd

By Angela Satterlee
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The UW Oshkosh swim and dive Titans traveled to Brown Deer for the annual Wisconsin Showcase taking place at the Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center last Saturday. The meet began at 1 p.m and results were posted at 5:33 p.m. This meet was a non-scoring one, so there are no team scores posted, only individual placing in each separate event. On the women’s team, Francesca Schiro finished her 200 freestyle with 1:56.94 taking second overall in that event. She said that she was proud of her performance. “I was very proud of my 200 freestyle performance this past weekend,” Schiro said. “I feel more prepared this season than last year. My time was about three seconds off my best time which is currently on the record board. I placed second to a Division I swimmer so I’m super proud of how I raced. I’m looking forward to seeing how far I’ll go this year as well as the team!” Schiro also placed third overall in the 50 freestyle out of 80 swimmers and tied for second in the 100 freestyle with McKenna Metropulos from UW-Green Bay, for a time of 54.23. Amanda Richards also placed well in her 100 backstroke with a time of 1:04.74 taking 21 out of 48 swimmers. She said she worked hard on techniques she learned in practice. “I am most proud of my 100 back because I applied the underwater work (we focused on) in practice into the race and I felt strong and good in the water,” Richards said. Some other top 15 place finishers in their events were Bella Cichon who went a 2:36.20 in the 200 breaststroke, Sienna Della-Pe-ruta, who went a 2:16.77 in the 200 backstroke, and Mara Amley who went a 5:54.25 in the 500 freestyle. On the men’s team Damen



Courtesy of UWO Athletics
Francesca Schiro finished her 200-yard freestyle in second place.

Seremet went a 22.42 in the 50 freestyle coming in 14th out of 78 swimmers. Seremet also swam a 51.35 in the 100 freestyle taking 24th out of 59 swimmers and took 9th in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:00.93. Serement starts preparing for his races before even arriving at the pool. “Mentally I have to prepare before I even get on the bus ... trusting the work I put in the week prior,” he said. “But at the meet it’s important for me to only focus on what’s right in front of me. I can’t spend too much time thinking about an event I already did or time thinking about my last event, just the event I’m about to do. My recovery is the most important to me physically, I have to stay consistent with my sleep nutrition and hydration to feel the best at any meet.” Leo Ramirez-Gutierrez went a 1:54.44 in the 200 freestyle and 56.38 in the 100 fly respectively. Seremet and Ramirez-Gutierrez were in both of the men’s relays, the 200 medley relay placed 6th and the 200 freestyle relay was 7th. Overall the meet went well and the season will continue with a home meet this Saturday (Oct. 28) against Carroll University. The first event is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Sports

Volleyball: Win streak up to 28 games

From Page 8

After that it remained close all the way until two kills by Dalquist sealed up a 25-23 set one win.

The second set was dominated by the Titans. UWO went on 6-2 run to open up the second set behind three kills from Kindt. As that was all UWO needed to win set two and go up 2-0.

In the third set, it started out close as both teams leveled the score at 6-6. After that it was all Titans, as UWO went on a 6-1 run behind three kills from Kirsch to open the score at 12-7. The Titans were able to ride the lead to a 25-14 set three win and a sweep over the Vikings. Oliva Breunig hit the game-winning kill for the Titans.

Ellmann said that he was happy with the energy the team showed after playing a 5-set game the night before.

“Both teams played a five set match the night prior,” he said. “Our resolve and consistent level of energy and execution was something that we were very happy with.”

Two players reached personal

WIAC Standings	
UW Oshkosh -----	5-0
UW-Whitewater -----	4-1
UW-Platteville -----	4-1
UW-Stevens Point -----	3-2
UW-River Falls -----	2-3
UW-Eau Claire -----	2-3
UW-Stout -----	0-5
UW-La Crosse -----	0-5

accomplishments in the sweep over North Park. Kindt joined the 1,000 kills club and Kalli Mau joined the 2,000 assists club.

Ellmann said he credited their work ethic as the reason for what they accomplished on Saturday.

“Both Riley and Kalli set the bar for work ethic and leadership. They are a testament to what is possible when you go all in,” he said.

The Titans took on UW-Platteville at the Kolf Sports Center on Oct. 25. You can find the results of the game on the UWO Athletics website.

UWO will take on Alverno College at home Oct. 31 for Senior Night.



Morgan Feltz / Advance-Titan

UWO took down UW-River Falls and North Park University (Illinois) on Oct. 20 and 21, respectively to remain undefeated on the season.

Football: Titans drop to 4-3 on the season

From Page 8

“Losing by three points to the No. 4 team in the nation is nothing to be sad about though. We definitely put up a good fight and we put forth our best effort. I think it was the most physical that we’ve been in any game this season. We just need to clean up some small errors, that way we can become much better as a team for the last few games of the season.”

The Titans (4-3, 2-2 WIAC) drove deep into UWL territory on their first possession of the game but were unable to walk away with points after a failed fourth down attempt. The Eagles (6-1, 4-0 WIAC) took possession and marched 75 yards for their first touchdown of the game after quarterback Keyser Helterbrand tossed a 10-yard touchdown pass to Jack Studer to give UWL a 7-0 lead.

Oshkosh missed a field goal on their next drive and La Crosse scored another touchdown six plays later when Gabe Lynch ran for a 5-yard score.

The Titans finally found the endzone early in the second quarter when Berghammer threw a short pass to running back Doug Burson, who ran 11 yards for the touchdown. UWO missed the ensuing extra point and the Titans trailed UWL 14-6.

La Crosse scored on their third straight drive of the game to jump out to a 21-6 advantage after Helterbrand threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to Tyler Bowman with just under 10 minutes remaining in the half.

UWO was able to cut the lead to seven points on their next possession when the Titans put together a 12-play drive that was capped off by a 2-yard touchdown pass from Berghammer to Fynaardt. Berghammer also found Fynaardt

on a two-point conversion to try to cut the deficit to 21-14.

Just before halftime, UWL marched into the red zone and looked poised to score once again until Oshkosh linebacker Kyle Dietzen picked off Helterbrand to finish off the half.

The Titans converted on a surprise onside kick to begin the second half, but UWO was unable to take advantage of prime field possession and turned the ball over on downs.

With just over four minutes to play in the third quarter, the Eagles took a 24-14 advantage after kicker Michael Stack drilled a 40-yard field goal.

UWO opened the fourth quarter with a touchdown to cut the deficit to just three points after Berghammer broke outside the pocket and ran for a 10-yard touchdown.

The Titans could not hold the Eagle offense on their next possession, and UWL took a 31-21 lead when Helterbrand ran for a 21-yard touchdown.

Oshkosh made things interesting late in the fourth quarter after Berghammer connected with Tetzlaff for a 16-yard touchdown to cut the Eagle lead to three points, but the Titans were unable to get a stop on the defensive side. UWL earned three straight first downs on the final possession to run out the clock and claim their sixth win of the season.

Doherty said he was most impressed by the team’s resilience against La Crosse.

“Even though we have gotten down on ourselves after falling behind in other games, sometimes it felt we would maybe point fingers and stuff like that, that was not the case in this game,” Doherty said. “In this game we tried to stay as a cohesive unit, and we didn’t get the end result



Courtesy of Jim Flood

UWO’s Dan Fynaardt runs with the ball against UW-La Crosse at Veterans Memorial Field Oct. 21.

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

By the numbers	
Passing leaders	
Kobe Berghammer (UWO): 32-45, 337 yards, 3 TDs	
Keyser Helterbrand (UWL): 13-20, 203 yards, 2 TD, 1 INT	
Rushing Leaders	
Keyser Helterbrand (UWL): 17 ATT, 145 yards, 1 TD	
Gabe Lynch (UWL): 19 ATT, 102 yards, 1 TD	
Kobe Berghammer (UWO): 9 ATT, 23 yards, 1 TD	
Receiving Leaders	
Dan Fynaardt (UWO): 6 REC, 96 yards, 1 TD	
Jack Studer (UWL): 5 REC, 87 yards, 1 TD	
Trae Tetzlaff (UWO): 9 REC, 85 yards, 1 TD	
Jon Mathieu (UWO): 6 REC, 63 yards	

we wanted, but we really put forth our best effort.”

Doherty said the team needs more leadership from everyone.

“We need everyone to be on the same page at all times, cheering on each other and picking each other up when we’re down,” he said. “We need to continue to come together as a team going into the last stretch of the season.”

UWO will take on UW-Stevens Point (1-6, 0-4 WIAC) for Homecoming at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium Oct. 28 at 1:35 p.m.

Up next for UWO football:

 Oct. 28 VS UW-Stevens Point	 Nov. 4 at UW-Platteville	 Nov. 11 VS UW-River Falls
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Read your student newspaper!

By Anya Kelley
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Dear faculty, please read your student newspaper.

We are currently facing one of the hardest years in UW Oshkosh history. 140 of our beloved staff members were just laid off due to an \$18 million structural deficit.

We, the students, can feel the unshakable anger and sadness lingering on campus.

The Advance-Titan, UWO’s independent student newspaper, has been working tirelessly to bring you the best, most well-researched coverage possible.

Since our first issue this semester, we have had at least one story covering the deficit in every issue. We have been doing breaking news updates online and getting as much information out to the public as possible.

We have covered every topic from the Fond du Lac campus closing to layoffs and every update in between.

Our staff has put in countless hours of research, freedom of information act (FOIA) requests, interviews and long production nights to bring this campus the best coverage possible. We’ve even tried our hand at publishing our opinions on this whole ordeal.

There have been bumps in the road, but we are learning this infor-



Courtesy of PxHere photos

mation just as quickly as you are and, at the end of the day, we are doing all of this while being full-time students and maintaining reasonable GPAs.

We have been praised by many for our coverage of these events in a time when information seems nearly impossible to obtain. For most of us, this has been consuming every hour of free time and we know you feel that, too.

So please, read your student newspaper because maybe, just maybe, we have some answers to your questions. And maybe we, the A-T staff, can show you that the students of UWO are in your corner.

- STUDENT JOURNALISM:
- Fills gaps in news deserts
 - Encourages student involvement on campus
 - Informs students on topics directly related to them
 - Raises awareness about important issues going on at the university
 - Gives student voices a platform
 - Provides real-world experience

Music’s odd tendency to bind with our memories

Why do I remember my first date when I hear a certain song?

By Aubrie Selsmeyer
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Music is one of the most incredible things we as humankind share. Music bridges the gap between centuries of failed communication. Two individuals who do not speak the same language can appreciate the same sound; a patient with dementia may remember their significant other when they hear their wedding song, and you can tell someone you love them with a lyric.

If you’ve ever been in the car and a song comes on that you immediately associate with someone in your life, then you’ve already experienced the unique effect music has on our brains. Maybe the song represents the

loss of someone like a friend or a lover. Or maybe you heard the song in an Italian restaurant and now you can taste tomato sauce and parmesan whenever you hear Frank Sinatra.

Our brain encodes music differently than it does long term memories. Music is stored in the part of our brain that also processes language and emotions. So, now you have this part of your brain that completely intertwines music with emotion and language. And we wonder why music has so much control over our feelings!

Music arouses the limbic system of our brain, responsible for all of our behavioral and emotional responses. Included in the limbic system is the hippocampus, responsible for encoding long

term memories and creating associations with our senses. Tasting red sauce and parmesan when you hear Frank Sinatra would be an example of the hippocampus part of your brain at work.

Because music is filed separately from long term memories in our brains, it has an alternative way to make us recollect the past.

“...we don’t just hear a song once. There are lots of opportunities to encode that memory. Deeply encoded music can unlock these ‘flashbulb’ memories. We can remember more vivid details about events in the past when we are exposed to music,” said Frank Russo, professor of psychology at Toronto Metropolitan University.

Memories connected to music often occur as an “involun-

tary memory” according to The Conversation, meaning we don’t try to remember these types of memories, it just happens. It’s the phenomenon that occurs when you hear a song on the overhead speakers of a store and suddenly remember how it rained on your first date.

Music seems to be present in many self-defining moments in our lives. We as humans turn to music during moments of triumph, moments of joy and moments of heartbreak. We seem to remember movies better when we enjoy the soundtrack playing throughout. Baseball players play snippets of music as they approach the plate and Badger fans know to *Jump Around* when the song echoes through Camp Randall Stadium.

Essentially, music is bound to the memory that was being encoded whilst the song was played. This is why certain songs have the ability to strike a nerve in someone who may associate it with a negative experience. It’s also why patients with Alzheimer’s disease are able to relive forgotten memories. You may not even know that you associate a distinct memory with a song until you hear it.

We can’t control when our brains will bind music to a memory. My greatest piece of advice for you is to watch which songs you play for people – you could accidentally change the meaning of the song for yourself completely. Worst case scenario, you may never want to listen to it again!



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