

The Advance-Titan

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What's inside:

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Page 5

Women's basketball



Page 8

Black student art



Page 12

Chancellor's OnlyFans



Kayla Curtis / Advance-Titan

The UW Oshkosh Bolt Band performs during the UWO women's basketball game Feb. 23 at the Kolf Sports Center.

UWO band spends \$800,000

By Anya Kelley
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After two years of operation, Oshkosh's marching band and pep band have used up their \$800,000 startup fund.

When the program was conceived in fiscal year 2022, they were given a timeline: spend the full budgeted amount through fiscal year 2024 and at the end, the university will cover the \$800,000.

"The \$800,000 for what I call year zero, which would be 2022 to 2023, was the investment that the university made in terms of all the startup things," Joseph Scheivert, the director of athletic bands, said.

In Scheivert's research, UWO had no documentation of a marching band after the 1980s — 40+ years ago. The university needed to start from square one.

"We had to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to get uniforms and instruments and equipment and things prepared so we could even do things right," Scheivert said. "[\$800,000] is not a consistent spend for us."

Besides uniforms and instruments, the band required a facility to function out of — another large cost for the new group.

"The marching band facility, which is what it was labeled in our analysis, is not really just a

marching band facility," Alex Hummel, chief of staff of the university said.

The facility is currently housing both bands, the football team and the facilities department for UWO.

"You really need to divide up the total cost of the building, which was something on the order of \$784,000, by three to fairly parcel out the costs," Hummel said.

In fiscal year 2023, the marching band's first year of operation, operating costs sat at \$312,754. In fiscal year 2024, those costs dropped to \$282,224.

"Why is it lower? Because we're working on strengthening that budget and making sure it's affordable," Hummel said.

From a university standpoint, the marching band was meant to be a recruitment and retention tactic. With a robust program comes automatic community.

Brayden Parato, a mellophone player and social media team member, joined the marching band this year as a freshman. He credits the band as the reason he committed to UWO.

"During my senior year of high school, I got to see the Titan Thunder marching band perform an exhibition at Oak Creek High School's marching band invitational," Parato said. "What stood out to me then was

that even though the band was so new, they looked and sounded amazing."

Parato said the exhibition was the first time he had seen a Division III school's marching band do a pregame show — and it felt just like watching a Big 10 school.

"The band itself spoke out very clearly to the students," Parato said. "I could tell that this was a very loving environment where people cared about each other, and they all had one goal, which was to make the best marching band they could."

Parato looked at other schools before deciding on UWO, but they didn't have marching bands. It wasn't a deal breaker, but it also wasn't ideal. His choice came down to UW-La Crosse and UWO.

"I wanted to be a part of a marching band that was more so a traditional college marching band rather than a continuation of high school," Parato said.

His friends had great things to say about the marching band at UWL, but he wanted to be a part of something new. He wanted to help build the program.

Feedback about the band has been overall positive from those involved directly with the university and community members alike.

"I've gotten considerable pos-

itive comments from all constituent areas since the band had started," Scheivert said. "I tell folks that we perform like a band with a long history, even though we don't [have one]."

Both Scheivert and Hummel agree that the marching band and the pep band have considerably added to the atmosphere of sporting experiences on campus.

However, that doesn't leave the band without scrutiny.

In April 2021, the university announced its plan to debut the marching band in the fall of 2022 — just one year before UWO announced it was in a budget deficit of \$18 million.

"I know that people have certainly asked questions about the level of investment in [the band], but it's a student experience at UWO," Hummel said. "We hope to continue [its development] as a recruiting and retention asset for the university in addition to that student experience."

Hummel emphasized that the band is only just shy of three years old.

"I think a lot of people came with an expectation that on year one, or day one, [the band] would immediately be a neutral cost to the university," Hummel said. "And obviously, no one's arguing that that's the case. It took investment."

Turn to **Band** / Page 3

Vote of no confidence moves forward

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh Faculty Senate voted to move forward with the petition for a vote of no confidence Tuesday afternoon, after a letter from Chancellor Andrew Leavitt asked Faculty Senate President Pascale Manning not to do so.

The Senate voted unanimously to keep the present language in place in the draft of the referendum and to continue the petition process outlined in the faculty senate constitution.

Manning said she delivered the text of the petition and referendum process to Leavitt and Chief of Staff Alex Hummel Feb. 23.

"During this meeting, the chancellor requested a copy of the petition with signatures, which I declined to share," Manning said. "I explained that faculty have expressed concerns about retaliation and given that the president of the Faculty Senate is the only individual named in relation to such a petition in the faculty constitution, I had deemed it my responsibility to certify the validity of the signatures. I clarify now that those petitions have not been shared with anyone, including the Faculty Senate executive committee."

The Senate will have two open meetings for faculty members to voice their opinions on the proposed referendum before a faculty vote of no confidence will take place in a separate meeting. The vote will be anonymous and online, which will enable remote faculty to participate. The Faculty Senate will not be voting as a representative body of the entire faculty. Instead, faculty senators will be voting as faculty members on drafting the referendum.

Manning received a petition from UWO faculty members on Feb. 16 asking the senate to draft a referendum of a no-confidence vote for Leavitt's leadership.

The petition was signed by 74 out of the 315 UWO faculty members, which was more than the minimum requirement of 10% of faculty signatures needed to bring the document in front of the Faculty Senate for a vote.

Turn to **Faculty Senate** / Page 3

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

Titan TV, WRST take home WBA awards

By Jacob Link
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Titan TV and 90.3 WRST-FM took home 26 awards at the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association Student Awards for Excellence held Feb. 24 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

90.3 WRST-FM, UW Oshkosh’s campus radio station, claimed 16 awards at the ceremony while Titan TV, UW O’s campus television station, won 10 awards.

90.3 WRST-FM’s first-place awards were for best newscast for radio, best sports programming non-play-by-play for radio, best sports play-by-play for radio, best live special for radio, best episodic entertainment program for radio and best website.

Titan TV’s first-place awards at WBA were for: sports programming non-play-by-play for TV and best informational/educational/corporate spot for TV.

Wendell Ray, 90.3 WRST general manager, said he was really proud of his students’ work over the past year.

“You know, [the awards are] just reflective of what the students do and the hard work they put in, both in class and what they do with the station,” Ray said.

Titan TV General Manager Justine Stokes said she was happy so many students won awards from WBA.

“It’s hard work to work in college television and it’s a big deal to share your work and to have it be judged by professionals, and so to see them take home 10 awards is a big deal,” Stokes said. “More importantly, if you look at what

we won, we won across the board. All different types of content, all different levels of productions in classes, and I’m almost more proud of that than anything else.”

Ray said he has to tip his hat to the students who win awards for work they do in class.

“Particularly those who are our RTF 120 (Introduction to Audio/Radio) students who had never done a news cast before, never done any kind of work on the air before and won awards,” Ray said. “I think that says a lot and hats off to our managers as well, who put in a lot of work and make sure the station sounds good and looks good on the internet. I think we just have a lot of good students who work really hard and are conscious of the product they put forward.”

Stokes said she was most impressed by the different types of productions her students put together last year.

“I think if you look at us, as compared to maybe other schools in the state, I think we offer the most variety of experience for students.” Stokes said. “There’s news, there’s sports, there’s sitcoms winning [awards], there’s studio



Courtesy of WRST
The 90.3 WRST-FM staff celebrates earning 16 awards at the WBA student awards.

game shows, we even did a show on poker. What I’m most proud of is that I kind of let the students do the content they want to make and not worry about it fitting into anybody’s expectations.”

Ray said the number of awards is reflective of the radio/TV/film department’s approach to blending curriculum with facilities.

“You just don’t just kind of go in there and figure things out yourself,” Ray said. “There’s a whole curricular approach to teaching students how to use the equipment, how to create content, and I think it shows every year in how both Titan TV and WRST are able to garner awards.”

Stokes said the RTF department gives students what they need to

thrive in and out of the classroom.

“You also have WRST [at WBA] so if you really think about the RTF program, it’s not just us, its WRST, and I just think it shows the kind of student this program attracts,” Stokes said. “These are students that are serious about their careers and are willing to do the dirty work because those shows are hard, they’re difficult, they’re not always getting compensated in any way for doing the work. I think it really recognizes the importance of the experience.”

More information on the WBA student awards can be found on their website at www.wi-broadcasters.org/college-corner/student-awards-for-excellence/.

Debunking the myths around investing

By Candice Wagener

There are a lot of myths out there about investing, including:

- It’s a man’s world.
- You need to be wealthy.
- It’s too complicated for the average person.

Guess what? All of the above are false.

Investments are totally attainable no matter where you’re at in your financial journey. They can actually be a nice way to grow your income a little more. Here are some starter tips to get you ready to invest.

Know your risk tolerance

As you consider your investment plan, the first thing you should think about is risk. The word “investments” might immediately make you think of the stock market. While this is a common place for people to invest, it’s not the only option.

Are you risk-averse?

If you’re new to investing, don’t have much cash to spare or aren’t sure about taking on risk right now, your best investment fit will be a steady-growth, federally insured option, such as:

- High-yield savings accounts (deposit accounts from financial institutions that earn above-average yields and are NCUA/FDIC insured up to \$250,000), like money market accounts and certificates
- Treasury bonds

Willing to risk it?

If you are comfortable taking

on some risk and potential loss, consider:

- Stocks
- Funds: mutual, exchange-traded and index
- Retirement accounts, such as 401(k)s
- Real estate

Because these products depend on fluctuating market conditions, any losses are losses to your bottom line.

Use your resources

Once upon a time, investing was only for the wealthy because it required a large amount of money up front and you were restricted to going through a brokerage. Today, investing is open to anyone with a little cash and some basic online savvy.

Research what’s out there, look out for hidden fees and find the best fit for you.

Start small

Whether you’re new to investing or don’t have much capital to put up, start with a small amount to ease the pressure if the investment doesn’t turn out the way you hoped. And if your investment ends up earning more, reinvest those earnings into something else if you’d like.

Spread it around

“Don’t put all your eggs in one basket” is the perfect investment mantra.

When you are portfolio building, aim for a diverse investment mix so you don’t lose all your money in one bad investment.

Be patient

Investments are not typically a get-rich-quick scheme like some may have you believe. One of the keys to successful investing is being able to wait it out a bit. If you’re not able to play the long game with your cash, start your investment

strategy with a stable choice like a high-yield savings account or a no-penalty certificate.

Why wouldn’t you want your money to earn a little extra money for you? Take your time, start small, use your resources and you’re on your way.

Crime Corner

By Jacob Link
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The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) released new information Feb. 20 on its investigation of an officer-involved shooting in Winnebago County that occurred on the evening of Feb. 2.

The DOJ’s Division of Criminal Investigation identified the North Fond du Lac Police Department officer involved in the shooting as Sgt. Bryce LaLuzerne. LaLuzerne, who has five years of law enforcement experience, conducted a routine traffic stop at approximately 9:40 p.m. Feb. 2.

The vehicle fled the traffic stop in the Village of North Fond du Lac and a Fond du Lac County Sheriff’s deputy deployed a tire deflation device, causing the vehicle to stop on Interstate 41 near County Highway Z approximately one-half mile into Winnebago County.

The driver and lone occupant of the vehicle, who was identified by the DCI as Lawrence Drennan, called 911 and reported that he had a gun. Drennan, 36, exited the vehicle and approached law enforcement officers and LaLuzerne discharged his firearm, striking Drennan. Life-saving measures were performed, but Drennan died from his injuries at the scene.

No law enforcement officers were injured during the incident and LaLuzerne remains on administrative duty, per department policy.

LaLuzerne was wearing a body camera during the officer-involved shooting. Both the North Fond du Lac Police Department and Fond du Lac County Sheriff’s Office have body cameras.

The DCI is continuing the investigation of the incident and will turn over investigative reports to the Winnebago County District Attorney when the investigation concludes.

News



Kayla Curtis / Advance-Titan

The UW Oshkosh Bolt Band performs during the UWO women’s basketball game Feb. 23 at the Kolf Sports Center. After two years of operation, the UWO’s marching band and pep band have used up their \$800,000 startup fund.

Band: The future of the marching band

From Page 1

Right now, Hummel said the university was responding to a student-led interest in a marching band, and now they are measuring its success.

“We’re still kind of learning that,” Hummel said. “In time, I think it’s going to be an even more solid investment, for sure. For the good of everybody, but particularly for students.”

The marching band’s current biggest challenge comes in spreading the word and getting students to sign up.

Scheivert has noticed that marching bands are not a particularly strong part of high school

music curricula in the area surrounding Oshkosh.

“When I speak to local students who have elected to go to school at UWO and I mentioned marching band, a number of times they say they don’t do marching band, that’s not in their experience,” Scheivert said. “And so they feel like that’s a big leap for them to take when they come here.”

Another problem is the marching band’s age.

“You can treat our program like one that has years and years of tradition,” Scheivert said. “Ultimately, it doesn’t, and so the high school directors in the

region don’t always have a lot of experience with our band.”

With this comes no alumni who have graduated from the band and can now direct students into the program.

“It doesn’t have the name recognition of [other groups] just because there hasn’t been time to do that,” Scheivert said.

The marching band currently has 96 members, and Scheivert is hoping to surpass 100 by next year. While there is always the fear that enrollment will drop, there isn’t much evidence to suggest that it will.

“Even though our enrollment in the university has dropped in

the span of what was our year one and two, the enrollment in the band grew quite a bit,” Scheivert said. “I’ve always thought it’s not like there aren’t enough students here to make our goal. We can double our numbers with the number of students that go to school here.”

Scheivert said he’s pleased with the positivity the community has shown the program in its initial years.

“While it was a lot of my own work, it was a lot of work for other folks across campus,” Scheivert said. “There were dozens of people that were involved in so many aspects of

this, whether it was the financial things or even just for us to have our practice field.”

He credits the grounds facilities for putting in extra hours to make the field great.

“We have so many students and their supportive families and supportive high schools who value this opportunity, and I think that lets us put on excellent performances,” Schievert said. “It helps us be involved in the community, and it’s a result of all these folks’ time and effort.”

Scheivert believes they are the ones who deserve the credit for the marching band’s success.

Faculty Senate: Referendum process to continue

From Page 1

The document featured nine reasons why members of the faculty lack confidence in Leavitt’s ability to effectively lead UWO and want to schedule a faculty referendum regarding his job performance.

The nine points in the petition include Leavitt’s involvement in “substantial overspending of revenues” that led to the current budget deficit and staff layoffs; the failure to implement effective strategies to address enrollment declines; and a disregard for shared governance groups. Faculty and staff also mentioned that they were unhappy with Leavitt using a consulting firm, not faculty and staff, to determine layoffs.

Monday, Leavitt sent a letter to Manning that said the petition’s nine points were factually incorrect and that the Faculty Senate should “cease any further action on the proposed referendum.”

“After reviewing the petition, proposed referendum question, and the relevant Faculty Senate constitutional provisions and by-laws, I write to highlight the serious procedural flaws that underlie the referendum and, in turn, violate the Faculty Senate constitution,” Leavitt’s letter said. “I also write to remind you that the information upon which certain faculty brought this petition to

you is misleading if not devoid of fact. That such an important matter as a vote of no confidence would take such a procedural path and violate the Faculty Senate constitution should give us all pause.”

Faculty Senator Stewart Cole said that there are issues with Leavitt’s claims that the petition has factual errors.

“If [Leavitt] wanted to say that he needed to support it,” Cole said. “That part of his argument can’t carry any weight because it’s not substantiated.”

Leavitt said in his letter that everyone should be alarmed that the petition for a vote of no confidence is based on inaccurate information.

“I recognize that leadership must always be accountable,” Leavitt said in the letter. “However, I worry that improperly opening the door to a no-confidence vote, let alone a referendum triggered by a petition that is based on inaccuracies, threatens UWO’s reputation and stabilizes student retention rates and enrollments.”

Faculty Senator David Siemers said that the letter from Leavitt shows how the chancellor feels about the Senate.

“He doesn’t necessarily want to hear what we have to say and we’ve [found that with] him before with the Senate in 2019,”



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

The UWO Faculty Senate deliberates the continuation of the no-confidence referendum in a meeting Feb. 27 at Reeve Memorial Union.

Siemers said. “That doesn’t happen on the drop of a hat — it happens after a long set of processes, procedures and disappointments that cover an awful lot of the campus. It happens after a pattern of behavior. And it’s happened again.”

In his letter to Manning,

Leavitt said that a referendum from the Faculty Senate is not “the appropriate vehicle for a vote of no confidence.”

“The Faculty Senate constitution reserves a referendum for voting on ‘policy’ only,” the letter said. “The word ‘policy’ in the first sentence modifies and

constrains the term ‘such a referendum’ in the second sentence [of Article I, Section 6]. In other words, a referendum under Article 1, Section 6, must be on a ‘policy.’ ‘Policy’ is a law, regulation, procedure or administrative action of a campus.”

Turn to **Faculty Senate** / Page 4

Faculty Senate: Two more meetings before vote

From Page 3

Siemers said that the way he reads Article 1, Section 6 of the Faculty Senate constitution will allow the referendum to be passed.

“That, to me, creates a positive obligation for the Senate,” Siemers said. “This is not a choice of the Senate. This is responding to a bill of the faculty members to put forth that petition, and we essentially have no choice but to offer that petition language to the fact at large which is what a substantial number at this institution have said.”

Leavitt went on to say that a vote of no confidence is not a “policy” matter based on the way the word is used throughout the Faculty Senate constitution.

“The Faculty Senate constitution prevents votes on non-policy matters because, as here, it would open the door for mendacity and mischief too easily,” the letter said. “The Senate would violate its own constitution by moving forward with this proposed no-confidence referendum. As Faculty Senate president you have the authority and obligation to prevent that.”

Siemers said that the way he interprets Article 1, Section 4 of the Faculty Senate constitution, there are things the faculty can review and there are things that they cannot.

“However, we are vested with the responsibility for the immediate governance of this institution,” Siemers said. “It means that we’re invited to the table. We’re invited to comment on various things and in fact the whole thing because this is shared governance. If we can’t speak on it, then we can’t really have shared governance. So, in my view, the petition’s observations clearly meet these standards.”



Andrew Leavitt



Pascale Manning



David Siemers



Stewart Cole

In his letter, Leavitt said that it was Manning’s duty to halt the no-confidence referendum.

“The plain language of the Faculty Senate constitution compels a discontinuation of the referendum process,” Leavitt said in his letter. “The misleading and patently false basis upon which certain faculty circulated the petition further compels you to halt this process so that fairness and truth may prevail.”

Cole said that the pressure Leavitt puts on Manning to shut down the no-confidence vote is inappropriate.

“I was shocked by that because that’s not how the Senate operates, and he is essentially asking [Manning] to shut down the process

which has been initiated by 23% of the faculty.” Cole said. “This would place [Manning] at odds with her own constituents. I think that, in particular, needs to be responded to because it didn’t strike me as an appropriate request given how democratically the Senate operates.”

A referendum of a vote of no confidence by the Faculty Senate would be largely symbolic since the UW Board of Regents is the only group with the authority to fire a Universities of Wisconsin chancellor.

The Faculty Senate plans to meet March 12 in the Reeve Memorial Union at 3:10 p.m.

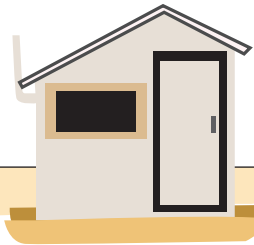
Faculty Senate Constitution

ARTICLE I. The Faculty.

Section 4. Powers and Responsibilities of the Faculty. The Faculty of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, subject to the responsibilities and powers of the Board of Regents, the President, and the Chancellor, and recognizing student rights, shall be vested with responsibility for the immediate governance of this institution and shall actively participate in institutional policy development. As such, the faculty shall have the primary responsibility for academic and educational activities and faculty personnel matters. The word primary shall be defined as both first and principal, but not exclusive. The faculty shall have the right to determine its own faculty organizational structure and to select representatives to participate in institutional shared governance.

Section 5. Administrative Review. Faculty decisions or recommendations concerning academic and educational activities and faculty personnel matters are transmitted in writing to the Chancellor. The Chancellor, recognizing the academic tradition of concurring with a clear faculty judgment in matters of primary faculty responsibility, shall as a matter of collegiality respond in writing, giving reasons, providing that such communication shall not be prohibited by law or System policy. Nothing in this section shall impede the authority of the Chancellor, established by law and System policy, to review faculty decisions on such matters and to make independent judgments regarding them; and nothing in this section shall prohibit appropriate consultation.

Section 6. Faculty Referenda. By two-thirds vote of the Faculty Senate, any policy matter related to the powers and responsibilities of the faculty as stated in Article I, Section 4 above, may be referred to the whole faculty for decision. A referendum will also be held if one-tenth of the faculty, as defined in Article I as of Opening Day of the academic year (excluding those with limited appointments) petitions the Faculty Senate President to call for such a referendum. The Senate will draft the referendum proposal and will ordinarily distribute it to the faculty one month prior to the time at which a vote on the referendum is to be taken. At least one general faculty meeting, called by the Faculty Senate President, will be held on the matter for discussion and exchange of information. The referendum vote will be by secret ballot. A majority of affirmative votes of eligible voters who cast ballots is required for passage of a referendum. Eligible voters for faculty referenda will be members of the faculty as defined in Article I (excluding those with limited appointment). The appropriate Faculty Senate committee will count the ballots. The Faculty Senate President will announce the results to the faculty.



Wisconsin’s sturgeon season at a glance

Poor ice conditions during the 2024 sturgeon spearing season led to lower-than-usual harvests across Wisconsin. According to the DNR, the two largest fish caught on the Upriver Lakes were a 125.7-pound female and a 148-pound female. On Lake Winnebago, the largest sturgeon caught was a female weighing 113.6 pounds.

Lake Winnebago season statistics

2024 totals

Juvenile females: 45
Adult females: 102
Males: 155
Total: 302

2023 totals

Juvenile females: 125
Adult females: 524
Males: 471
Total: 1,120

2022 totals

Juvenile females: 159
Adult females: 536
Males: 474
Total: 1,169

Sports



Morgan Feltz/Advance-Titan

Fans cheer on the women’s basketball team at Kolf Sports Center during UWO’s 77-52 victory over UW-La Crosse in the WIAC semi-finals.

Titans to host first and second round

Jacob Link
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The NCAA announced Feb. 26 that the UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team will host a regional pod at the Kolf Sports Center for the NCAA Division III women’s basketball tournament.

The Titans (22-5) will take on Webster University (Missouri) (27-0) in the first round of the tournament March 1 with tipoff at 7:30 p.m.

UWO head coach Brad Fischer said it’s a huge accomplishment for the team to make the NCAA tournament for the sixth straight season.

“You know, we started out 4-2 or something like that and lost our first conference game so we had moments this year where things went the other way,” Fischer said. “I think everyone’s done a great job responding to the challenge of the next day and I think we got better and better as the year went on. For us to win the league, make it to the tournament and now host the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament is huge.”

UWO, which won the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

regular season title with a 12-2 record, enters the first-round matchup coming off a 77-65 loss to UW-Stout in the WIAC tournament championship game.

The Titans, ranked No. 14 in the nation by d3hoops.com, will be led by senior guard Kennedy Osterman, who averages 11.3 points per game and shoots 43.5% from the field and 38.9% from behind the arc. Osterman shoots a WIAC-best 90.6% from the foul line and averages 4.4 rebounds and 2.3 steals per game.

Fischer said he doesn’t think one specific player on his team will help the Titans advance to the next round.

“Every game is a little different for us, obviously Kennedy and Kayce [Vaile] have won us a lot of games, but every game calls for someone different,” Fischer said. “I think Webster presses, so it’ll be important that our guards handle the ball well and, we’ll need some depth in that game. I don’t know enough about (our opponents) to know how we’re going to try to attack them, but the good part about our team is that we’ve had different people step up every night, so it’ll be no different this week.”

Webster, ranked No. 24 in the nation by d3hoops.com, earned its eighth NCAA tournament bid after the Gorloks won their third straight St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) tournament title by taking down Westminster College (Missouri) 71-56 Feb. 24.

The Gorloks, which also won the SLIAC regular season title, will be led by graduate student Julie Baudendistel, who averages 16.3 points per game and shoots 49.3% from the floor.

The first game of the day will feature Gustavus Adolphus College (Minnesota) (25-2) and Trine University (Indiana) (21-7) in a first round matchup.

The Gusties, ranked No. 5 in the nation by d3hoops.com, earned an automatic bid into the tournament after taking down Concordia College (Minnesota) 66-38 in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) tournament championship game. Gustavus Adolphus went 19-1 in conference play to claim the MIAC regular season crown.

The Gusties will be led by senior guards Emma Kniefel and Syd Hauger, who both average

11.7 points per game. Kniefel grabs an average of four rebounds a game and dishes out 3.4 assists per game. Hauger shoots 65.2% from the floor and 53.5% from 3-point range.

Trine enters the tournament after upsetting No. 9 Hope University (Michigan) 63-59 to win the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) tournament. The Thunder finished third in the MIAA regular season standings with a 12-4 record.

Junior guard Sydney Wagner will lead the Thunder into the NCAA tournament after averaging 14.7 points and 5.7 points per game in the regular season. Wagner shoots 44% from the field and averages 2.7 steals per game.

Fischer said that the Oshkosh pod features some really tough teams.

“I know obviously we had some time to think about who might be here and we got an undefeated team in the first round, which normally when you host, you don’t have that good of a team come in here,” Fischer said. “Webster is really good and Gustavus is really good and Trine, we’re actually scheduled to play next year, so

we’ve paid close attention to them. Trine just beat Hope [University] in Hope’s gym, so usually when you host you get a little help in the bracket, and I think we have a really difficult bracket this weekend.”

Fischer said the offense got sped up too much in the WIAC tournament loss to Stout Feb. 23, which is something he wants cleaned up before the first round of the NCAA tournament.

“We just need to get our offense back at the right pace and our timing down and all those things,” Fischer said. “We really feel like at this time of the year you got to be as good in the basics and fundamentals as you can so we got to take care of the ball. We’ve got to do a very good job defensively in being disciplined, and discipline and toughness have been the two things we’ve talked about all year. Those things have helped us get here is why we’re going to need them this weekend.”

The winners of games played on March 1 will play each other in the second round of the tournament at the Kolf Sports Center at 7 p.m. March 2.

Gymnastics wins in a close contest versus UWW

By Owen Larsen
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The UW Oshkosh gymnastics team faced off against UW-Whitewater on Feb. 23 for senior night and came away with a 191.225-190.925 victory.

The Titans .300 margin of victory was the smallest of the season and UW-Whitewater’s 190.925 points was the most put up against UWO this season. The Titans would take three of four events against the Warhawks with each event being decided by less than .300

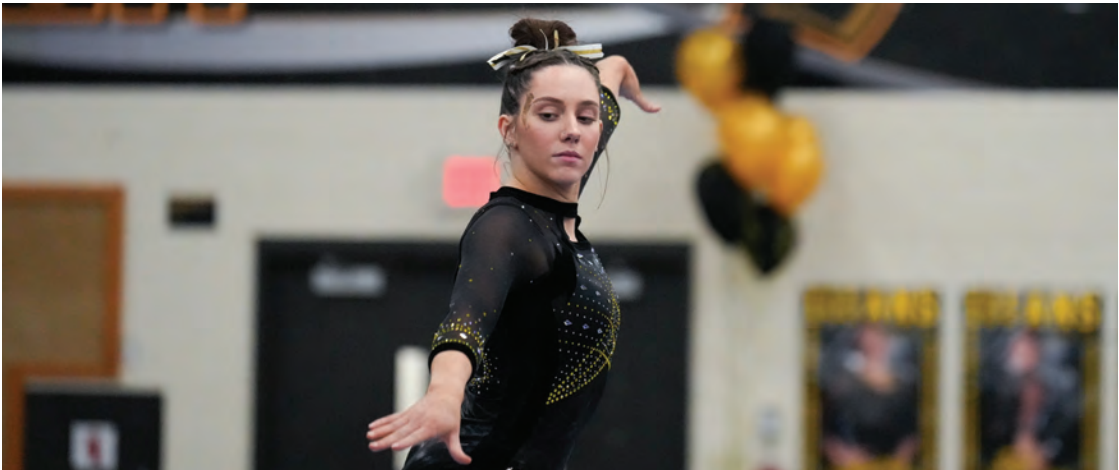
Leading them in the floor exercise was junior Delaney Cienkus, who scored a 9.850, senior Emily Buffington (9.800) and sophomore Reanna McGibboney (9.775). They placed first, third and fourth for the event. UWO won the floor exercise by a margin of .275.

Buffington and McGibboney placed high, this time in the uneven parallel bars where Buffington scored a 9.775 and McGibboney scored a 9.625. The two took first and third place in this event. Despite their efforts, this would be the only event the Titans lost, and by a margin of .300

The vault event was the narrowest UWO win with only a .050-point margin. McGibboney would take first place in the event with a score of 9.750, followed by Amaya McConkay (9.700), Buffington (9.600) and Anna Zoromski (9.600) where they took second and tied for fourth place in the event.

UWO took the balance beam event by a .275 point margin. Lydia Hayden tied for first place in this event with Buffington both scoring a 9.700.

Buffington would make the



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Emily Buffington performs during her balance beam routine. Buffington’s scored 38.875 all-around.

most of her senior night as the only all-around performer from either team she totaled a 38.875-point all around score, the highest all-around score in program history. This is the third time Buffington

has set that record in her career.

Buffington had two firsts, a third and a fourth place finish across all four events.

The Titans continue their unbeaten head-to-head record for the sea-

son, moving to 6-0 in such events.

The Titans host the UW-La Crosse-UW-Stout triangular. on Feb. 29 at Kolf Sports Center.

Sports



Scoreboard

Thursday, Feb. 22

Gymnastics

UWO - 191.225

UW-Whitewater -190.925

Baseball

UWO - 11

MSOE - 9

Friday, Feb. 23

Basketball

WIAC Championship

UWO - 77

UW-Stout - 65

Saturday, Feb. 24

Men's Track and Field

WIAC Indoor Championship

UWO - 2nd Place

Women's Track and Field

WIAC Indoor Championship

UWO - 2nd place

Softball

Game 1

UWO - 5

Lakeland - 1

Game 2

UWO - 2

Lakeland -0

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Feb. 29

Gymnastics

UW-Stout & UW-La Crosse triangular at 6 p.m. at Kolf Sports Center

Friday, March 1

Basketball

NCAA Tournament 1st round vs. Webster University (Missouri) 7:30 p.m. at Kolf Sports Center

Baseball

vs. Webster University (Missouri) at 3 p.m. at Sauget, Ill.

Saturday, March 2

Basketball

NCAA Tournament 2nd round (if UWO win Friday) vs Gustavas Adolphus (Minnesota)/

Trine (Indiana) at 7 p.m. at Kolf Sports Center

Softball

vs. UW-Superior at 10 a.m. & Loras College (Iowa) at 12 p.m. at UWO Rec Plex

Baseball

vs. North Park University (Illinois) at 1 p.m. & Webster University (Missouri) at 4 p.m. at Sauget, Ill.

Track and Field

UW-La Crosse Final Qualifier at 1 p.m.

Sunday, March 3

Baseball

vs. North Park University at 12 p.m. at Sauget, Ill.

Softball

vs. Edgewood College at 2 p.m. & Ripon College at 4 p.m. at UWO Rec Plex

A-Trivia

What Missouri school plays UWO in two different sports this week?

Answer: Webster University in both basketball and baseball.

Baseball opens season

By Owen Larsen
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The UW Oshkosh baseball team won 11-9 against the Milwaukee School of Engineering in their opening game on Feb. 22.

The high scoring affair included a three-run comeback by the Titans who found themselves down 9-6 after only four innings of play. Outscoring MSOE 5-0 from the fifth inning and on.

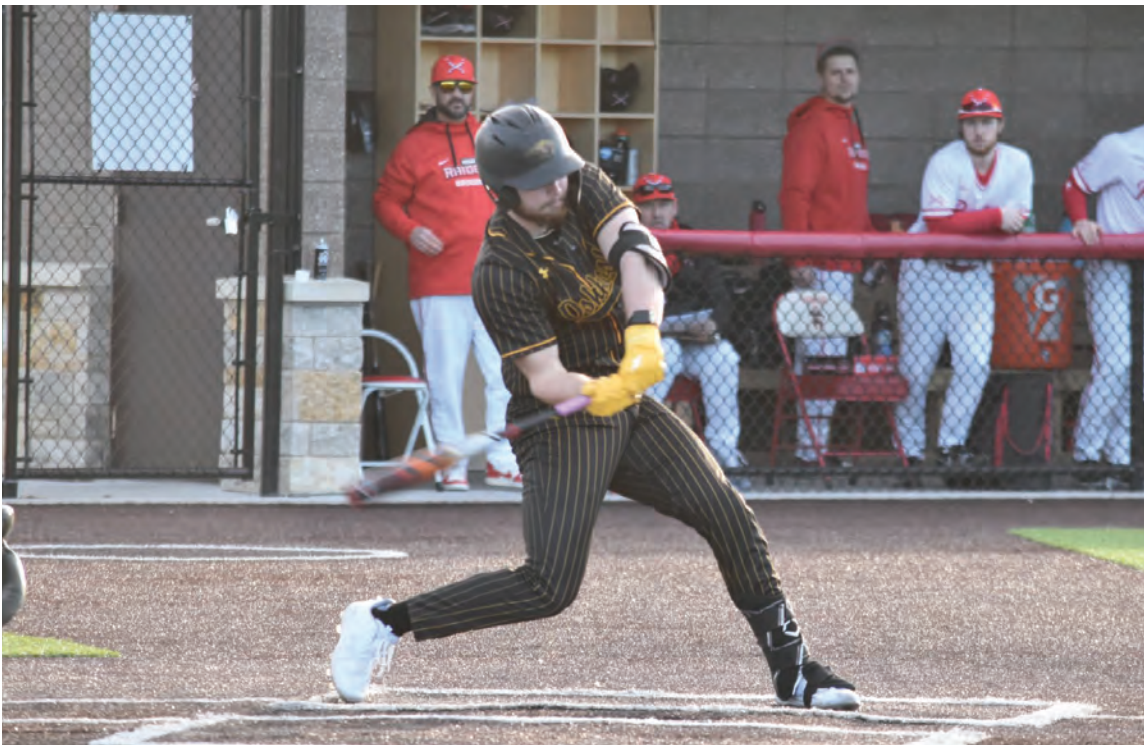
UWO head coach, Kevin Tomasiewicz, thought his team played an all-around great game.

“The score doesn’t really indicate that,” Tomasiewicz said. “[MSOE] had a really good game plan against [Connor Brinkman] and he had one of his poorer outings, but he’ll get better after that.”

Brinkman, who was responsible for nine runs through four innings against MSOE is expected to be the co-ace of UWO’s pitching staff this season along with L.J. Waco. Waco came into the game in the ninth inning after UWO built a 11-9 lead for one inning of work and recorded the save.

Tomasiewicz expects the team to run a four-man starting rotation this season once they get closer to conference play that will include both Brinkman and Waco. Joining that duo is expected to be sophomore Connor Walters, who recorded four starts at the end of his freshman season. Tomasiewicz said he is still searching to see who will emerge as that fourth starter.

Sophomore catcher Jack McNamara was a key hitter for the Titans, going 4-for-5 with a double on the afternoon. McNamara is one of the players that has



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Titans infielder Zach Taylor swings during the Feb. 22 game versus MSOE. Taylor went 3-for-4.

stood out to Tomasiewicz in the ramp up to the season, believing that he could be one of the team’s breakout players with his larger role.

“Last year he was someone we could count on a little bit,” Tomasiewicz said. “With [the previous catcher] graduating, McNamara has become our main catcher to start this season and he’s been doing really well.”

Another name to keep in mind for the Titans is sophomore outfielder Brenden Max who hit a home run in the ninth inning against MSOE to push the UWO lead to 11-9. Max is another player looking to find a more permanent role in the lineup according to Tomasiewicz.

“Those two guys have really performed well early in the prac-

tice season and we’re hoping that their success will continue.” Tomasiewicz said.

With the Titans picked to finish fourth in the preseason Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference poll, Tomasiewicz isn’t using it as bulletin board material because of the simplicity of that poll but still believes his squad can exceed those projections.

“I think it’s full of shit,” Tomasiewicz said. “We know we have a good team, we know we’re a top-25 team in the country based on our talent. We’re a top-four team (in the WIAC) often. We know we’re a top team not only in the region but also the country at this point, so its kinda a coin-flip on who’s going to end up winning the thing in the end.”

Tomasiewicz said that the cohesiveness and resilience of the group is what stands out and gives him the confidence that he has with his team.

“The cohesiveness with this group seems to be very high,” Tomasiewicz said. “The way they got behind each other, cheering for each other and the excitement that they had on Thursday’s game alone just shows what they’re capable of doing.”

The Titans will continue action with two games against Webster University (Missouri) on March 1 and 2, with two additional games against North Park University (Illinois) on March 2 and 3. All games will be played at Webster University’s home field in Sauget, Illinois.

Both track teams take second at WIAC

By Owen Larsen
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The UW Oshkosh women’s track and field team took second place in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship on Feb. 24, with three Titans taking first place in their events.

UWO’s 94-points for the event left them only behind UW-La Crosse (281.5-points) for the WIAC Championship.

Junior Megan Hunt scored 3,472 points in the heptathlon which was not only good enough for first place at the championship but also for the program record, which was previously set by Taylor Sherry in 2015 when she scored 3,466 points.

Senior Brenna Masloroff took first place in the 20-lb weight throw, with a throw of 18.08 meters.

Junior Cyna Madigan was the third Titan who took first place in her event this weekend with a time of 2:16.45 in the 800-meter run.

The Titans also had several second-place finishers for the championship. Amelia Lehman took second in both the 5,000 meter and 3,000 meter runs. In the 4x400 meter relay Maddy LaVoi, Julia Steger, Olivia Stenzel and Madigan took second place with a time of



Courtesy of UWO Athletics

Caleb Cornelius performs a high jumps. Cornelius has won the WIAC high jump three straight years.

3:57.03

The UWO men’s track team also finished in second place in the WIAC championship with a total of 161 points for the weekend. UW-La Crosse also took home the crown for the men’s championship with 242.5 points.

Junior Caleb Cornelius won the WIAC high jump for the third consecutive year with a height of 2.10 meters, tying his personal best while at UWO.

Aden Sears also set a program

record in his event in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.02, however that time was second place to Luke Schroeder of UW-La Crosse who ran a time of 7.91.

Cavan Dobberstein took second and Payton White took third in the heptathlon for UWO. Dobberstein scored 4,867 points in the event, the seventh highest total in program history, White scored 4,829 points.

The Titans had two other second place finishers during the weekend.

Londyn Little in the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.85 seconds and Davian Willems in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.74 seconds.

The qualifiers this weekend from both UWO teams will head to the UW-La Crosse NCAA Indoor Final Qualifier on March 2 where the athletes will compete to qualify for the national championship.

Sports



Katie Pulvermacher/Advance-Titan
Elijah Hughes drives to the basket during a game earlier in the season. Hughes scored seven points in 23 minutes versus the Remix on Feb. 24.

Herd lose to Remix in overtime

By Jacob Link
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In front of the second largest crowd in the history of the Oshkosh Arena, the Wisconsin Herd fell to the Rip City Remix 109-106 in overtime Feb. 24.

The Herd had 4,106 fans attend the Black History Month themed game in which Wisconsin wore special jerseys that featured the images of prominent African Americans such as the Harlem Globetrotters’ Harold “Lefty” Williams and comedian Redd Foxx.

Wisconsin enjoyed a comfortable lead for the first three quarters of the contest until Rip City began the final quarter with a layup from Romeo Weems to cut the Wisconsin lead to 10 points, but the Herd responded with a 6-0 run to build

an 88-72 advantage. With seven minutes to go, the Remix embarked on a 7-2 run which cut the Herd lead to nine points following a layup from Weems. A finger roll layup from D’Moi Hodge jump started a 15-2 Remix run that put Rip City on top 96-92 with two minutes left. The Herd responded by scoring eight straight points to take a 102-98 lead, but a floater from Antoine Davis and a layup from Taze Moore tied the game at 102 with eight seconds to go, sending the contest into overtime.

In overtime, which in the G League has both teams attempt to reach a target score of seven points, was kicked off with a layup from George Conditt IV to put the Remix ahead by two points. The Herd’s Wenyen Gabriel hit a floater to tie the game a few seconds

later, but a step-back 3-pointer from Moore put Rip City just two points from the target score. The Herd made things interesting with a jumper from Chris Livingston, but the Remix reached the target score of 109 after Davis nailed a floater.

“We came out in the second half, and we just boosted (our lead) in that third quarter, but we allowed too many 3-pointers and were out-rebounded (down the stretch),” Herd guard James Akinjo said. “I think offensive rebounds and turnovers were the difference for sure.”

Wisconsin (12-10), which sits fifth in the Eastern Conference of the NBA G League, shot 41.8% from the field and 29.3% from behind the arc in the loss. The Herd finished with 12 steals, nine

blocked shots and forced 17 Remix turnovers.

Wisconsin was without center Marques Bolden, who signed a 10-day contract with the Charlotte Hornets Feb. 20. To replace his roster spot, the Milwaukee Bucks signed guard Ryan Rollins to a two-way contract Feb. 20. Rollins, the 44th pick in the 2022 NBA Draft, played 10 games for the Washington Wizards this season before being waived Jan. 8.

The Herd was led by guard Glenn Robinson III, who scored 21 points and five rebounds. Gabriel finished with 19 points and nine rebounds while Rollins added 17 points. Livingston, a Milwaukee Bucks two-way player, had a double-double, scoring 15 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. Akinjo finished with 15 points, seven as-

sists and six rebounds.

Akinjo said he’s loving the Herd through his first five games with the team.

“Everyone’s making me feel at home and allowing me to be myself which allows me to step in and lead,” Akinjo said. “I’m also learning a lot from coach Beno (Udrih) who was a point guard in the NBA so I’m learning a lot and having fun.”

Rip City (12-8) finished the contest shooting 46.4% from the floor and 35.1% from 3-point range. The Remix outrebounded the Herd 52-44 and had more assists (31-24).

Turn to **Herd** / Page 8

How the Titans matchup versus Webster

By Owen Larsen
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When UW Oshkosh faces off against Webster University (Missouri) in women’s basketball on March 1 it will be the only first round matchup that features two ranked teams according to d3hoops.com.

Webster will be searching to complete perfection during the NCAA tournament as they went 27-0 during the season, winning the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference by going 18-0 in conference play and winning their conference tournament.

The SLIAC is not viewed as a strong conference in Division III basketball, so despite their 27-0 record Webster only finds themselves ranked 25th in d3hoops.com’s top 25 rankings. The three other tournament participants who are undefeated so far this season are New York University,

Transylvania and Rhode Island college. Those three schools find themselves ranked first, second and third in the d3hoops.com poll.

The first key for UWO in a matchup against Webster is stopping their explosive offense.

Webster handled most of their opponents with ease this season. By averaging 84.4 points per game and only allowing 55.7 per game, they average a 28.7 point margin of victory. Some of Webster’s notable wins include a 100-43 victory over Blackburn College (Illinois) on Feb.7 and winning both of their games in the SLIAC tournament by 16 and 15 points versus Fontbonne College (Missouri) and Westminster College (Missouri).

While the Titans only averaged 66.4 points per game, they only gave up an average of 50.6 points per game, 5.1 points less than Webster. The Titans have

also faced a harder schedule this season playing against two other ranked teams, UW-Stout and UW-Whitewater, for a combined five games this season. Webster is yet to play an opponent ranked by d3hoops.com.

Webster was led this year by fifth-year senior forward Julie Baudendistel, who averaged 16.3 points per game this season. Baudendistel is heading into the matchup versus UWO on a hot streak having scored over 20 points in her past three games.

The Titans should have the advantage in offensive guard play with Bridget Froehlke and Kennedy Osterman leading the backcourt for UWO. Osterman leads UWO in points per game while Froehlke is third on UWO. Webster’s top three scorers are all forwards.

Controlling the paint for Webster is Bethany Lancaster who leads the team in rebounds with


7.0 per game while also averaging 12.5 points per game. Lancaster had a strong performance in the regular season finale against Lyon College (Arkansas), where she recorded 25 points and eight rebounds.

Kayce Vaile will have to play a pivotal role for UWO in stopping Lancaster. Vaile and Lancaster match each other in height at 6’1” Vaile is also the Titans’ leading rebounder, averaging 8.2 per game. Vaile winning the battle on the glass could play a big factor in the game.

The Titans targeting Lancaster on offense could lead to Lancaster getting in foul trouble. Lancaster has fouled out once this season and was one foul away from fouling out in both of Webster’s SLIAC tournament games.

UWO will undoubtedly be Webster’s biggest test this season as it will be the first ranked

matchup of the season for Webster, with the Titans currently ranked 18th by d3hoops.com, paired with the Titans having home court advantage for the contest at Kolf Sports Center.



Webster University leading scorers

Julie Baudendistel - 16.3 ppg

Emily Wilson - 12.7 ppg

Bethany Lancaster - 12.5 ppg

Kate Rofles - 12.4 ppg

Sports



Morgan Feltz/ Advance-Titan
Kennedy Osterman drives to the basket during the Titans’ 77-65 loss versus UW-Stout in the WIAC championship. Osterman scored 11 points in the contest.

Titans lose in WIAC championship

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team fell to UW-Stout 77-65 in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference tournament championship game Feb. 23 at the Kolf Sports Center.

With the win, Stout (21-7, 8-6 WIAC) earns an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament, which begins March 1.

UWO (22-5, 12-2 WIAC) was led by guard Bridget Froehлке, who scored 17 points on 5-for-10 shooting from behind the arc. Guard Kennedy Osterman finished with 11 points and three

assists while forward Kayce Vaile scored eight points and grabbed six rebounds.

The Titans, ranked No. 14 in the nation by d3hoops.com, shot 42.4% from the floor and 41.2% from behind the arc in the loss. Oshkosh outscored the Blue Devils 34-22 in the paint and forced 14 Stout turnovers.

Stout had four players finish in double figures with guard Raegan Sorensen leading the way with a game-high 21 points and 13 rebounds. Amanda Giesen finished with 16 points and Lexi Wagner added 15 points for the Blue Devils.

UWS finished the game shoot-

ing 50% from the field, 50% from behind the arc and forced 11 Oshkosh turnovers.

Wagner opened the first quarter scoring with a 3-pointer for Stout, and the Blue Devils opened the game on a 12-2 run. A 3-pointer from Froehлке and a layup from Vaile brought the Titans to within five points midway through the period, but Stout responded with a 3-pointer to claim a 15-7 lead. With under two minutes to play in the quarter, Stout took a double-digit lead after a 3-pointer from Sam Schaeffer and the Blue Devils claimed a 24-11 lead at the end of the opening period.

Stout began the second quarter

with a 3-pointer to give the Blue Devils a 16-point advantage. The two teams traded baskets for most of the quarter until a layup from Osterman kick started an 8-2 Oshkosh run that cut the deficit to 37-27. The Titans came within eight points after a 3-pointer from Froehлке, but a 3-point-play from Stout at the end of the half gave the Blue Devils a 43-32 advantage going into halftime.

Oshkosh opened the third quarter with a 3-pointer from Froehлке and the Titans embarked on a 9-2 run to cut the Stout lead down to four points. The Blue Devils responded with a jumper from Wagner, and Stout went on a 7-0

run midway through the quarter to claim an 11-point lead. Oshkosh ended the period on a 7-0 run and a last-second layup from Osterman cut the Stout advantage to 58-53 at the break.

Giesen put Stout on top by eight points with a 3-pointer to begin the fourth quarter. A pair of layups from Sorensen and two free throws from Giesen gave Stout a 68-57 lead with six minutes to play. The Titans never cut the lead back to single-digits in the contest, and Stout cruised to a 12-point victory.

WIAC Championship top performers

UWO:
Bridget Froehлке - 17 pts, 2 reb, 1 blk
Kennedy Osterman - 11 pts, 3 ast, 2 reb
Kayce Vaile - 8 pts, 6 reb, 1 ast

UW-Stout:
Raegan Sorensen - 21 pts, 13 reb, 2 stl
Amanda Giesen - 16 pts, 6 reb, 1 ast
Lexi Wagner - 15 pts, 6 reb, 3 ast

Herd vs. Remix top performers

Herd:
Glenn Robinson III - 21 pts, 5 reb, 4 ast
Wenyen Gabriel - 19 pts, 8 reb, 5 stl
Chris Livingston - 15 pts, 11 reb, 1 ast

Remix:
D’Moi Hodge - 28 pts, 3 stl, 2 reb
George Conditt IV - 24 pts, 11 reb, 6 ast
Taze Moore - 16 pts, 10 ast, 6 reb

Herd: Fall to Remix 109-106 in O.T.

From Page 7

The Remix was led by Hodge, who scored 28 points on 8-for-15 shooting from behind the arc. Conditt IV finished with 24 points and 11 rebounds on 10-for-16 shooting. Moore scored 16 points and dished out 10 assists while forward Jazian Gortman added 12 points.

Conditt IV opened the scoring in the first quarter with a driving dunk, but Akinjo responded with a free throw to tie the game 2-2 in the opening minutes. A driving reverse layup from Rollins sparked a 15-2 Wisconsin run that gave the home side an 11-point advantage. The Herd maintained a double-digit lead for most of the first period and a layup from Stephen Thompson with under a minute to go gave Wisconsin a 33-20 advantage at the break.

Wisconsin kicked off the second quarter with a 3-pointer from Thompson, and the Herd took an 18-point lead seconds later after a floater from Elijah Hughes. The Remix cut the lead down to 10 points after an 8-4 spurt, but back-to-back layups from Livingston and Rollins put the Herd back on top by 14-points. Hughes nailed a



Katie Pulvermacher/Advance-Titan
Glenn Robinson III crosses over a defender at Oshkosh Arena. Robinson scored 21 points on Feb. 24.

3-pointer and Wisconsin’s Malachi Smith converted on a layup to give the Herd a 55-34 advantage with three minutes remaining in the half. Conditt threw down a dunk to cut the Herd lead to 18 points, but Smith hit a free throw with two seconds left to put Wisconsin on top 63-43 at the half.

The Remix opened the third quarter with a jumper by Anthony Duruji, and Rip City embarked on a 10-0 run to cut the Herd lead to 10 points to begin the second

half. A quick 12-0 run from the Herd after a layup from Robinson put Wisconsin back on top by 22 points midway through the period. With three minutes remaining, Rip City embarked on an 11-0 run after a free throw from Conditt to cut the Wisconsin lead down to 82-70 at the break.

In their previous game against the Remix, Wisconsin lost 116-104 behind a 41-point performance from Davis (franchise record) at the Oshkosh Arena Feb. 22.

“We just got to get back to the drawing board and figure out how we can rebound (better) and work on our switching,” Akinjo said. “Switching is tough because you have guards guarding big (men) so if we can figure that out, we’ll be alright.”

The Herd will hit the road to take on the Capital City Go-Go (12-9), who sit fifth in the Eastern Conference, Feb. 28 with tipoff scheduled for 6 p.m.

Life as a Black student in the arts

By Jessica Duch
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“African American people are the bedrock, in my opinion, of popular entertainment here today in this generation,” said Alphonso Simpson Jr., director of African American Studies and associate professor in the department of sociology. “And it’s not just music, but it’s also theater and movies and, you know, Afro beats music, and it’s just so many things. So many facets of popular culture that are the spawn of African American culture.”



Simpson

Simpson said the hardest part of being a Black student in the arts today is going to a college where they aren’t championed. “If they go

over into the music program or the theater program or the dance program, many of them traditionally fall into programs that only do European art music or that are based in European art. And, nobody really gets a chance to focus on Black art, Black dance, Black music and those types of things.”

At UW Oshkosh, however, Simpson says they are doing their best to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for Black artists. Additionally, he is proud of the way they’ve welcomed his approach to bringing in more diverse programs like the African American Studies Club, the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and the Gospel Choir.

“Everything that, you know, I’ve sought to start or implement, I’ve always had the support of my colleagues, and my contemporaries, and the chancellor and the provost. I’m very, very much pleased with the reception of African American Studies and the support that it gets here on campus and in the community.”

In light of that support, meet some of UW O’s talented Black artists:

Michael Buckner

Influenced by the cartoons and comics of his childhood, senior



Jessica Duch / Advance-Titan

Above: Jayden Flowers plays the saxophone. She is a member for the Wind Ensemble and the Jazz Ensemble on campus along with the Fox Valley Concert Band. Right: Michael Buckner was influenced from the cartoons of his childhood and that shows in his artwork.

Michael Buckner says Todd McFarlane, Dwayne McDuffie and the artists who made Ninja Turtles are the reason he became an artist.



Buckner

“I’d say they were the ones that kind of always inspired me, and made me think, like, oh, I really can do this, and make money to support myself,” Buckner said.

Although he’d prefer simply using pencil in his art, Buckner has adopted the use of a tablet and pen to keep up with the growth of technology. Throughout his work, he’s been known to use humor to connect with his audience.

“I noticed humor tends to often disarm people, but I’ve done this with my own identity, sometimes I try to be provocative,” said Buckner. “Sometimes it works. Other times it’s still funny. It’s just like,

we might want to be careful.”

Once he graduates, he plans to start his career as a graphic designer while keeping art like his idols on the backburner. “Many famous people in the past and more recently nowadays, they always say, ‘Yeah, I followed my dream, but I also had a day job too. I didn’t just solely rely on it,’” Buckner said.

Jayden Flowers

Jayden Flowers is a senior at UW O studying psychology and minoring in music and African American studies. As a musician, she has a love for music in all of its forms.

“I am a saxophonist,” said Flowers. “I am a part of the Wind Ensemble and Jazz band on campus, as well as the Fox Valley Concert Band. Jazz is my favorite because of the improvisation and being able to play difficult rhythms that you don’t normally see in concert music.”

Making connections through music is why Flowers values it so



much. She emphasized that playing music is a form of communication that people don’t normally get to experience.

“In concert band and playing in jazz, it is important to listen to the people around you to maintain a good balance within the ensemble. I think making music is a way of communication and it can be a way to connect with peers in a way that having normal conversations doesn’t.”

Those connections with peers were something Flowers reflected on when discussing being a Black student in the arts at a predominantly white school. “There are not very many Black people in the music department here at Oshkosh and sometimes I can feel the disconnect almost like everywhere if I am not doing something with [the] African American Studies Club,” she said. “However, my saxophone section is awesome,

and I love how they always incorporate me in things even if I have a schedule conflict, they always extend invites to me and they make me feel included as a music minor.”

Flowers said she is looking forward to presenting her research into Black composers at the National Council of Black Studies (NCBS) in March.

“I think it is important for people to know that Black people also composed and wrote classical forms of music. I want to help erase the stereotype of Black people only having rap or jazz influence,” said Flowers. “As I was doing this research, I gained a whole new appreciation of my craft, and it inspired me to be a better musician because of their genius.” [They] “worked together to create something from the Black community to be proud of.”

Turn to Artists / Page 10

Decade dance celebrates Black History

By Doug Newhouse
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Black History Month is winding down. As a last hurrah for Black History Month, the second annual Decade Dance was held on Friday, the last one of February.

The dance was organized by Michelle Kuhl, an associate professor of history who also teaches courses in African American studies and women’s and gender studies. Last year the theme was 1970s disco, and this year it was the 1990s. At the dance they played hip-hop, R&B and rave music.

It is Black culture that pioneered these music styles and inspired

other artists. Migrating musicians from the South brought their musical styles to the Bronx, which is where many other cultures converged.

“It was in the Bronx, in the 1970s, and it’s a fusion of multiple cultures,” Kuhl said. This caused a mixture of African-Caribbean music such as mambo, dance hall, salsa and native African music and dances.

“[All these influences] melt and fuse and inspire each other and develop into the earliest rap and hip-hop,” she said.

While the hip-hop movement was underground for a time, it later became more popular.



Photo courtesy of PxHere

“It grows throughout the ’80s, but it’s still more in the underground in the ’70s and ’80s but then becomes more mainstream by the ’80s and particularly the ’90s,” Kuhl said.

It was underground because it was associated with gangs and

was “street.” In the ’80s there was a lot of gang violence. Seeing so many people getting killed in gun-play, gangs replaced guns with hip-hop dancing.

“So at one point ... the gang leaders got together and said we keep killing each other and the police don’t care,” Kuhl said. “They’re fine if we are just killing each other. So instead of gun violence and knife battles we should have dance battles. And they actually do start having dance battles.”

Compared to disco, hip-hop was viewed as masculine because of its association with gangs, whereas disco at the time was viewed as feminine.

“Early hip-hop and breakdancing was actually very macho ... it was very athletic, very physical. They’re spinning, they’re flipping around,” Kuhl said. “But a lot of girls didn’t dance with them. ... Girls wanted to dress up and go to the disco halls because they could dance there.”

Today, 1990s hip-hop, R&B, and other genres are widely enjoyed. Some, like Kuhl, argue hip-hop is one of America’s best contributions to the music world.

“That’s one of the greatest American exports: ... Black culture,” Kuhl said.

Arts & Culture



Kelly Hueckman / Advance-Titan

One of Mao Lore’s largest pieces, this story cloth depicts Hmong history throughout the secret war in Laos as people fled to refugee camps in Thailand and, eventually, western countries.



Courtesy of Chong Moua

A photo of Chong Moua and the women in her family rests on textiles she received on her wedding day.

Hmong stories told through textiles

By Kelly Hueckman
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The Paine Art Center and Gardens welcomed their current exhibit, “Mao Lore: a Journey through Hmoob Paj Ntaub,” which was co-curated by UW Oshkosh professor Chong Moua.

“Having a chance to see these exhibits just enhances the vibrancy of our community and especially the region,” professor and Hmong historian Moua said.

The exhibit features over two dozen pieces of Hmong textiles called Paj Ntaub created by Green Bay artist Mao Lor.

In a refugee camp in Thailand, Lor began her craft as a young girl after the Vietnam War and the Secret War of Laos forced her to flee her home country of Laos.

Her work ranges from smaller, decorative pieces to large story cloths, which include highly detailed images and phrases stitched into the base fabric. Many of Lor’s story cloths are based on traditional folk tales and illustrations created by other Hmong people in refugee camps.

Moua said these illustrative story cloths were first created as a way for Hmong refugees to make ends meet.

“The general story is that they

needed to find a way to make some kind of income to support their families, because the conditions in the camp were poor,” Moua said. “I think food rations were only provided like two or three times a week. And so what were you going to eat the rest of the week, right?”

Moua said these pieces often told the stories of the wars going on and how this affected Hmong people during that time.

“I think they started telling their own stories and using cloth, that needle and thread, as a way to tell the story of how they got to the camps in a narrative way,” she said.

One stand-out work is a large cloth telling the story of Lor and her family traveling from Laos to a Thai refugee camp. Another must-see piece is a collaboration between Lor and artist Xiong/Ntx-awg Xyooj, who worked together to create an intricate baby-carrying device.

Visitors can also view a video documentary produced by filmmaker Soua Vang, which includes interviews with Lor and Xyooj.

The exhibit is fully created and curated by Hmong artists and historians, a decision made by the Paine to maintain authenticity of Hmong culture.

To make the exhibit more accessible for Hmong people, all of the descriptions and biographies in the gallery are written in English as well as in Hmong.

Noell Dickmann, the marketing manager at the Paine, said that there is a large Hmong presence in Oshkosh and this culture should be shared.

“There’s a huge community of Hmong people here,” Dickmann said. “I think it’s a really awesome opportunity to celebrate the community, [and] to share their art with the community because it might not be something people have experienced before. For the Paine to be able to present that, that’s just part of our mission.”

One of the Paine’s main goals is to focus on diversity within their galleries, Dickmann said.

“It’s also part of our mission to be really inclusive and to do shows that are from minority groups and to bring more people to the Paine that are minorities,” she said. “I think traditionally, art is seen as sort of a ‘white person thing’ it’s a really good opportunity to invite people in and make them feel welcome.”

Moua said featuring artists from diverse backgrounds allows people in marginalized groups to relate more with exhibits.

“I think it’s really important for places like the Paine to feature local artists and also to feature artists from underrepresented communities so that they get to see themselves in these spaces.”

In addition to the Paj Ntaub, the exhibit also features Lor’s handmade stuffed animals, which she sells at local craft shows. On the second floor of the Paine, the exhibit continues to show the importance of cloth in Hmong cultures with textiles from the Moua’s wedding.

Moua and Choua Xiong, another Hmong studies professor at UWO, displayed clothes handed down from their mothers on their wedding days. This is a common Hmong tradition for women.

“The other story that we’re hoping Hmong textiles tell is that these are things people can pass down from one generation to another,” Moua said.

The exhibit will be on display through May 26. Adult admission is \$12, while anyone under 18 can get in for \$7. The Pj Ntaub exhibit will serve as a backdrop for the Paine’s annual Room of Blooms, which opens today.

About the artist

Mao Lor was born in 1960 in Laos, where she grew up during the U.S. secret war of Laos (1962-75). During this time, she lost her father and first husband to the war. Lor sought protection from the communist Laos government by traveling to Thai refugee camps after the war. Here, she met and married her current husband.

Lor had a portion of money sent to her from her mother in the U.S., which Lor spent on cloth, thread and artists to sketch stories, which she then sewed onto fabric and sold to support her family.

In 1984, Lor moved to the U.S., and eventually to Green Bay. Right away, she started selling her Paj Ntaub. After a car accident left Lor unable to hold a needle, she began creating and selling toy animals stuffed with bird seed.

Now, she continues to sell at craft fairs all across Wisconsin.

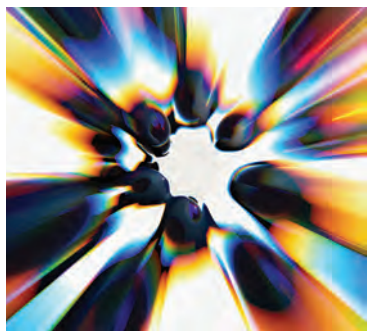
Artists: Meet UWO’s Black student artists

From Page 9
Samuel Ayoade

One artist on campus is Samuel Ayoade, a senior studying computer software engineering. “My art primarily is music. But I also dabble in digital art and 3D art with software like Blender and Procreate,” Ayoade said.

For Ayoade, art is a form of expression.

“Art is important ‘cause reality is shit by default,” Ayoade said. “Imagine coming back from a 9-5 and having nothing to give you some sort of escape or peace of mind? Like that’s fucking depressing. Art is also important because it allows people to express themselves and who they



are beyond words, using imagery and sound to convey emotion is something that is truly amazing. And in allowing people to express themselves it also gives people a chance to see themselves in artists and feel seen and heard.”

One artist Ayoade sees himself in is Virgil Abloh, a fashion de-

signer and entrepreneur.

“He showed me that you can express yourself through various things, that there’s no limit,” Ayoade said. “I also see myself in his story, especially him being someone from an African country who achieved great things.”

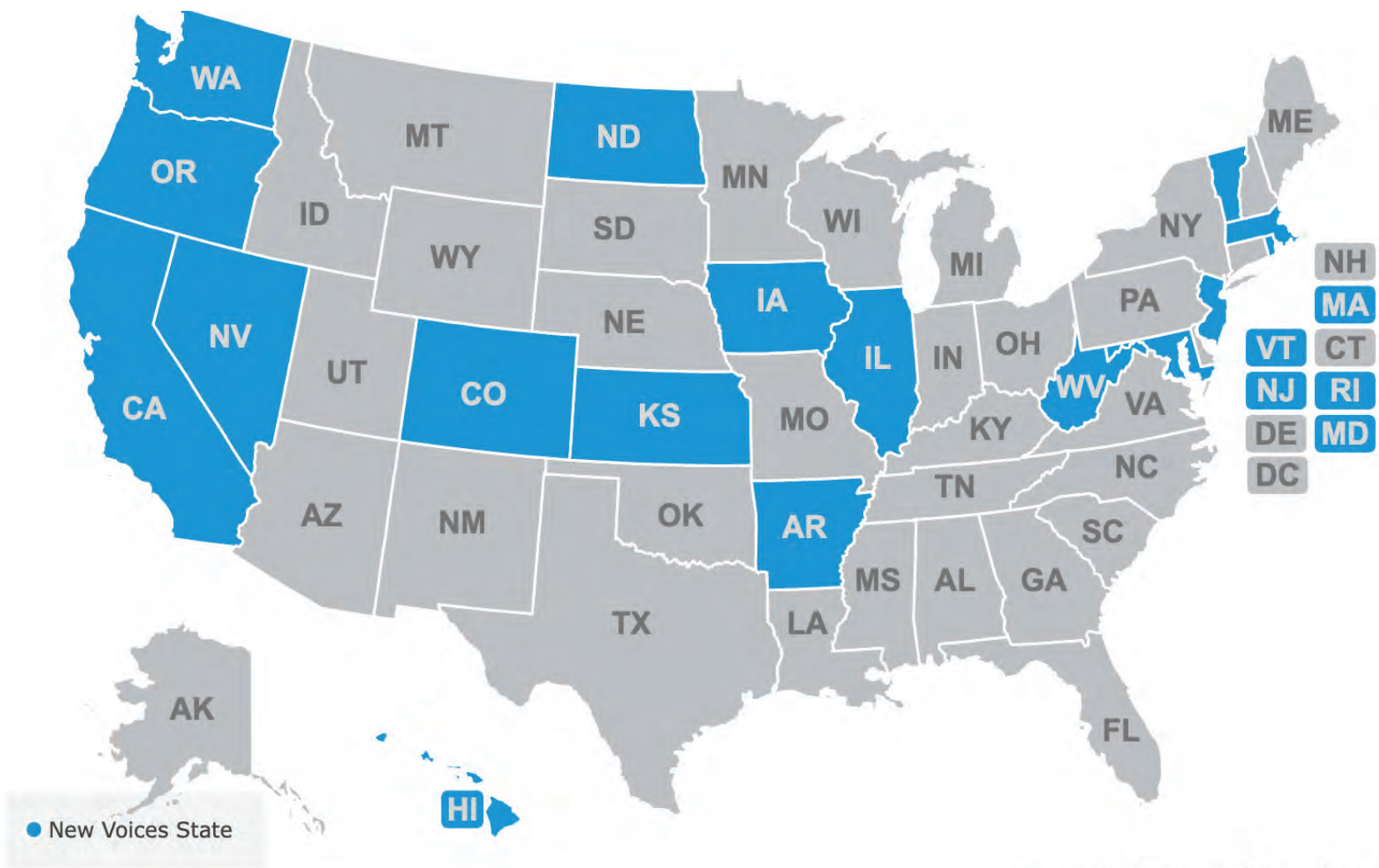
Ayoade is originally from Nigeria and says the culture inspired a lot of the sound in his music. He also wants to use his art to show other Nigerian kids that they can pursue their passions.

“Do things that also feed your soul,” Ayoade said. “Because ultimately, it will help you have a better understanding of yourself and your place in the world.”



Graphics courtesy of Samuel Ayoade

Samual Ayoade, a senior at UWO, uses digital art as one type of creative outlet.



Courtesy of Student Press Law Center

New Voices bill at risk of failing

By Anya Kelley
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The Wisconsin New Voices bill (Senate Bill 571) is at risk of failing, and we cannot let that happen. The Wisconsin New Voices bill codifies student journalists' First Amendment rights by stipulating that student journalists are responsible for determining the content of student publications at public secondary schools and colleges. The goal of the bill is to learn real life journalistic skills in a student newsroom. On Nov. 7, 2023 the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities unanimously approved the Wisconsin New Voices bill. Proceedings went quiet for a while before an amendment to require parent permission forms for minors to participate in student media was announced in the Senate. One of the bill's Senate sponsors said the amendments were

"less than ideal." So, why was it proposed? Where there is press, there is fear of the press. In recent years, "the media" (whatever that means) has been framed as something nefarious. Legislators on the committee are worried that with guaranteed student press freedom comes boundless legal fees and lawsuits. Because of this, the bill does not have enough votes to move out of committee. Isn't this a counterproductive way of thinking about this? The Oxford dictionary defines law as "the system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by imposition of penalties." Right now, student journalists in the state of Wisconsin do not have a clear set of rules for publication and the schools they work under don't either.

Along with no clear set of rules, there is also no clear protection for students or advisers. The proposed bill states, "under the bill, neither a pupil journalist nor a media adviser may be disciplined for acting in accordance with the bill." The goal of the New Voices bill is not to allow students to run rampant and publish anything they desire. It is meant to allow students to collaboratively determine the news, opinions, features, etc. that their school paper will publish without fear of backlash from their administrations. Advisers will still be there to help prevent students from publishing libel, and there will still be deliberate conversations about journalistic ethics and integrity. In no way is this proposed bill saying that student journalists will be allowed to publish provably false information. The student newsroom is an educational experience just like the classroom, and

no one is teaching us it's okay to fabricate a story. Here's the thing: student media already faces a plethora of legal action. In the event of a lawsuit, there are fantastic resources in place to help protect us. For example, in 2022-2023 the Student Press Law Center helped over 2,000 students and advisers with their legal issues. The Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression has also helped countless student journalists defend their rights to free speech and free press. In the 1980s, three professors from the University of Iowa conducted a study called the Iowa Libel Research Project. While not the original intention of the study, they found 90% of litigants lost their case. Floyd Abrams, a New York lawyer, estimated 75% of libel cases that end up in front of a jury are won, but the media usually succeed in reversing the verdict

when the cases are appealed to higher courts. Right now, the Wisconsin New Voices bill is being stalled for a nonissue. There is no higher risk for legal fees and lawsuits, and the passage of this bill will only strengthen the rights student journalists can enjoy in the state of Wisconsin. We must not let this bill fail before it reaches the higher courts. Our First Amendment rights grant us the right to freedom of speech and free press. Let's solidify those rights for student journalists. The Wisconsin New Voices bill is incredibly important and together we can make it strong. The Student Press Law Center has provided talking points that include partial scripts for both phone call and written communication. Contact your senators and show them how this bill is protecting a constitutional right for students in Wisconsin.

Choose health over a goal weight in 2024

By Cassidy Johnson
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We're only two months deep into 2024 and our New Year's resolutions, and tensions are already high with their reminders on social media that "bikini season" is only a few months away. As if the phrase "bikini body" wasn't enough, the eating disorder factory has created a new trend called "leggings legs" to make women feel insecure. I know it's easy to get sucked in, but remember that you have control over your algorithm. Besides, a lot of these posts are just advertisements in disguise designed to make you feel bad and feel pressured to lose weight. The rest are just insecure individuals who get confidence not from themselves, but by excluding and hurting others feelings. While losing weight isn't bad,

it can become a very slippery slope if you don't have the right motivations. If your goal is to follow the trends, don't bother; the fast fashion industry has severely shortened the trend cycle anyways. If it's a so-called bikini body, then you're covered; all you need is a bikini and body. Any goal that isn't health will eventually backfire, trust me. I, too, used to be a slave to the scale and the negative body image cycle.

Being naturally tall and muscular, I weighed more than most girls my age. When I look back, I was

a normal weight for my height, but I didn't see that. I was too focused on the numbers on the scale and



Jessica Duch / Advance-Titan

comparing myself to others. Like so many other girls, I fell victim to the media and became convinced I could only have a good summer if I had a "bikini body," but then I didn't even have the energy to enjoy it. Even worse, I was convinced the whole time that I was much heavier than I actually was. I got sucked into what the media was telling me and became motivated by all the wrong things — trends, boys, that special number on the scale — anything but for myself and my health. On the contrary, I was willing to sacrifice my health for that goal weight. To this day, I reap negative effects like an awful metabolism. Long story short, definitely not worth it. While this can't be said for everyone, having motivations such as a goal weight tends to encourage eating disorders. Instead, let your goal be health. That means nourishing your body with good, nutritious food, working out when you get the chance, eating when you're hungry and just being active in general. You'll be surprised by the progress you make by making health your goal.

“Whatcha Think?”
What annoys you most about budget cuts?



Madison Wright, Junior
“The most annoying thing is the budget cuts affecting those with accommodations. Our access to take exams and quizzes in the newly-built cubbies for Project Success is limited, essentially wasting the money that was spent on it in the first place.”



Ian Montague, Freshman
“What annoys me most about the budget cuts is the people enforcing them and all the staff that was laid off and furloughed because of it. It’s definitely not a good look for the university to facilitate that decision either.”



Savannah Hardy, Freshman
“I would say that the most annoying thing about the budget cuts is that it cuts money from the smaller organizations which is what allows them to run, so without these funds they are unable to continue their organization. But most importantly it leads to questions about what the future will look like for UW Oshkosh. How will that affect the classes that are available in the future and so forth?”



Angela Satterlee, Junior
“The most annoying thing about the budget cuts is that we somehow don’t have enough money to support the 140+ staff members we laid off, but we have millions to drop on some building remodels.”

La Crosse chancellor’s OnlyFans: Wrongful termination?

By Advance-Titan Staff
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On Dec. 27 of last year, UW-LaCrosse Chancellor Joe Gow was fired for his participation in the subscription-based porn site OnlyFans. Ever since the news broke, debates have sparked about the morality of sex workers in the education system as well as the treatment of sex-workers in both public and professional contexts. As students also a part of the University of Wisconsin System, it’s safe to say we at the Advance-Titan have a lot of opinions and mixed feelings on the subject, specifically about whether or not he was wrongfully terminated.

Many members of staff believe that Gow’s termination was unfair for many reasons.

One major consensus is that he has the right to do whatever he wants in his free time, with one staff member saying “Gow’s termination is a violation to his right to privacy,” and what he does when he leaves work is his business.

Most members also believe that his involvement in the porn industry has nothing to do with his job performance, especially considering UW-LaCrosse is doing a lot better than we are in the debt department. “Given that the chancellor is adequately leading the university, there is nothing wrong with them engaging in this behavior in a way that is separate from the university,” one staff member said “However, I would question the priorities and time management if the chancellor was letting the university plummet while they spend a lot of time on their OnlyFans account.” This was not the case for Gow, yet he was still terminated.

Along with making sure his sex

work doesn’t affect his job performance, Gow made a point to keep these two “personas” separate. For one, his content is uploaded to a subscription-based platform, meaning it cannot be accessed by accident — or at all — unless it’s paid for first. As one A-T staff member said: “If you don’t want to see his sex work, don’t look at it and especially don’t pay for it. He has the right to do what he wants with his body and really, it shouldn’t be up to the Board of Regents to decide if it’s okay for him to make money with it.”

The same member went on to explain how it would obviously be a much different situation “if he had been recording the porn on campus or asking students to participate in the videos — that would be a different situation.” It seems as though Gow has no problem with keeping the two separate, so why can’t the Board of Regents do the same?

Beyond wrongful termination, one member also believes that this is a symptom of a much bigger problem, and that this is proof that sex workers still aren’t respected by society. They go on to reframe the problem as a sex-negative Board of Regents rather than an “impertinent” chancellor, describing a simi-



Michael Buckner / Advance-Titan

lar situation in which his hard work was overshadowed by their anti-sex thinking. “He was the longest serving chancellor in the system, yet he was denied a performance pay raise in 2018 after inviting a sex worker to speak on campus,” they said this was more of a demonstration on expanding the university’s free speech policies rather than a porn star meet-and-greet.

However, even members of staff who claim this to be wrongful termination feel as though Gow should’ve been prepared for the consequences since sex work is still a taboo in today’s culture, especially in a professional and educational context. One member of staff said, “In a university setting, professionals should be able to do sex work on the side if they want, but they should be mindful of how that re-

flects on them and their institution.” Another went more in depth, saying “The Chancellor of a university is supposed to be a figurehead for the school. So, when they do something disgraceful, their role as leader of the university needs to be questioned.”

Everyone can agree that this type of behavior wouldn’t be okay if he were working with minors, but this situation is interesting because although he works in education, he works only with adults. Is Gow’s termination a result of his public position, or is any worker at risk of being terminated for doing sex work on the side? Does this have more to do with the sex-negative attitudes of the Board of Regents itself, or is this about saving the universities’ reputation?

Don’t take away our Scotty’s

By Cassidy Johnson
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There’s been a few rumors going around that Scotty’s Market is being replaced, and I’m sad to say that the rumors are true. According to a Scotty’s worker, the renovations will begin around the start of spring break and are estimated to be completed by September 2024.

We’ve all heard that Scotty’s is being replaced by a chicken place, and the Food Committee here on campus has said that it’s being turned into some sort of vending-machine-plaza where students get their sandwiches pre-made and pre-packaged from a machine. According to a Scotty’s worker, it’s actually going to be a combination of the two.

The chicken place is going to replace The Point sub stand and Titan Taco, and the vending machines are going to overtake Scotty’s marketplace.

I can’t speak for everyone here, but I personally like choosing what I put on my sub and knowing that it’s fresh. Scotty’s and Reeve already have a plethora of pre-packaged sandwiches; I can’t imagine why we’d need more.

As for the chicken place idea, Clash Burger, Titan Underground, Pizza Hut and Blackhawk Commons always have a variety of

chicken meals to choose from.

While I understand the rationale that we already have the Sub Stand and Chilaca in Reeve, I know I’m not alone when I say I much prefer going to The Point and Titan Taco. I can see Reeve from my room, but I still choose to walk to Scotty’s whenever I have the time.

One thing we definitely don’t need more of, however, is vending machines. There’s at least two vending machines in almost every dorm and academic building on campus already, and you can presently get chicken in some form at every single food place at Reeve.

I already get upset when the vending machines don’t drop my \$1.50 Kit Kat — I can’t imagine how frustrating it would be for the same thing to happen to a \$5-6 sandwich.

Besides the practical disadvantages, Scotty’s also just holds a special place in my heart. When I lived in the Scotts my freshman year, the one thing I always could look forward to after a long day of classes was one of their fresh subs and the smiling faces of the staff. Even on the weekends, Titan Taco always had a batch of warm nachos waiting for me.

While the majority of the Aladdin food staff here at University Wisconsin Oshkosh are exceptional, Scotty’s staff had a special op-



Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan

A student grabs a sub sandwich from The Point after class.

portunity to make it their own; and that they did. Constantly playing good music and always adorning Scotty’s with glistening lights and fun decorations, the staff went out of their way to make Scotty’s cozy and welcoming to freshmen. They achieved this not only by the physical environment, but also through their kindness, lively conversation, and smiling faces.

The worst part is that the university isn’t waiting until we’re out of this 18-million hole to act on these

changes, not that we’re even in a spot to be thinking about renovations. Moreover, since Scotty’s is open to the public and the Scotts has hosted things like EAA in the past, we also have to wonder how these changes will affect Scotty’s revenue.

I know it’s hard for us Scotty’s lovers to stay positive in a time like this, but remember that you still have until the Friday before spring break to get all the subs, nachos, and PB&J’s your heart desires.