

# The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUSES

Vol. 135, No. 14

FEB. 13, 2025

ADVANCETITAN.COM

What's  
inside:

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February voting guide

Page 3



UWO wrestling to join NCAA

Page 4



Allen-Priebe hosts exhibition

Page 7



Courtesy of UWO Flickr

The UWO Symphony Orchestra performs at the university's Music Hall in the Arts and Communication Center. The Music Hall will be receiving \$2.8 million from the state for renovations.

## Music Hall to receive sharp upgrade Gov. Evers approves \$2.8 million for renovation project

By Isaac Fischer  
pischeris70@uwosh.edu

The aging Music Hall at UW Oshkosh will be getting a facelift, after a decision by the State of Wisconsin Building Commission.

In December, the Republican-led State Building Commission, which is chaired by Gov. Tony Evers, announced approval of numerous projects in the state, including upgrades to the UWO Arts and Communication Center Music Hall, along with three other projects across three other Universities of Wisconsin facilities, such as library upgrades on the UW-Madison campus.

These projects will total \$81.5 million, while Oshkosh's project will cost approximately \$2.8 million. This comes as the university is set to roll-out its academic restructuring plan, which creates the College of Business, Arts and Communication with two schools, one for business, and another, the School of Media, Arts and Communication.

UWO Chancellor Andrew Leavitt said that just about every week during the academic year, students and faculty use the Music Hall for recitals and larger ensemble performances.

"As a frequent audience

member, I know our students and faculty members welcome and look forward to sharing the easier-access, modernized space with the entire campus community and broader public," Leavitt said. "The enhancements offer greater accessibility and acoustical, multimedia and recording technology that will transform this grand UWO hall's relevance as both a performance and classroom space. Titan musicians and our music programs will benefit for years to come. We thank the Regents and the state for investing in this project."

According to university officials, the proposal includes accessibility upgrades, as well as upgrades to better meet auditory health and safety requirements, including new vestibules and wheelchair seating areas. Due to upgrades that happened during the pandemic, the current audio and microphone system will not need to be upgraded, however, a soundbooth will be installed to allow those recording the performances the ability to adjust if needed.

There will be two levels of accessible tiered seating, according to the music department faculty; one on the lower level closer to the stage, and then another one on the top lev-

el which will be accessible from the lobby. These modifications do require some rows of seats to be removed, however, the impact is expected to be minimal.

In addition, modifications will be made to the backstage area, including the addition of restrooms, as well as easier access to the stage so students don't have to take up a narrow hallway.

Nathan Krueger, associate professor of music and music department chair, said that the students he's talked to are excited about the upgrades.

"All of the students, both majors and non-majors who participate in ensembles will get the experience of a top-rate acoustical environment that will enrich their artistic experience," Krueger said. "The modifications will be adjustable to different kinds of set-ups so that everything from small chamber groups to amplified jazz bands can perform in a space that is tailored to their sound."

Evers said that every project that has been approved is critical to communities around the state.

"Whether preserving our state's historic sites or investing in the latest equipment for our emergency responders, it is crucial that we invest in proj-

ects across our state that will not only modernize facilities to meet the needs of the 21st century but advance our state agencies, universities, and technical colleges and grow both our local and state economies," Evers said. "Our UW System is one of our state's greatest assets in competing for and retaining talented workers to build a workforce for the future."

UWO junior Elise Williams, a music education student, is excited to see what the renovations hold. While she hasn't personally heard much about plans, she thinks that accessibility needs to be addressed. Williams looks forward to being able to bring her grandmother, who uses a walker, closer as she is currently forced to the back row.

The Music Hall construction is expected to begin over the summer with a majority of the work completed in January. The university and music faculty are working together to figure out a backup plan for activities scheduled to use the room in the fall, whether that be on campus or through community relationships that are already established.

"It sounds good, and it will sound even better," UWO Chief of Staff Alex Hummel said.

## Man charged in stabbing death to stand trial

By Jacob Link  
linkj13@uwosh.edu

An Oshkosh man charged in a stabbing death outside of Polito's Pizza that occurred last August is set to stand trial May 5 after he made his initial appearance for a plea and sentencing hearing in court in January.

Sybastian Crossman, 23, is charged with first-degree reckless homicide after law enforcement said that he got into a fight with a group he had a "longstanding" feud with outside of Polito's Pizza on High Avenue, and a witness saw Crossman stab someone in the abdomen.

According to the criminal complaint, Crossman told police that he "ran into people that haven't liked him for a long time, based on something Crossman's buddy had done. Crossman said that he thought it had all been clear until a couple weeks prior, he was with [his friend], and they ran into some of the same people from the 8/10/24 incident. Crossman said that during that contact a couple weeks prior, the group had robbed them."

Court documents show that Crossman told law enforcement that he thought the group would have guns on them or in their vehicles. According to the documents, a cousin of the victim told police that Crossman was made to get on his knees and apologize for using a racial slur during the first contact the group had with him a few weeks prior to the incident.

The criminal complaint said that after initially denying he had a knife, Crossman acknowledged having a knife an hour and 25 minutes into the interview with police.

"I pulled it but I didn't stab him," Crossman said to law enforcement during the interview, according to court documents. "He ran into it."

The victim, who is not publicly identified due to Marsy's Law, later died after being transported to the hospital.

Crossman initially pleaded not guilty in October, and if the case is resolved, a plea hearing may be held Feb. 20.

## The Advance-Titan

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

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 The Advance-Titan is looking for writers, as well as photographers, web assistants, ad sale representatives and more. Open to all majors and students on the UW Oshkosh campus.

# Sturgeon spearing begins with truck in ice

By Jess Duch  
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Four people were rescued by the Oshkosh Fire Department after their truck broke through the ice on Lake Winnebago last Saturday on opening day of sturgeon spearing season, which saw more fish harvested than last season.

At 8:32 a.m., Oshkosh Fire Dispatch on the Winnebago County Scanner reported that there was a truck that went into the lake and that the four people inside the vehicle had gotten out of the water and were in an ice shanty. Later, the dispatcher stated that the group was too afraid to attempt to get off the ice within another vehicle.

Heather Wehrmann of Pickett was one of the people inside the truck when it went into the water.

"I can tell you that was the most terrifying thing that ever happened to me in my entire life," Wehrmann said. "We were just getting out, at 8:05 is I think when we went under. We saw our shack, we were a hundred yards from it."

Wehrmann said no one in her group was worried for their safety. They'd started their journey onto the ice by following the recommendations, with their windows rolled down and their seat belts unbuckled. Once they felt that they were in a safe spot, every window was closed with the exception of her husband's.

Wehrmann said she pushed her husband's window down in an attempt to get out.

"It went down, thank god," she said. "But then by the time I got out, Lexi was swimming and that's when I pulled her out. And my husband had Mel, and he broke the window to get her."

Wehrmann said she'd been sturgeon spearing for twenty years but would likely never go again.

"I don't think there's ever gonna be another year of this," Wehrmann



Jess Duch / Advance-Titan

**A woman gets helped back to land on an airboat after a truck she was in crashed through the ice last Saturday during opening day of sturgeon spearing season.**

said. "That unfortunately ends the sturgeon spearing career [because] I don't think I can handle the ice again."

The group said they were about 100 yards from their shack and three quarters of a mile away from the shore when they went in. Lexi Schadeck, also in the truck when it went under, said the police estimated their truck likely went in at a depth of 15 feet.

The group said they waited over an hour in warm shanties before the rescue boat came but that many on the water took them in and gave

Schadeck dry clothes to wear while they waited.

As of Tuesday, 355 fish have been harvested, which is only 72 less than the entirety of last year's season. Although the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has reported poor ice clarity, 192 sturgeon have been speared on Lake Winnebago and 163 have been harvested on the Upriver Lakes (Butte des Morts, Winneconne, and Poygan).

The largest fish harvested so far was by Hayley Herzig, who harvested a 180.5-lb and 79.3-inch

female sturgeon Saturday morning on opening day, the fourth-largest fish recorded on the Winnebago system.

This season's harvest cap on Lake Winnebago is 280 juvenile females, 717 females and 1,002 males. On the Upriver Lakes, the cap is 70 juvenile females, 80 females and 250 males.

Spearing on the Lake Winnebago system, which holds one of the largest populations of lake sturgeon in North America, will continue until the harvest caps are met or when the 16-day season ends Feb. 23.

## City of Oshkosh begins search for new fire chief

By Jacob Link  
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The City of Oshkosh announced Feb. 3 that it is recruiting candidates for fire chief after Michael Stanley resigned from the position in January to move to Colorado to be closer to his family.

The City of Oshkosh is taking applications for fire chief until March 2, when the Police and Fire Commission will begin reviewing candidates. The commission will have a feedback survey for community members to give their input on what qualities they would like to see in the new fire chief.

City of Oshkosh Communications Director Andy Radig said that the interview process is scheduled to begin in late March.

"The Police and Fire Commission plans to hear from three additional panels of interviewers representing diverse and pertinent backgrounds," Radig said. "Those panels will include a Community Panel, a Technical/Peer Panel, and an Employee Panel. Additionally, as part of the selection process, the city will hold a meet and greet, where



Courtesy of the Oshkosh Fire Department

**Oshkosh is looking to replace former Fire Chief Michael Stanley after he resigned in January.**

citizens and the general public will be able to meet the selected finalists, ask them questions and provide feedback to the Police and Fire Commission."

Radig said that the Police and Fire Commission is hopeful that the new fire chief will begin their new position in either June or July.

The application for fire chief can be found at [www.oshkoshwi.gov](http://www.oshkoshwi.gov) while the feedback survey for the community can be located at [polco.us/sgc32z](http://polco.us/sgc32z).

## Ed Gein The Stage Musical

Show times:

APR 4 7:00 PM	APR 5 7:00 PM	APR 6 2:00 PM
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Experience the darkly comic and broadly accurate story of the man who inspired Alfred Hitchcock to create Psycho!

Location:

Time Community Theater  
 445 N Main St, Oshkosh, WI

For more info: <https://www.timecommunitytheater.com/events>

# Spring primary election preview

By Jess Duch  
 duchje18@uwosh.edu

The spring primary election is Feb. 18 and two important races will be on the ballot: Winnebago County Executive and Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction. Here's a preview of the candidates for the Winnebago County Executive based on questions asked by the League of Women Voters. To read about the Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction candidates, visit [advancetitan.com](http://advancetitan.com).

## How do I vote in Oshkosh?

The spring primary election is Tuesday, Feb. 18. Oshkosh residents can go to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) and enter their address to find out their voting location, deadlines and more information about the candidates on their ballot. The closest place for those who live near UWO is the Culver Family Welcome Center. Students can also check [myvote.wi.gov/en-us/](http://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/) for their exact polling location. Remember to bring a form of identification.

## What do they do?

The duties of the Winnebago County Executive include supervising departments and overseeing county services, preparing and overseeing the county budget and enforcing county board policies. The Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction is responsible for overseeing K-12 public education in Wisconsin.

**The candidates were asked, “Summarize your background qualifications and your motivation for seeking the office of Winnebago County Executive. Why should voters choose you over your opponents?”**

## Jon Doemel



I want to back up why I ran four years ago. I was a restaurant owner and very committed to the community and collaborations with the many nonprofits we had.

During the pandemic there were a lot of people that were struggling. And when I was out helping people with food and other necessities, the one partner that wasn't there, I felt, was Winnebago County. That was the year they had a \$6.5 million surplus and of any year that should have been the year they had a deficit. So I was frustrated and ran to kind of change that.

How do we get out there? How do we meet people where they're at? How do we become better partners? And it's been a long road. We have gotten there. So through my time of running a restaurant it translated to county government really well.

When you run a restaurant you are human resources. You are marketing. You are payroll. You're also customer service and labor and the dishwasher and the server and the cook, so it translated to the multiple facets of county government really well and figuring out organizational structure and how it should work.

Also, it helped me, the community side, helped me to figure out how to get out and find people where they're at and address some of those most vulnerable in our community. When you start a project just like when I walk to a restaurant you go to where the fire burns the biggest and that has to be the most vulnerable, and then you work your way up.

## Gordon Hintz



I'm born and raised in Winnebago County. I live in Oshkosh with my wife, Liz and two kids. I have more than 20 years working in government at the federal, state and local level, including 16 years representing Winnebago County and the Wisconsin State Assembly, four of which I served as minority leader and three of which I served on the state budget committee.

Before the assembly I served as a management assistant and a budget analyst in local government and I hold a master's degree in public administration from UW-Madison.

I believe that my experience has uniquely prepared me to be an administrator at the county level. I believe that government has a positive role to play in creating opportunity in people's lives and I'm running for Winnebago County Executive to help create a stronger and more prosperous Winnebago County. I'm running specifically to improve communication and accountability.

You know, with the County Board there continues to be issues between the board and executive. With other government entities, towns, cities and villages we saw miscommunication or poor communication when it came to the distribution of arbor resources.

But most of all, it's really about engagement with the public. If

we're going to have a priority based process, if we're going to try to get the priorities of the county, we need to find ways to engage the public. That not only builds trust but enhances the legitimacy of government actions.

During my time in the legislature, I held regular office hours, town halls, knocked on doors, did office hours, had surveys and I think that that experience will translate to the county executive office in a way to engage the public.

We need to hold our leaders to high standards and demand hard work and accountability and I think I'm ready to complete that job. I'm determined to meet those expectations, rebuild confidence with the public and trust with the county board.

I've always focused my career on finding ways to positively impact our community. I maintain a keen understanding of the operational and political decision making at the government of the federal, state and local level and how to engage organizations and individuals. and I look forward to doing that as Winnebago County Executive.

## John Matz



I'm John Matz, I have been the sheriff for the last 14 years. I've been with the sheriff's office for 34 years. I spent 30 years in the Wisconsin Army National Guard, retired as a command sergeant major and spent a deployment in Iraq. So as far as processes are concerned, I have risen through the ranks of both of those organizations.

In county government, I was involved even as a lieutenant with the County Board, and with committees, and then as a captain and then obviously as a sheriff. So, I have an open and trusted relationship with the board and with the committees already.

I am a graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeant Majors Academy, FBI National Academy and Sheriff's National Academy. [I] also have a grad certificate from the University of Virginia.

I believe that we need to restore open, transparent and responsive government to County business and that's not happening

now. If you review some of the videos that have occurred with the County Board meetings, with committee meetings, there have been issues where agendas have been changed or manipulated. There have been issues with studies that have been done. That is not open and transparent. We need to give the facts.

I'm a factual based person, so I will give facts and let the board decide. The power of county government doesn't come from the county executive. It comes from the collective county board. And I don't, as a county executive, hold the board accountable. You, the voter, hold the board accountable.

The chairman can censure certain county board members, but you need to be able to lead the department heads and that is what my expertise is in. I have led my entire adult life and I will continue to lead as the county executive and in a direction that is progressive. Things outside the box, we have done that at the sheriff's office on numerous occasions.

# Women's wrestling becomes NCAA sport

## UWO to compete as NCAA-sanctioned team beginning with 2025-26 season

By Jacob Link  
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UW Oshkosh women's wrestling will compete as an NCAA sanctioned team starting with the 2025-26 season after all three NCAA divisions voted to add the sport at its annual convention Jan. 17 in Nashville, Tennessee.

"We are thrilled that women's wrestling will be an NCAA sport, making it the 91st championship that we host," NCAA President Charlie Baker said at the convention. "We extend a big thank you to everyone who supported this effort and the athletes, coaches and fans for their passion for a fast-growing and exciting sport that brings even more opportunities for women to participate in athletics."

The decision to add women's wrestling as an NCAA sport means that the team will transition from National Collegiate Women's Wrestling (NCWWC) competition after this season. Gymnastics is now the only one of UWO's 20 intercollegiate sports that is not NCAA-sanctioned.

The 2024-25 season marks UWO's first year with a women's wrestling squad, and the Titans own a 2-4 record with only the NCWWC regional and national championships left on the schedule.

Oshkosh's Myra Bair, who is 4-9 this season, won the first-ever match in the history of the program when she won by injury default in the 103-lb. bout at the UW-Stevens Point Pointer Open Nov. 2. The Titans lost their first two meets of the season, but Audrey Swiderek recorded a 10-0 technical fall against Carthage College to help UWO to its first-ever dual meet victory Nov. 21 against the Firebirds 30-16. Oshkosh beat Northern Michigan University the next week before losing its final two duals to UW-Stevens Point and NMU in the second matchup with the Wildcats.

Annesley Day, who holds a team best 16-6 record on the season with six pins, said that she was thrilled to see the NCAA finally decide to make women's wrestling an official sport.



Courtesy of UWO Flickr

The UWO women's wrestling team is 2-4 in its inaugural season in the NCWWC and will participate as an NCAA team next year.

"It's crazy to see how much this sport has grown, and I love having the opportunity to be a part of it," Day, who wrestles in the 124-lb weight class, said. "This means a lot to me because this will help grow the sport more and the competition will continue to get harder which I love."

Day, from Round Rock, Texas, said that she thinks UWO's program will continue to grow and improve now that its athletes will be competing in the NCAA.

"Lots of girls are now going to want to wrestle in college more," Day said. "They will see the program we have and see that they can be successful here and reach their goals. I think it's amazing that UWO offers women's wrestling because not every school does, and I know our program is going to do great things."

Alivia Davey, one of 15 freshmen on UWO's roster, said that the university's decision to participate in the first season of NCAA wom-

en's wrestling follows the inaugural team's motto of "Be The 1st."

"It's pretty big deal since a lot of other colleges don't have women's wrestling so UWO gets to be part of that first group before everyone else joins in," Davey, who is 14-5 this year in the 207-lb weight class, said. "It's been such a fast-growing sport over the years and it's great to see that it's getting accepted so quickly. It means a lot to me because it shows that the sport is growing quickly and that more girls are going out for [women's wrestling] that may have been on the fence before or are just giving it a shot."

According to the NCAA, there were 76 women's wrestling programs at colleges and universities across the country for the 2023-24 season, and 17 more programs were added prior to this year. The governing body also reported that there are currently more than 1,200 women who are wrestling at schools that will be competing at

the NCAA level next year.

The NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics made a recommendation in February 2024 that NCAA Divisions I, II and III sponsor legislation to move women's wrestling to "championship status." The legislation was not passed, but the NCAA Board of Governors approved \$1.7 million in funding that April to establish the NCWWC.

Before the Committee on Women's Athletics could move women's wrestling to "championship status", 40 schools had to sponsor the sport at a varsity level and meet other competition and participant requirements. Although women's wrestling eclipsed the sponsorship minimum in the 2022-23 academic year, it took until this January for the NCAA to officially grant the sport "championship status."

UWO Assistant Director of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrator Abby Gildernick said that the inclusion of women's wrestling as the 91st NCAA Championship

sport marks a monumental step forward for gender equity in college athletics.

"This milestone not only honors the strength and resilience of female athletes but also sets the stage for future generations to thrive on and off the mat," Gildernick said. "It's a victory for athletes, coaches, and fans who have long fought for this recognition and opportunity. The Division III vote passed with an overwhelming majority of 447 yes votes, 0 no votes and only 17 abstentions. This kind of result reflects strong consensus and support for the proposal by the Division III NCAA membership."

The NCAA's first women's wrestling championship will be held in 2026, but UWO will seek its first and only attempt at a NCWWC title when the Titans head to Missouri to take part in the Region VI Championship, hosted by Lindwood University (Missouri) Feb. 23 at 10 a.m.

# Swim teams win second straight duel meet

By Isaac Fischer  
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The UW Oshkosh men's and women's swimming and diving teams both won its second straight dual meet after taking down Loras College (Iowa) Feb. 8.

The men's side won 139-80 while the women's team beat Loras 136-68.

The UWO men's 200-yard medley relay consisting of Law Lykins, Charlie Mason, Luke Giles and Ben Knoeck started off the meet, with a second-place finish at 1:45.70.

In the men's 1,000-yard freestyle, Elias Landolt took first place with a 10:62.65 finish, while Ethan DeGroot took third with a time of 11:21.57. Drew Davis then took first in the 200-yard freestyle at 1:52.94, with Lykins taking third at 1:55.14.

The Titans filled the podium

in the 50-yard freestyle, with Damen Seremet and CJ Willert finishing at 22.45 and 22.95 seconds respectively, in addition to a third-place finish from Julian Koller.

The Titans swept another podium as Leo Ramirez-Gutierrez and Knoeck finished within a tenth of a second of each other in the 100-yard freestyle, with Landolt taking the third-place spot. The three finished in 50.74, 50.84 and 54.72 seconds respectively.

In the 200-yard individual medley, Mason captured first place victory with a time of 2:07.00, with Ramirez-Gutierrez claiming third place at 2:09.74.

Seremet took first in the 100-yard butterfly at 58.35 seconds, while Grant Stahlback took third place at 1:00.54.

The 100-yard backstroke had two Titans claim podium finishes, as Willert captured first place

in 57.53 seconds and Giles took the third-place spot at 1:03.14.

Both Titan relays for the 200-yard freestyle relay also claimed podium finishes, as the squad consisting of Ramirez-Gutierrez, Willert, Davis and Seremet finished in first place at 1:29.99.

On the women's side, the 200-yard medley relay started with Titans taking the second and third ace finishes. The relay of Sienna Della-Peruta, Kylee Dinninger, Grace Fergus and Rowan Sinclair finished at 1:59.7, while the relay of Payton Purdy, Bella Cichon, Elsa Piering and Julie Innerebner finished 1.28 seconds behind at 2:00.98.

Francesca Schiro then captured the first-place victory in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle with finishes of 25.37, and 54.96 seconds. Burnett took the second place for the 100-yard at 58.32 seconds, while Cadence



Isaac Fischer / Advance-Titan

UWO's Bella Cichon swimmer competes in a meet against St. Norbert College at Albee Hall Nov 16.

Showalter claimed third in the 50-yard at 27.00.

The 100-yard butterfly saw Sinclair taking first place, while Fergus took third.

For the 100-yard breaststroke, Cichon captured a first-place victory at 1:16.36 while Showalter took second place at 1:17.77.

The Titans also took first place in the 200-yard freestyle relay,

with the relay consisting of Schiro, Showalter, Burnett and Wensberg finishing in 1:45.30.

Both swimming and diving teams now set their eyes to conference championship action as they begin their postseason run at the WIAC (Wisconsin Athletic Conference), at the Schroeder Aquatic Center in Brown Deer Feb. 19-22.



## Scoreboard

**Thursday, Feb. 6**  
**Women's Gymnastics**  
 UWO - 3/3, 192.375 points  
 at Central Michigan Triangular

**Friday, Feb. 7**  
**Men's Wrestling**  
 Cornell College (Iowa) - 47  
 UWO - 6

**Saturday, Feb. 8**  
**Women's Track & Field**  
 UWO - 2/10, 147.5 points  
 at Ripon Red Hawk Invitational  
**Men's Track & Field**  
 UWO - 1/11, 193 points  
 at Ripon Red Hawk Invitational  
**Women's Swimming**  
 UWO - 136  
 Loras College (Iowa) - 68  
**Men's Swimming**  
 UWO - 139  
 Loras College (Iowa) - 80

**Women's Wrestling**  
 UWO - 12/26, 42 points  
 at Quad Cities DIII Invitational  
 Augustana College (Illinois)  
**Women's Basketball**  
 UWO - 70  
 UWRF - 34  
**Men's Basketball**  
 UWRF - 76  
 UWO - 68 (OT)

**Wednesday, Feb. 12**  
**Women's Basketball**  
 UWO - (Late)  
 UWSP -  
**Men's Basketball**  
 UWO - (Late)  
 UWSP -

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, Feb. 15**  
**Track and Field**  
 at UW-Whitewater Midwest Elite Invitational at 11 a.m.  
**Men's Wrestling**  
 at WIAC Championship at Whitewater at 11 a.m.  
**Women's Gymnastics**  
 at UW-Whitewater at 4 p.m.  
**Women's Basketball**  
 at UW-La Crosse at 3 p.m.  
**Men's Basketball**  
 vs UW-La Crosse at 5 p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 19**  
**Women's Swimming**  
 at WIAC Championship at Brown Deer  
**Women's Basketball**  
 vs UW-Eau Claire at 7 p.m.  
**Men's Basketball**  
 at UW-Eau Claire at 7 p.m.

### A-Trivia

How many championship sports does the NCAA currently have?

Answer: In January, the NCAA announced that women's wrestling will be the 91st championship sport.



Courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics

UWO's Sammi Beyer hits a contested 3-pointer against UW-Whitewater in the Titans' 77-69 win in overtime at the Kolf Sports Center.

## Titans defeat Falcons, Warhawks in OT

By Nolan Andler  
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The fifth-ranked UW Oshkosh women's basketball team collected two wins over the weekend after beating No. 16 ranked UW-Whitewater Feb. 5 77-69 in double-overtime, and the Titans took down UW-River Falls 70-34 Feb. 8 at the Kolf Sports Center.

The win for the Titans over the Warhawks not only completed a season sweep over the Warhawks, but it was also the second game between the two teams that went to overtime after UWO won 59-52 Jan. 15.

Sophomore Sammi Beyer led the Titans (19-1, 8-1 WIAC) in the win with 27 points. Beyer went 11-for-22 on the night with four 3-pointers.

The Titans started the game cold, although both teams were tied 6-6 to start the first quarter. UWW (15-5, 5-4) was able to end the period with a 12-8 lead

thanks to 6 points from Warhawks guard Kacie Carollo.

UWW controlled the lead for most of the game but UWO did not let the game get away from them. Every run that the Warhawks had, the Titans would respond as UWW's lead never grew larger than 13 points.

With 5:25 remaining in the fourth quarter and the Titans down 58-46, UWO did not give up. A layup by Kayce Vaile after rebounding a missed 3-pointer started a 12-0 run for the Titans. Beyer led the run scoring 5 of the 12 points, and the Titans tied the game with a layup from Malloory Hoytink. The game went into overtime after UWW missed an open jumper at the buzzer.

UWO started the first overtime with a 63-58 lead behind a 3-pointer from Beyer. However, just like the Titans, UWW didn't fade out. The Warhawks were able to tie it back up at 65-65 to send it to a second overtime.

In the second overtime, the Ti-

tans closed it out. UWO jumped out to a 71-69 lead behind shots from Beyer and Hoytink. The Titans pulled out to a 77-69 lead behind Vaile and Kate Huml going 6-6 on their free throws in the period as UWO closed out the win over the Warhawks.

UWO took the court at Kolf Sports Center for Senior Day Feb. 8 in a rematch against UWRF, the only team to beat Oshkosh this season after the Falcons won 64-59 Jan. 25 at home.

Graduate transfer Alex Rondorf led the Titans in the win, scoring 15 points with all five of her baskets coming from beyond the 3-point line.

UWRF opened the game with a 2-0 lead behind a layup by Falcon guard Zoey Buchan. The Titans immediately took the lead right after at 3-2 with a three from Rondorf.

For the immediate three minutes, neither team could score until Avery Poole ended the

drought for both teams with a layup to extend the Titans lead at 5-2. The basket helped the Titans go on a run to go up 10-2. The Titans blew it open to a lead as large as 23-9, until a run to end the half by UWRF cut the deficit down to 25-19.

In the second half, the Titans jumped on the Falcons in the 3rd quarter. UWO started the quarter on a 12-2 run to extend the lead to 37-21. UWO never had its lead be smaller than double-digits as they cruised to the 70-34 win. The Titans held the Falcons to their lowest total points scored in a game since January 2023.

The Titans will hit the road this week for games at UW-Stevens Point on Feb. 12 and UW-La Crosse on Feb. 15. Tip-off at UWSP will take place at 7 p.m. and the matchup at UWL will tip-off at 3 p.m. You can catch the results of the game against the Pointers on the UWO athletics website at uwoshkoshTitans.com.

## Day wins bracket at Quad Cities Invitational

By Dylan Eckhart  
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The UW Oshkosh women's wrestling team competed at the Quad Cities Division III Invitational at Augustana College (Illinois) Feb. 8 and 9, and Annesley Day went undefeated to win the 124-lb bracket.

The Titans scored 42 points in the tournament and finished 12th out of the 26 teams competing.

Day put together five wins with three coming by pin and two by technical fall on Saturday. Day made quick work of her first match with a pin in 29 seconds over Ava Garcia of Cornell College (Iowa) and won her next match by technical fall, winning 13-0 over Alaina Hollender of Carthage College.

Day advanced to the semifinals with another dominant 10-0

win over Jayla Oberst of Albion College (Michigan) and in the semifinal bout, Day wrestled Aroma Marrufo of North Central College (Illinois) and got the victory by pin with 35 seconds remaining in the match.

Day advanced to the finals, where she took on Liannette Ortiz of Wartburg College (Iowa), where she snagged another win by pin at 5:07. Day now has six pins this season, moving to a 13-5 record at 124-lbs, and a 16-6 overall record.

The Titans gathered additional wins at three different weight classes. Audery Swideriek won her first match by pin over Kirsten Cortez of Carthage College at 103-lbs. Emma Hady won her first match by technical fall over Milar Little of Cornell College at 110-lbs.

Alivia Davey went 1-2 on the day with a first match pin



Courtesy of Terri Cole / UWO Athletics

Oshkosh's Annesley Day works a half-nelson move against her opponent in a match earlier this season at the Kolf Sports Center.

against Mikayla Ozeuh of Randolph College (Virginia). Davey lost her second match by technical fall to Khalia Correy of Lakeland University, which sent her to the consolation bracket.

Davey won a 2-0 decision over Kate Riege of UW-Stevens Point but then had to forfeit her next match against Angie Guy

of Augustana, which ended her day.

UWO will be back in action on Feb. 23 for the National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships Region VI Championship, hosted by Lindenwood University (Missouri) starting at 10 a.m.



All pictures from Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan  
The Student Honors Exhibition is an annual event that gives students an opportunity to see their work on display in an art gallery, and gives fellow students the opportunity to check out the work of their peers up until Feb. 20.

# Exhibition honors students

## Allen-Priebe hosts its 25th Student Honors Exhibit

By Cassidy Johnson  
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The Allen Priebe Art Gallery held the reception for the 25th annual Student Honors Exhibition Feb. 6, and will showcase students' artwork for two weeks.

The exhibit will stay up until Feb. 20, and will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, and 2-4 p.m. on Saturdays at the Arts and Communication Center.

Each piece featured in the exhibit was voted on by fellow students who are part of the Student Art Gallery Board, serving as a great honor and testament to the talents of the 31 students featured in this annual event.

"I was so excited to be able to be a part of the honors exhibition," senior Hannah Detert said. "It felt good to be recognized for something that I enjoyed so much and worked hard for."

Another UWO senior, Carcin Woodland, was also grateful for the opportunity.

"[This] was something I have looked forward to being a part of for a long time, so I suppose I'm honored to be honored," Woodland said.

Besides receiving praise and recognition from peers, students were able to showcase their hard work in their medium of choice

regardless of their academic standing.

Some, including Detert, were able to use this as an opportunity to showcase new mediums they have found passion for.

"Recently photography has had my heart," Detert said. "In the past, I would have said painting."

This exhibit has something for everyone, featuring a variety of mediums such as ceramics, graphic design, photography, drawing, sculpture, printmaking and painting.

One noticeable piece was a photograph using archival inkjet print by Detert titled "Wylow," a part of her "Deadpan" series for her photography class.

Demonstrating a keen eye for photography, Detert described how this photo wasn't choreographed, but rather more of a happy accident.

"Me and my friend were just playing around at M Schettl Sales INC...they have huge statues of the most random things for sale and they just happened to have an old airplane," Detert said. "My friend climbed inside and when I saw her through the window, I just had to take the picture. It definitely was a spontaneous photo and didn't go with the deadpan assignment but I still just love how it turned out."

Another piece was an ornate

and elegant ceramic sculpture done by UWO senior Carcin Woodland.

This monochromatic mini-sculpture features two lambs bookending a Rococo-inspired locket.

Woodland said the locket acted as a prototype for larger pieces she has been working on to see how the glaze would lay over the intricate designs.

Inspired by the delicateness of the locket, she decided to add the two lambs.

"I was inspired by their sweetness and how they would complement my sculpture," Woodland said. "Both the lambs and the sculpture, being miniature and having such fine details, come together to create a delicate sweetness."

Woodland describes how some people perceive the lack of color in her sculpture as a fear of color, but Woodland sets them straight.

"I'm more interested in how the absence of color complements the amount of detail in my sculptures," Woodland said. "For the lambs, it gives them a less lifelike appearance, making them feel more like sculptures rather than simply mimicking a cute animal."

Some pieces included a large woven tapestry made out of cotton called "Home (Familial)" by Sarah Vandersee, a glossy

ceramic birthday cake titled "October 18th, 2003" by Ashley Xiong, and an oil on canvas painting called "Dysfunctional Nostalgia" by Sydney Feest.

Reflecting on the exhibit reception, Detert said,

"It was so cool to see my work on display for the first time," Detert said. "Lots of people stopped to look at it and it made me smile because I've never experienced that before."



# Downtown hosts annual chocolate stroll

By Suzanne Dawood  
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As Valentine's Day season rolls around, the aroma of roses, soft teddy bears and chocolate covered strawberries fill the air. Whether you'll be spending the 14th with a partner, your galentines, parentines or alone, the

city of Oshkosh has you covered.

Downtown Oshkosh will be hosting its fourth annual chocolate stroll this weekend, which initially started in 2021 after the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Feb. 15, right after Valentine's Day, Main Street will have 15 local shops handing out

samples of different types of chocolate for you to enjoy for only \$20 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The stroll will start at the Oshkosh Convention & Visitors Bureau on 100 N. Main St., Suite 112 where they will give you a map indicating the participating businesses if you stop in from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

This event allows for individuals to enjoy chocolate alone to enhance self-love, or with a friend for some relationship bonding.

According to the website, "you can make it a full day by coming down early to grab lunch at one of our fab restaurants, then start the stroll and

enjoy a variety of decadent chocolate treats at our participating shops."

Even if chocolate may not be your thing, it may be a fun opportunity to explore downtown Oshkosh or to just enjoy a nice stroll down Main Street and see what they have to offer.



Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan

Students flocked to Titan Underground this past Sunday to watch Super Bowl LIX with food and friends. With a big screen and speakers, many opted for TUG over their dorms and apartments.

# TUG hosts Super Bowl party

By Cassidy Johnson  
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Reeve Memorial Union hosted its annual Super Bowl party at Titan Underground last Sunday.

Students of all years gathered around the big screen for free food and fun, with Reeve Union Board providing free pizza and popcorn throughout the game, all accessible just by showing your Titan Card.

Some stopped by to have a

place to watch the Super Bowl with friends, like student McKenzie Moore.

"I came here with some friends from Chi Alpha," she said. "I wanted to watch the game with a lot of people, but my apartment isn't big enough for guests so I thought this was the next best thing."

Another student, Colin Elliott, had the same idea.

"I wanted to watch the game here so I could watch it with all my friends," he said.

Others treated it more like a social hour, going for the opportunity to meet new people and make new connections.

"I thought this would be a great way to meet people," Davana Boushele, the community adviser for Chi Alpha, said. "We used to host our own but decided, 'why not come where the people already are?'"

While some came to socialize others came for convenience.

"The event was very accessible from my dorm, and [I]

thought it would be a nice break from studying." Angelina Junc, a sophomore, said.

Senior Kaden Kemp agreed and said "I came just to check it out, but I definitely stayed for the free pizza and popcorn."

This is just the first of many Titan Underground events this semester.

Anyone who is looking for a fun, convenient way to socialize and meet new people can check out their upcoming events, including a Scavenger Hunt and

a Gaming Night on Feb. 18 and Feb. 24, respectively.

You can put your knowledge of Reeve to the test Tuesday, Feb. 18 from 3-4 p.m. at TUG for their Scavenger Hunt event.

If games are more your speed, you can also visit TUG Monday, Feb. 24 from 5:30-7 p.m. for their Video Gaming Night, complete with a variety of video games, board games and free food.

# Lamar stuns at Super Bowl halftime

By Jacob Kremer  
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This past Sunday, beloved artist Kendrick Lamar performed for the Super Bowl halftime show alongside SZA.

The Super Bowl is regarded as one of the most admired and highly publicized events throughout the year, always drawing a large audience.

This year, the Kansas City Chiefs were facing the Philadelphia Eagles. This was an especially important game for the Chiefs who were looking to make history in an attempt to become the first NFL team to three-peat in the Super Bowl era.

While there are many people that watch the Super Bowl due to their love for football, others mostly cared about the Halftime Show that featured Lamar.

Lamar introduced his latest al-

bum "GNX" in late November and was highly acclaimed. This album was a pinnacle of Lamar's music career, generating his incredible ability to display various elements into his music. This album came as a surprise to many around me, and they were thoroughly in awe of it.

Lamar's latest album and his performance in the Super Bowl halftime show coincided with each quite well as he was able to implement a couple songs from the album into the performance. "Squabble Up," "Luther" and "TV Off" were a few of the songs that Lamar performed for the show that were a part of the new album.

Along with displaying his new album, Lamar performed quite a few fan favorites such as "Not Like Us," "Humble." and "Euphoria."

To the surprise of many, SZA stood out and joined Lamar with the songs "Luther" and "All the Stars."

Other guests made appearances such as former tennis player Serena Williams and Samuel L. Jackson as a faux Uncle Sam.

Moments after performing the infamous "A Minor" line, Lamar only gives Drake a moment to breathe before showing his ex-girlfriend Serena Williams doing the crip walk in the middle of the "X" on stage.

Copying his album cover, Lamar began the performance on the hood of a GNX with his background dancers filing out of the car.

The energetic backup dancers were donned in red, white and blue as a nod to the American flag, potentially making a commentary on the state of our country per Lamar's typical activist ways.

The overall performance was nothing over the top, besides throwing a little bit of shade to his rival Drake in his song "Not like Us" and



Jess Duch / Advance-Titan

Students watch Kendrick Lamar's halftime show Sunday night.

by featuring another one of Drake's rivals in Williams.

Lamar's performance throughout the halftime show was nothing

short of brilliant, giving the audience an incredible halftime show that will be remembered for years to come.

## Opinion

# Touchdowns and facepalms

## The best and the worst Super Bowl commercials of 2025

By Vinnie Farchione  
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Millions of people gathered around their TVs Sunday to watch some of the most important programs broadcasted throughout the year: Super Bowl commercials. And this writer has decided to share his thoughts on them.

Upon reflection, I am unsure that this year delivered on anything that will prove to be truly iconic, but there are still plenty of commercials to talk about, so here are the best and worst Super Bowl commercials of 2025.

Firstly, commercials that I found to be the best came from Hellmann's Mayonnaise, Little Caesars, and Totino's.

The Hellmann's Mayonnaise ad was a spoof of an iconic scene from the 1989 film "When Harry Met Sally," and it starred Meg Ryan, Billy Crystal and ... Sydney Sweeney? As a fan of that movie, I thought this was amusing and fun although it felt that Hellmann's may have been concerned, they were focusing on too small of an audience because of the random appearance by Sweeney.

Little Caesars is another company that crafted a solid commercial this year with one that has Eugene

Levy eating a new product that is so good it makes his eyebrows fly right off his face. This commercial has a solid joke, given how large Levy's eyebrows are and is one that stuck with me.

The Totino's Pizza Rolls commercial might be my favorite of the bunch. The company hired comedian Tim Robinson to star in an advertisement that shows him, Sam Richardson and a group of teenagers watching an alien die. The reaction to this by Robinson is funny and fits perfectly with the style of humor he established on his Netflix show "I Think You Should Leave with Tim Robinson."

Next are the commercials that made me raise my eyebrows in suspicion and twist my face into disgust: the worst of the ads. These were the Mountain Dew commercial starring Seal, the Tubi nightmare and the Coffee Mate Cold Foam atrocity.

The Mountain Dew commercial features a seal, the animal, with the face of Seal the singer. After doing research, I was surprised to discover that some found this Mountain Dew commercial to be a hit, since it was almost harmful to my mental health. It may be my lack of knowledge on Seal (the



Jess Duch / Advance-Titan

A group of UWO students celebrate the Super Bowl LIX game together Sunday night.

artist, not the animal) but nothing about seeing his face placed onto an animal made me thirsty for a Baja Blast.

Tubi, a free streaming service, released an ad that followed a man with a hat-shaped head. Honestly, the ad just does not make much sense giving what is being sold. There is no comedy really in the premise either, there is something

simply too off about a flesh-colored hat.

Coffee Mate Cold Foam Creamer gave us a commercial that follows a tongue who, after licking up some of the product, began to dance and jump out of his mouth. This one was simply too weird to me, I did not really understand why anyone thought this would be appealing. Just an

odd approach to attracting customers that most certainly made many afraid of getting anywhere near that cold foam.

Advertisers paid an average of 8 million dollars for a 30-second ad spot during Super Bowl LIX. So, no matter how I felt about the six commercials mentioned above, at least they were memorable.



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