

The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUSES

VOL. 135, No. 15

FEB. 20, 2025

ADVANCETITAN.COM

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UWO restructuring to be completed by summer

By Josh Lehner
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UW Oshkosh is on pace to finish its academic restructuring plan by the summer as much of the work continues behind the scenes, UWO Provost Edwin Martini said.

The new academic structure divides UWO into six schools contained within three colleges: the College of Business, Media & Communication; the College

of Culture, Society & Education and the College of Nursing, Health Professions and STEM.

The university first announced its plan to redesign UWO's academic structure in February 2024, proposing two models to improve efficiency and save money.

One of the models won out later that semester, and by June, a proposal for the realignment was sent to the Board of Regents, who approved it on August 22, 2024.

Work to actualize the plan car-

ried on, and implementation of the new academic structure began in January with an effective date of July 1.

Martini said that a lot of the remodeling process has been occurring in the background.

"For the last little while, we've been in what I would characterize as quiet mode in terms of the public-facing stuff," he said. "There's been a tremendous amount of work going on behind the scenes."

Martini said that one of the big ongoing changes behind the scenes is the rebuilding of Titan-Web so that it reflects the new academic structure by the time students sign up for classes later this semester.

"It'll look the same for students," he said. "Students will sign up for classes just as they do now, but all the architecture on the back end has been re-engineered to reflect the new structure."

Another area of change, he said, is occurring in the Faculty Senate, where bylaws and policies are being reworked and crafted to reflect the upcoming changes.

Once they leave the senate, these changes get submitted to the Universities of Wisconsin's Office of General Counsel to ensure that all the relevant statutes and guidelines are being followed.

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Student arrested at bar

By Jacob Link
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The Oshkosh Police Department arrested a UW Oshkosh student for disorderly conduct and obstructing an officer after trying to enter the Underground Bar without any identification Feb. 7.

At around 11:30 p.m., Brayden Seabrooks, a freshman at UWO, allegedly called the bouncers at Underground derogatory names when he was not let into the bar and tried to punch a worker, but missed and fell to the ground due to high intoxication levels. Underground owner Kyle Faust responded to the incident by holding Seabrooks to the ground and waiting for law enforcement to arrive.

OPD officer Zachary Radde said in his police report that he was patrolling the campus bar area when he noticed Faust waving his arms to get the attention of law enforcement while pinning Seabrooks to the ground outside of Underground.

"Brayden [Seabrooks] had a strong odor of intoxicants coming from his person and when he spoke to me, was heavily slurring his words and making statements that weren't with reality," Radde said in the report. "Brayden stated something along the lines of he was looking for a girl who had broken his heart and was just trying to get into the bar to speak with her."

Officers said that they asked Seabrooks for identification, but he walked away from law enforcement even after OPD told him to stay where he was multiple times. Radde and other assisting officers secured Seabrooks' body to a wall, and he was put into handcuffs while calling law enforcement derogatory names.

Seabrooks was transported to the Winnebago County Jail where he did not make a pre-book and was uncooperative with jail deputies.



A lake sturgeon sits outside of Jerry's Bar in Oshkosh, one of 10 DNR registering stations around the Winnebago chain of lakes.

DNR reports increased sturgeon harvest

By Jacob Link
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With three days left of sturgeon spearing season on the Winnebago chain of lakes, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reported that there have already been over 200 more fish harvested than last year.

As of Feb. 18, 288 sturgeon have been speared on the Upriver Lakes (Butte des Morts, Winneconne and Poygan) while 396 have been harvested on Lake Winnebago. Last year, the entire Winnebago system saw 432 fish speared, which was the least amount of sturgeon speared since 2006.

The Upriver Lakes harvest is on pace to reach the cap before the 16-day season ends Feb. 23 after 41 out of the 70 possible juvenile fe-

males have been speared so far and 43 of the 80 possible females have been harvested. There are less than 50 males left that can be speared on the Upriver Lakes after the DNR reported that 204 of the possible 250 have been harvested. If one of the harvest caps is met, spearing on the Upriver Lakes would end before the season reached 16 days for the fourth time in the past five years.

The Lake Winnebago harvest is still a long way off from reaching the caps after the DNR reported that 65 of the 280 possible juvenile females have been harvested, 176 of the 717 females have been speared and 155 of the 1,002 males have been registered.

In the past week, the largest fish harvested was a 152-lb, 80-inch female speared by Jacob Thompson

on the Upriver Lakes Feb. 15.

The largest fish harvested this season was by Hayley Herzig, who harvested a 180.5-lb and 79.3-inch female sturgeon on opening day, the fourth-largest fish recorded on the Winnebago system. So far this season, there have been 42 fish speared that weigh over 100 lbs.

Once a spearer has successfully harvested a sturgeon, the tag on the carcass must be validated by tearing off the bottom portion and the fish must be brought to an official registering station where it must be registered by 2 p.m. on the day it was speared.

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.

Joann Fabrics to close

By Isaac Fischer
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Joann Fabrics, a popular craft store chain located at 1226 S. Koeller St. in Oshkosh, will close its doors later this year and is among 16 locations across the state to shut down after the company filed for bankruptcy last year. Nationally, 500 stores will close, leaving only 300 open.

While no closure date has been set, court documents first found by the Sheboygan Press have revealed that fixtures, furniture and other equipment can't be sold until April 19. However, sales started as early as this past weekend, according to an FAQ page on the company's website. Online shopping will remain available for customers.

Joann Fabrics filed for bankruptcy in March of 2024 after deciding to take the company private. However, they were not out of the woods, and previous rounds of closures quickly followed, as well as another declaration of bankruptcy last month. That release did not include any mention of closing stores in the state.

In a prepared statement, a Joann spokesperson said that the closures are due in part because of the ongoing Chapter 11 process — a type of bankruptcy allowing a debtor to reorganize its debt and continue operating — while trying to maximize the value of the business.

"This was a very difficult decision to make, given the major impact we know it will have on our team members, our customers and all of the communities we serve," the spokesperson said. "A careful analysis of store performance and future strategic fit for the company determined which stores should remain operating as usual at this time. Right-sizing our store footprint is a critical part of our efforts to ensure the best path forward for Joann."

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About the Newspaper
 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.

Correction Policy
 The Advance-Titan is committed to correcting errors of fact that appear in print or online. Messages regarding errors can be emailed to atitan@uwosh.edu.

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

Restructuring: New academic system on track

From Page 1

They're then sent back to the Faculty Senate to be voted on. Each individual college is also crafting its own internal bylaws.

Martini said this process is expected to be finished by April, and that all approval needed from the Board of Regents will come to pass by June.

UWO Professor Robert Wagoner, a member of the Faculty Senate, said that the senate is working to rewrite and re-compose policies and bylaws that codify the new academic structures.

He said that these changes made by the Faculty Senate include changing the names of positions, correcting inconsistencies and updating language.

In one instance, he said, one of the university's colleges required people up for review, such as a professor up for tenure or promotion, to submit some of their materials on a floppy disk.

"We took that out," he said. "The effort, which has been underway in various ways for the past few months ... is an effort to make ready all the necessary policies, rules, and procedures that will codify the structures, duties, expectations and procedures within the new colleges and schools that will replace [the current ones] in the summer."

Wagoner said that the Faculty Senate is largely focusing on foundational policies, such as the university-wide policy on tenure, renewal and promotion (RTP); the faculty constitution and each of the six new schools' bylaws and RTP policies.

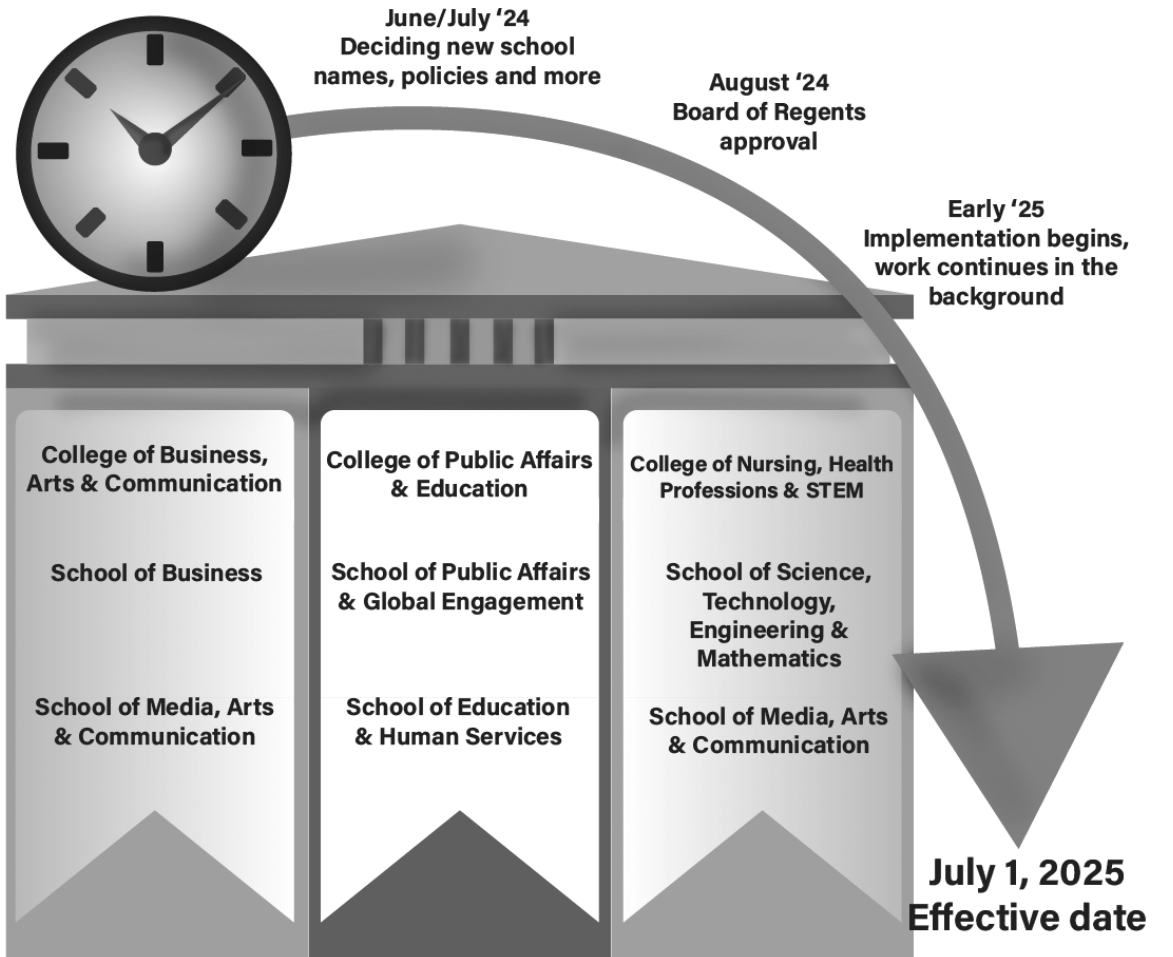
But changes are occurring outside of the Faculty Senate too, as administrators adapt to new roles and responsibilities.

Anne Stevens, the dean of the College of Letters and Science (COLS), will become the dean of the College of Nursing, Health Professions & STEM under the new academic structure.

She said collaboration has been a large priority for her and others involved in overhauling the university's academic structure.

"The guiding principle for putting programs into these interdisciplinary schools is to find ways to put things together that are similar — that have either similar curriculum so that they can share and reinforce and collaborate, or similar needs and requirements," she said.

In one example, she said that two classes in two different colleges utilized the exact same textbook.



Graphic by Josh Lehner

"[These classes are using] basically the same content, but they were two separate colleges that weren't ever collaborating with each other," she said.

She said that as COLS has grown, it has incorporated many health-related programs such as medical programs, laboratory science, radiologic science, sonography and kinesiology. These programs will all be moving into the School of Nursing & Health Professions, allowing for more collaboration with nursing.

"To have all the programs that are all health care and clinical together, I think there are new opportunities for partnership, for having stronger relationships with hospitals and healthcare providers," she said.

Stevens said that collaboration under the new academic structure can also help students discover their path at UWO if they're undecided or want or need to choose a different major.

"A large number of students who come in as pre-nursing don't get into nursing because they have high GPA thresholds, they don't have enough seats for all the students who want to be nurses, and currently, some of those students leave the university because they didn't get into nursing," she said. "But having

nursing and health professions together provides the students a chance to see what other possibilities there are. Maybe you didn't get into nursing, maybe nursing isn't for you ... so maybe radiologic science is better, or maybe you really love the lab and want to do laboratory science."

As programs are shifted into their new colleges, each of the deans will have new departments under their control. Stevens said she's looking forward to the changes to her college and working with new staff, faculty and students.

"We (the Deans) are all taking on some new programs," she said. "For me, the biggest change will be working with the School of Education and Human Services, which wasn't part of my responsibilities before. That's exciting for me. It'll be fun to get ... to work more closely with the school districts, with our educational partners and grow into that role."

She said that building around students and advertising UWO as the right place for prospective students is one of the keys toward rebuilding a reimagined "UWO 2.0."

"We really want to lean into [the message that] we're a great place that really supports students, that provides a lot of op-

portunities for students," she said. "There's new programs on the horizon, but to me, putting students at the center ... that's really part of the vision."

Martini said that the university will continue to focus on providing students with experiential and career-ready learning as it transitions toward UWO 2.0.

"When we think about UWO 2.0, we meant to signal — going back to August 2023 — that this was an inflection point for the university, that we we're willing to make really hard, serious, transformative choices that were going to put us on a path toward long-term viability and sustainability," he said. "Academic restructuring is absolutely a big part of that."

He also said that creating a financially responsible university is still a primary focus that feeds into a reimagined version of UWO.

"At the core of [UWO 2.0] is making sure we're fiscally sustainable, too," he said. "What we've been discussing in Madison ... is getting ourselves on that path to financial viability, and the signs there are looking good, and academic restructuring is a big part of that. We're still on track to save \$1.5 million in permanent savings just from the core restructuring itself."

Joann: Oshkosh closure

From Page 1

Joann Interim Chief Executive Officer Michael Prendergast said he wanted to thank all the dedicated customers and employees for they're years of service to the chains that are set to close in a message in January.

"We remain committed to continuing to support them and serving our customers — the sewists, quilters, crocheters, crafters and other creative enthusiasts we have served for more than 80 years — during the process," Prendergast said.

The company was founded in 1943, with a single storefront in Cleveland, Ohio, and later grew into a national chain. Formerly known as Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores, the company re-branded itself with the shortened "Joann" name for its 75th anniversary.

Currently, there are 23 Joann's locations across the state, however that number will soon decrease to seven. Locally, that includes the Appleton and Green Bay stores.

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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Location:

Time Community Theater
 445 N Main St, Oshkosh, WI

Experience the darkly comic and broadly accurate story of the man who inspired Alfred Hitchcock to create Psycho!

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

UWO lists campus DEI building for sale



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

(Left) The Center for Student Success and Belonging building, which the university is trying to sell. (Right) The Hub in Reeve Memorial Union, where the CSSB has moved in an effort to improve UWO's campus footprint.

By Anya Kelley
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UW Oshkosh has enlisted the help of UW System to sell the Campus Center for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, now called the Center for Student Success and Belonging (CSSB), building after moving its department into the Hub in Reeve Union.

The goal of the move is to update UWO's campus footprint, push the campus out toward the river and cut excess spending on older buildings.

"Despite its other limitations, it was always among the easternmost properties," Alex Hummel, the University chief

of staff, said. "We're not moving in that direction."

Expansion towards the river was motivated by the availability of land and the amount of student foot traffic in that direction.

In moving to Reeve, the Hub gives the CSSB a central location on campus. The old building was retrofitted with a wheelchair lift when UWO originally bought it, but the Executive Director of the CSSB, Byron Adams, said the relocation doesn't cause any loss of accessibility.

"I think part of the challenges and barriers we always had being located there was the physical location," Ad-

ams said. "... That trek from whether they're coming from the residence halls or from the academic buildings or even from the union."

Adams said the employees often felt isolated from campus, and the old building was too large for the operations that took place inside.

Aside from being central to campus, the CSSB is located on the first floor of Reeve near accessible bathrooms.

Shortly after the old building was listed, the Trump Administration announced they would be rolling back diversity, equity and inclusion efforts across America. There has also been pressure from

Wisconsin State Republicans to get rid of DEI efforts.

Adams said that at UWO, it's "business as usual," and Adams also said that the timing of the listing was purely coincidental. Last fall, the CSSB lost a few staff members in the layoffs, but there is no plan to scale back DEI efforts on campus.

"We were able to sustain the services and the staff after the layoffs," Adams said. "So the day to day doesn't look any different."

Adams said that the change of scenery should be seen as an upgrade. The Hub allows the CSSB to broaden its reach throughout campus.

"I think we're kind of transitioning into this new era with diversity, equity and inclusion work where we want to be encompassing and inclusive of everyone's needs," Adams said. "So whether that's in our religion or veteran status or accessibility, really broadening our scope and being in a location like this allows us to do that better."

To learn more about the CSSB's mission and access the full calendar of events, go to www.uwosh.edu/cssb/about/hub/.

AirVenture to host two B-29 Superfortresses

By Izaac Downie
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The only two working and flying Boeing B-29 Superfortresses in the world will once again join together at the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) AirVenture Oshkosh convention this year.

The aircrafts, named FIFI and Doc, will be on display in support of the 80-year anniversary of the end of World War II.

The B-29s have only made about a half-dozen appearances in public together with the first taking place in Oshkosh in 2017. Both Doc and FIFI appeared at last year's AirVenture, marking the third time both aircrafts have come to the city.

"As AirVenture is the world's largest annual gathering of warbirds, bringing these two iconic aircraft together is another of those 'only at Oshkosh' moments," EAA Vice President of Communities and Member Programs Rick Larsen said.

This year's AirVenture convention, the 72nd annual, takes place at Wittman Regional Airport July 21-27.

The current schedule shows both aircrafts spending time on display at EAA's Boeing Plaza for the event. FIFI will be showcased July 21-23 while Doc will take the stage July 24-27.

While FIFI is at the plaza, Doc will be at the Appleton International Airport for flight experiences and vice versa. On July 23, both FIFI and Doc will take to the skies together for a formation flight at AirVenture's night air show.

"These airplanes are big favorites wherever they appear separately, but together they will make the occasion even more unforgettable," Larsen said.

The Doc aircraft was built in 1944 and was part of a 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' squadron in upstate New York at Griffiss Air Force Base.

The B-29 was retired in 1956 and then served as a target for the Navy until a restoration group took possession of it in 2000. After 16 years and over 450,000 volunteer hours to restore it, Doc made its first after-restoration flight in 2016.

Now, Doc is owned and operated by a nonprofit based out of Wichita, Kansas, called



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

The Boeing B-29 Superfortress known as Doc is displayed at the Wittman Airport at AirVenture 2024.

Doc's Friends, Inc. Flight experience information for the plane in Oshkosh can be found at www.b29doc.com/rides/.

FIFI is owned and operated by the Commemorative Air Force's (CAF) B-29/B-24 Squadron based out of Dallas. Like Doc, FIFI was taken from the Navy at China Lake, Cali-

fornia where it was being used as target practice until the early 1970s.

The restored plane then flew for over 30 years until it was grounded to be restored again in 2006. After another renovation, this one taking place over four years, FIFI took to the skies again in 2010 and

now flies around the U.S. once again. More information about FIFI and flight experiences can be found at www.airpowersquadron.org/.

To get more information about EAA and this year's AirVenture event with tickets and camping, visit www.eaa.org/airventure.



Courtesy of Liz Smith

UWO head coach Brad Fischer speaks to his team during a timeout of a game in the 2020-21 season. Fischer became the team's all time winningest coach in the 2023-24 season.

Fischer ties Bo Ryan's 20-win season record

By Brayden Junkers
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UW Oshkosh women's Basketball coach Brad Fischer has tied the WIAC record for most 20-win seasons, a record currently held by Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame coach Bo Ryan.

Ryan, best known for coaching the University of Wisconsin men's basketball team, coached UW-Platteville's men's squad from 1985-1999 where he had 12 20-win seasons and 5 final four appearances with 4 national championships from 1987-1999.

Fischer, who has coached UWO since 2012, said that there's a reason why a women's basketball coach hasn't had 12 20-win seasons in the WIAC before.

"There's a lot of variables in Division III, you know, there's a lot of reasons and a lot of opportunities for players to step aside," Fischer said. "It's obviously not getting financially compensated to play so, they

all have goals in school and goals in life and for our girls, year after year, to stick with it to continue to get better and still love the Division III motto of being a student athlete and being great in the classroom [is great]."

According to Fischer, Ryan is the one of the best coaches in the state of Wisconsin. After all his high coaching accolades, Ryan was named WIAC coach of the year on six occasions, and was named National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Coach of the Year four times in Division III.

Ryan, who owned a 353-76 record with the Pioneers, won national championships in 1990-91, 1994-95, 1997-98 and 1998-99, leading D III with an 82.2 winning percentage by the time he left for UW-Milwaukee.

Ryan said the culture of his Platteville teams were amazing and that he took pride in winning.

"The team took pride in not letting the school down," Ryan said. "Mentally as a team we always had a chance."

Both Fischer and Ryan said they value their players' education and sometimes struggled to have a full team practice due to night classes, labs or student teaching.

"The toughest part [during the season] was the engineering labs that players had to go to," Ryan said. "We usually never had a practice with the whole team there because of engineering labs, but 90% of our players had a 3.0 or above on the ACT."

Fischer also said that his program is built in the classroom, and the team works around players' schedules in order to prepare for gameday.

"There are just so many ways that we can talk about our program that doesn't come down with the wins," Fischer said. "An extra bonus is that I can say we've got a 3.17 GPA and you know we don't have girls transfer out of our program. We also win too, so to be able to kind of check all those boxes on what's important for our program at our level you know,

'do you have great students, do you have great people,' and if you can answer yes to both of those, you've got everything you could hope for."

Fischer said that despite having to deal with different class schedules, similar to what Ryan had to deal with at Platteville, UWO has still been able to find success.

"It's actually pretty rare during the school year that we have everyone at practice between just random night classes, labs, and we had student teachers this year that were missing stuff and so it's pretty rare that for practices we have everyone," he said. "That's the way it is and you know we have that same conversation with recruits too like if you have to take a 4-5:30 class on Mondays and Wednesdays you just take it and we figure it out."

Both coaches also value summer workouts. Ryan said that during the summer he would set up a conditioning class for his athletes, which were pool workouts and agility

drills, so the athletes would be in shape heading into the following season.

"Every contest we went into we were the best in shape," Ryan said.

Fischer said he always wanted his players to stay connected and in touch with each other to keep the team close.

"When its time to work out in the summer, when you know, [the players are] not on campus with us, that's [a big focus]," he said. "At D-I basketball and even D-II, they usually stay on campus and practice together during the summer. Our girls have to go their separate ways, but they do their own thing so you can trust them to spend their off-season getting better and investing in our team. They can have a great balanced life but still be great at basketball and help us win year after year."

Fischer's squad is 21-2 and is in prime position to win the regular season WIAC championship for the second straight year.

Titans beat Stevens Point, fall to UW-La Crosse

By Nolan Andler
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The UW Oshkosh women's basketball team split its two games last week at UW-Stevens Point and UW-La Crosse. The No. 7 nationally ranked Titans (25-2, 10-2 WIAC) beat the Pointers (16-7, 6-6 WIAC) 60-40 Feb. 12 and fell to the Eagles (14-9, 6-6 WIAC) 56-64 in overtime Feb. 15.

Kayce Vaile led the Titans in the win, going 8-for-17 while scoring 19 points. The Titans never trailed in the game, as UWO broke open the contest right away. The Titans jumped out to a 14-4 lead to start the first quarter behind five points from Vaile.

The second quarter was the closest one all game. After UWO opened up the lead to 20-8. The Pointers went on a 14-3 run to close the Titans' lead down to 23-22. That was the closest UWSP would get as UWO ended the quarter on a 7-0 run. The Titans used the momentum from the first half to cruise to an easy second half and a 20-point win over the Pointers.

Kate Huml led the Titans in the defeat with 15 points with six of her points coming from the free-throw line. UWO had a lead as big as 37-14 in the third quarter but the Eagles just never went away. UWL was able to tie the game to send

it to overtime. The Eagles used a 14-6 run in overtime to get an 8-point upset win over the Titans. Despite the loss to La Crosse, Vaile scored five points to become the 24th member of the 1,000 point club in UWO history.

With the split week, UWO has a lot to play for this week. If the Titans win their game Feb. 18 against UW-Eau Claire, UWO will clinch a share of the WIAC championship. Then if the Titans followed that up with a win in the season finale against UW-Stout on Feb. 22, UWO would clinch the overall championship.



Courtesy of Jess Dutch / Advance Titan

UWO's Kayce Vaile tries to get around a UWRF defender in the game against the Falcons Feb. 8 at the Kolf Sports Center.



Scoreboard

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Women's Basketball

UWO - 60

UWSP - 40

Men's Basketball

UWSP - 76

UWO - 75

Friday, Feb. 14

Men's Track and Field

UWO - 5/7, 21 points

at Minnesota State Maverick Premier

Saturday, Feb. 15

Women's Track & Field

UWO - 6/10, 42 points

at UW-Whitewater Midwest Elite

Invitational

Men's Track & Field

UWO - 1/10, 122 points

at UW-Whitewater Midwest Elite

Invitational

Men's Wrestling

UWO - 6/6, 8.5 points

at WIAC Championship

Women's Gymnastics

UWW - 192.975 points

UWO - 190.275 points

Women's Basketball

UWL - 64

UWO - 56 (OT)

Men's Basketball

UWL - 75

UWO - 69

Wednesday, Feb. 19

Women's Basketball

UWEC - late

UWO - late

Men's Basketball

UWO - late

UWEC - late

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Feb. 20

Women's Swimming and Diving

at WIAC Championship

at Brown Deer at 1:45 p.m.

Men's Swimming and Diving

at WIAC Championship

at Brown Deer at 1:45 p.m.

Women's Gymnastics

at UW-Stout Triangular

at Menomonie 6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 21

Women's Swimming and Diving

at WIAC Championship

at Brown Deer at 10 a.m.

Men's Swimming and Diving

at WIAC Championship

at Brown Deer at 10 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 22

Women's Swimming and Diving

at WIAC Championship

at Brown Deer at 10 a.m.

Men's Swimming and Diving

at WIAC Championship

at Brown Deer at 10 a.m.

Women's Track & Field

at UW-Oshkosh Titan Challenge at 10 a.m.

Men's Track & Field

at UW-Oshkosh Titan Challenge at 10 a.m.

Softball

vs Concordia University

at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Women's Basketball

at UW-Stout at 3 p.m.

Men's Basketball

vs UW-Stout at 7 p.m.



Photos courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics

Josh Rivers (left) sets a new program record for long jump back in the spring of 2024. Davien Willems (right) sprints to the win in a 60-meter dash at the Kolf Sports Center.

Rivers, Willems to compete at USATF Championships

By Issac Pischer
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UW Oshkosh Long jumper Joshua Rivers and 60 meter dasher Davien Willems will have the chance to compete for a spot to vie for a ticket to Nanjing, China this weekend while participating in the 2025 USA Track and Field indoor championships, which are held in Staten Island, New York at the Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex.

Per the UW Oshkosh Athletics Website, the semi-final round of the 60-meter dash is set for 1:19 pm eastern time on Sunday and the final round is scheduled for 2:54 pm, while the long jump is set to begin at 1:36 pm on Sunday. All events will be streamed live on

NBC, and be available on demand.

On December 7, Rivers automatically qualified after breaking the Division III indoor record, with his 8.13 meter long jump at the UW Oshkosh Early Bird Open/Multi invite which was hosted at the Kolf Sports Center. The 2024 indoor and outdoor D-III long jump champion became the first D-III athlete to pass eight meters with the jump, which would have placed sixth at last summer's Olympics in Paris, fourth at the 2024 World Indoor Championship, and third at the 2024 NCAA D-I Indoor Championship.

According to Rivers, setting this record and being a two-time national champion shows a lot for the younger athletes.

"It shows a lot of younger athletes [who are] undecided about D-I, D-II, or D-III, that hey, you can do this at any division as long as you have the work ethic," Rivers said in an interview with Brehme Quidzinski, athletic department multimedia designer. "As long as you have a great program, people to surround you, a great staff. You can do anything your put your mind to. I feel blessed to show, and be an inspiration to younger athletes."

Willems raced in the 2024 U.S. Olympic Trials in June after securing NCAA D-III national runner up medals. He enters the championships with a new program record in the 60 meter dash. He reset his own record at

the Minnesota State Maverick Premier #1 last Friday, Feb. 14 with a 6.68-second finish in the preliminary round. The sprinter became the third DIII athlete to run a sub-6.70 in the event and owns the third-fastest time in DIII history.

While Rivers will be the sole D-III athlete at the event, joining Willems in the 60 meter will be UW-La Crosse's Oshkosh native Sam Blaskowski, who recently broke the D-III indoor record with a 6.62 meter jump, in addition to Bethel University's Landen Liu. Qualifying athletes will compete at the World Athletics Indoor Championship which will be held in Nanjing, China March 21-23.

Titans set two school records, win Midwest Elite Invitational

By Alex Berhardt
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While most of the UW Oshkosh men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Whitewater for the Midwest Elite Invitational, three Titans traveled to Mankato, Minnesota, Feb. 14 for the Maverick Premier, hosted by Minnesota State, and set two school records.

UWO's Davien Willems and Londyn Little both walked away with new school records. Willems ran 6.68 in the 60-meter dash, not only setting a school record, but also becoming No. 3 all-time in Division III history. Little set the school record in the 200-meter dash, running a 21.47. This moves Little to No. 2 in the nation at D-III this season.

At the Midwest Elite Invitational in Whitewater, the men's team came away with another win, scoring 122 points. On Friday, the weight throw was won by Gavin Fritsch with a throw of 19.11 meters. On Saturday, Caleb Wright claimed gold in the long jump with 7.10 meters. Christian Thompson won Oshkosh's third field event with 2.01 meters in the high jump.

On the track, Matthew Eiden claimed the first medal of the day for the Titans in the 400-me-



Courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics

Aden Sears (right) competes in the 60-meter hurdles earlier this season at the Kolf Sports Center.

ter dash where he took second in 50.21 seconds. Aden Sears and Daniel Wilson both medaled in the 60-meter hurdles. Sears finished in second with 8.06 seconds and Wilson took third in 8.25 seconds. Eddie Jones grabbed third place in the 60-meter dash, running 6.89 seconds. In the 200-meter dash, Dylan Gramley and Tray Jansen finished in second and third. Gramley ran 22.31 seconds and Jansen ran 22.39 seconds.

The UWO women's team fin-

ished in sixth place at the Midwest Elite Invitational with 42 points while Washington University in St. Louis (Missouri) won the meet with 175.5 points.

Oshkosh's Brenna Masloroff gave the Titans their first medal on Friday night, taking second in the weight throw with 18.27 meters. Masloroff came back on Saturday in the shot put, taking third with 13.24 meters. Continuing the Saturday action, Megan Hunt finished second in the long jump

with 5.89 meters. Hunt grabbed another medal, this time on the track, finishing third in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.14 seconds. Ella Galaszewski earned her first medal of the season, running a new personal best of 11:36.89 in the 3,000-meter run for third place.

UWO will compete in the UWO Titan Challenge Feb. 22, which is the final home meet of the indoor season.

UWO heads to NCWWC tourney

By Zach Bellin
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The UW Oshkosh women's wrestling team will be going to its first ever regional championship at Hyland Arena in St Charles, Missouri, Feb. 23.

Oshkosh will be competing in Region VI of the National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championships (NCWWC) against 10 other teams.

UWO is going into the regional finals with a record of 2-4, but the Titans' record does not matter for regionals. The regional championship is split into two days and four sessions.

Oshkosh's leaders for pins and wins are Annesley Day and Alivia Davey with six pins each and with 16 and 14 wins, respectively.

The first day will start at 10 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. The session will include the championship first round, championship second round and the first wrestle back. The second session of day one will start at 5 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. and will cover the championship quarterfinals, the second wrestleback and the third wrestleback. The second day and the third will start at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. The first session will include the championship semifinals and fourth wrestleback, the fifth wrestleback, the consolation semifinals and the 3rd/5th/7th Placing. Then the fourth and final session will be the championship finals.



Courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics

UWO's Matt Imig puts up a 3-pointer against UW-La Crosse in the Titans' 75-69 loss Saturday night at the Kolf Sports Center.

Men's basketball loses third straight

By Ethan Corey
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The UW Oshkosh men's basketball team was taken down by the No. 9 UW-La Crosse Eagles on Saturday night 75-69 at the Kolf Sports Center.

Oshkosh (12-11, 3-9 WIAC) shot well from beyond the arc as it connected on 9-of-22 (40.9%) 3-pointers to the Eagles' 12-of-32 (37.5%). Oshkosh also produced 12 steals to the Eagles' nine.

UWO was led by Carter Thomas, who scored 17 points and pulled down three rebounds. Matt Imig scored a career high 17 points on an efficient 6-of-11 from the field. Imig also recorded a career high in rebounds as he pulled down six boards; he also dished out five assists.

La Crosse jumped out to an 18-5 lead through the first seven minutes of play before Oshkosh responded with a 9-2 run over two-and-a-half minutes where it hit a trio of 3-pointers. Both

teams then scored eight points to put the score at 28-22 in favor of the Eagles with 6:42 left in the half and La Crosse with the lead. The Titans finished out the half with a 14-13 run to head into the locker room down 41-36.

The second half started with the Titans going on an 8-6 run to get within 3 points of the Eagles. La Crosse responded with a 10-5 run to extend its lead to 57-49 with 12 minutes to go. La Crosse surged again with another

10-5 run to go ahead by 13 points. Oshkosh then went on its own 15-8 run and cut down the deficit to 5 points multiple times, however the Eagles won by a 16-point advantage.

The Titans will head to UW-Eau Claire's Sonntag Event Center on Wednesday as they take on the Blugolds at 7 p.m. for their last road game of the regular season. The Titans lost their previous matchup this season 69-56 on Jan. 8.

Gymnastics falls for first time in two years

By Zach Bellin
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The top two teams in the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA), UW Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater clashed at Warhawks' Russell Arena Feb. 15, ending in a result of 192.975-190.275 in favor of the Warhawks, who handed the Titans their first loss since 2023.

Oshkosh had five top scorers in three separate events but when the scores for each event were totaled up, the team could only get a tie in the balance beam event. The Titans scored 46.675 on the vault, 47.425 on the uneven bars, 47.675 on the balance beam and 48.5 in the floor exercise.

On the balance beam, the Titans' Delaney Cienkus and Lydia Hayden tied for first with a score of 9.75 and Emma Steele followed up with a score of 9.725, placing third. Collectively the three helped the Titans get their only tie of the meet.

UWO's Mia Lucero and Re-

anna McGibboney were a part of a three-way tie for first place on the vault with UWW's Chloe Hammond, with both athletes scoring a 9.725. Amaya McConkay was the next highest placing Titan on the vault in eighth at 9.6.

Oshkosh's Zoe Krull stood alone at the top of the uneven bars leaderboard with a score of 9.775 and McGibboney had yet another top five finish at 9.675 points. Warhawk Elaine Copeland came in close second with a score of 9.75.

In the floor exercise, UWO's Jay Ratakowski claimed second with a 9.775, following Warhawk Kelsey Kollhoff who won the event after scoring a 9.800. Cienkus tied for third with a score of 9.750, and in McGibboney's third event of the day, she also found herself in a tie for fifth place with 9.725 points.

The Titans look to get back in the win column Feb. 20 as they compete in a triangular against No. 8 UW-Stout and No. 6 Winona State University in Menominee at 6 p.m.



Courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics

Oshkosh's Zoe Krull dismounts from the uneven bars in a meet earlier this season at the Kolf Sports Center.

Get involved on campus

Wicked showing, STEM trivia & educational opportunities

By Cassidy Johnson
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With the semester just starting off, now is the perfect time to join in on some upcoming campus events while you have the time.

Campus events are a great way for students to meet new people with similar (or not!) interests and those who participate in campus events are more likely to “feel more connected to the university, the campus, the people, and are more familiar with the resources the university provides,” according to Michigan State University.

MSU also said that involved students report higher levels of satisfaction with their overall college experience than uninvolved students.

Getting involved in campus events can also be a great way to boost emotional well-being, encourage social growth and interpersonal relationships, improve time-management and help students explore personal interests, according to Motilal Nehru Institute of Technology (MNIT) professor Arun Thakur, based out of Prayagraj, India.

Starting is sometimes the hardest part, so here are some previews of some upcoming campus events this month that you can check out as a way to dip your toes in campus events.

Wicked showing

First up, Reeve Union Board is hosting a “Wicked” showing of this Broadway-turned-box office musical on Friday, Mar. 21.

The event will start at 7 p.m. in Reeve 306, with the first 100 participants getting a free wand. Students can use this as an opportunity to

get complimentary mocktails and snacks, win prizes, do some crafts and meet fellow Wicked fans before the movie starts.

For those just looking to watch the movie for free, the “Wicked” movie showing will start at 8 p.m. in the room next door at Reeve 307.

If you’re wickedly obsessed, you can also join in on the faculty Wicked panel discussion this Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Reeve 212.

Game Over: Ending corporate America’s game of monopoly

Next up, the UW Oshkosh Center for Civic and Community Engagement and Sustainability Institute for Regional Transformations is hosting, “Game Over: Ending Corporate Agriculture’s Game of Monopoly,” an evening with Austin Frerick.

Sponsored by the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership, this eye-opening event will take place on Monday, Feb. 24 in Reeve 227, and will start at 6 p.m.

Frerick is an agricultural Yale fellow, activist and author of *Barons: Money, Power and the Corruption of America’s Food Industry*, a book exposing corporate greed and monopolies in the American food industry.

“[Frerick] will pull back the curtain to reveal how a handful of companies, led by massively powerful modern-day ‘Robber Barons,’ have managed to seize control of the food we eat — at the expense of independent farmers, consumers, and the environment,” according to the event description on Involvement.

Then, the event will give a voice to the farmers who are “actively taking control of their own livelihoods and empowering themselves



Vlad Plyaka / Advance-Titan

Last semester, Plyaka held the “Unissued Diplomas” exhibit in Reeve Union. Among other things, this exhibit will also be shown at his event, “Ukrainian Student Stories: 3 Years of Russia’s War in Ukraine.”

and others to challenge the status-quo.”

Women in STEM: Info & Trivia Night

Monday, Feb. 24 at 5:30 p.m. in Sage 1234, Women in STEM is hosting a “Info Night & Trivia Fun” event on

Here, you can test your knowledge on STEM and women in the space, learn more about the club and meet fellow women in STEM.

As the posting on Involvement says, “whether you’re a trivia pro or just here for the good vibes, this is the perfect chance to laugh, learn, and connect with an amazing community of women.”

Everyone is welcome, so feel free to stop by and check it out yourself, or bring a friend if you need a social buffer.

Ukrainian Student Stories: 3 Years of Russia’s War in Ukraine

Last but certainly not least is Ukrainian Student Stories: 3 Years of Russia’s War in Ukraine, which will honor and remember Ukrainian college students who died as a result of the Russia-Ukraine war.

The event is brought to reality by Vladyslav (Vlad) Plyaka, a UWO student from Ukraine, with the help of the UW-Oshkosh’s Center for Civic and Community Engagement, and is sponsored by the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership.

The event starts in the Reeve Union Ballroom on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 5 p.m., with free parking available in Lot #15.

The event was planned by Vlad’s friend Kostia, who died defending Ukraine in July 2024. There will be

a short video story about him and an exhibition of his pictures from the front line and outside.

Additionally, there will be two more video stories from Vlad and Iryna Levada, a sophomore at the UW-Eau Claire. They will share their experiences of Russia’s war in Ukraine.

The exhibit Unissued Diplomas, which honors 40 Ukrainian college students who lost their lives due to Russia’s war, is back as well.

At the end, there will be a reception and refreshments where you can meet Plyaka.

Whether you’re looking to unwind at the “Wicked” showing, looking for an eye-opening presentation or looking to try out a new club, UWO has these events and many more throughout the semester to cater to every kind of student.

Restaurant Review

Good Yolk brightens breakfast

By Vinnie Farchione
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Good Yolk Pancake and Cafe is a local Oshkosh restaurant that specializes in brunch, serving a wide variety of meals from S’mores Pancakes to Southwest Chicken Wraps.

When entering the restaurant, guests are greeted with a modern, but warm, interior aesthetic. The walls are painted with bright colors, and the big windows let in a lot of natural light that fills the room adding to the comfortable feel.

The employees are friendly and efficient, making sure to greet the hungry customers fast and make sure they get their food even faster.

There are many different options to eat, all priced reasonably so that your time is not too much

of a burden on the wallet. The portions are sizable as well. Three buttermilk pancakes are \$10 and that also comes with a side.

After ordering, the wait for the food was short.

I made sure to order a variety of breakfast items, getting something sweet and salty, in order to get a real taste for what the restaurant offers.

The sweet meal that I purchased were the strawberry banana waffles with a side of bacon. They were waffles topped with banana and strawberry sauce.

The waffles were light and fluffy and the fruit tasted fresh, pairing well with the waffles. The biggest problem with the meal was that there was too much of the strawberry sauce. It drowned almost every bite and it made the waffles soggy.

The bacon that they were paired

with was solid, pretty crispy and flavorful but a little too chewy for personally, someone who wants their bacon to be as crispy as possible.

The other dish that I ordered was the country fried steak, served with gravy with a side of hash browns, eggs and toast.

Though my opinion on country fried steak may not be the greatest since I’ve had very few, I found it to be flavorful and cooked excellently. My main problem with it was very similar to the waffles, it was drowned by the gravy.

I got my eggs sunny side up and had an excellent time dipping the toast into it, one of my favorite breakfast meals. The hash browns were my least favorite part of my meal as they were simply far too crunchy for my taste.

Overall, I had a very nice time exploring this restaurant for the



first time and would recommend taking a trip out to try one of their breakfast dishes, maybe one day I’ll have to come back for lunch.

Good Yolk is located 1009 W. 9th Ave., Oshkosh and is open every day from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 2:30 p.m., depending on the day.

UWO deserves an outdoor rink

By Jacob Link
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For some, hockey is synonymous with winter in Wisconsin, but the city of Oshkosh, the ninth largest city in the state, does not have a single public hockey rink.

Oshkosh has just one public skating rink, located at Menominee Park and Zoo, but the pond that the city uses is not large enough for hockey. Those interested in playing hockey for fun must either trek out the Oshkosh YMCA on 20th Avenue or play on Lake Winnebago. This would force students at UW Oshkosh to travel almost two miles to reach a pickup game of hockey.

At the YMCA, visitors who want to play hockey must pay for ice time. Currently, it costs \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members to play hockey on the ice. The YMCA also requires full pads and helmets for playing a friendly pickup game. According to newtohockey.com, a full set of new pads and a helmet cost between \$500 and \$1,000. This is a ridiculous price for anyone who just wants to play a casual game of hockey.

The Oshkosh YMCA requires hockey players to pay a fee to utilize the rink as well as wear full gear.

I don't know many people who play pickup hockey that have all the "required" equipment. For the

average outdoor hockey player, a stick, puck and skates are all that are needed. The YMCA does not rent out pads for users but rents skates for free to members and charges \$3 for non-members.

The other option for hockey lovers is to play on Lake Winnebago. This can be dangerous because the ice is not monitored by anyone and can crack or shift at any time. Ice conditions also vary from day to day and it's usually only early in the winter that you find the smooth ice without snow on top that makes for good skating. Plus, if there was a recent snowstorm, you'd need to shovel first.

One way to fix this is UWO should put up an outdoor skating rink on campus. There would be plenty of interest for hockey since most of the student body comes from Wisconsin and Minnesota, which is known as the "State of Hockey". It would also provide an opportunity for people not from the Midwest to learn about the cultural significance of hockey to the people of this area.

The cost of operating a hockey rink is not as steep as you would think. According to Pat Baye, recreation supervisor of the Green Bay Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, it costs \$3,545.28 to run one hockey rink over the winter season.

"We averaged 45 people per



A-T File Photo

The Oshkosh YMCA requires hockey players to pay a fee to utilize the rink as well as wear full gear.

night at each hockey rink [this season]," Baye said. "The length of the season varies greatly from year to year, depending on the overall temperature and sun."

The cost may look significant, but students would pay just over 23 cents each if the university divided its cost equally among the 15,209 students enrolled at UWO for the fall semester. The university al-

ready forces students to pay for the Student Recreation and Wellness Center as well as the Rec Plex in their bill each semester. If the university can raise its tuition every few years, it can afford to add 23 cents to the bill.

UWO has a field that, for as long as I have been here, has not been utilized. East Hall Park contains a flat, large open area that would be

perfect for a hockey rink. It would finally give the university a use for a park that is forgotten about. What is the point of the university owning land that they do not use?

UWO already has special facilities for basketball, soccer, tennis and lacrosse for students to use. It is time the university added a hockey rink to the mix.



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