

The Advance-Titan

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Dylan Przybylski / Advance-Titan

Donner Hall is one of three buildings, also including Webster Hall and Radford Hall, that will be demolished in the next year in a statewide project.

UWO to raze three buildings

By Jacob Link
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UW Oshkosh will see three of its buildings torn down over the course of the next year after the Wisconsin State Building Commission approved \$110.2 million in projects statewide Aug. 6.

One of the projects approved by Gov. Evers includes the demolition of UWO's Donner Hall, Webster Hall and Radford Hall, as well as buildings at UW-Platteville and UW-Parkside.

Kurt Leibold, the UWO executive director of buildings, risk and safety, said in an email to students that the demolition of the buildings is just part of many projects across campus.

"This work ... will help us reduce our overall building footprint and make way for a brand-new Health Services Clinic in Lincoln Hall," Leibold said. "The clinic should be ready for use next spring, while the demolition itself is scheduled for summer 2026."

The State Building Commission said in their report that the removal of the three buildings at UWO is necessary to make way for future development of the campus and to eliminate costly maintenance burdens.

Donner and Webster residence

halls were built in 1962 and 1957, respectively, while Radford Hall was built in 1952 and houses faculty offices for the English department and the Student Health Center.

According to the university, the first part of the project will be to renovate portions of Lincoln Hall, which houses the Children's Learning and Care Center, to create space for a new Student Health Center.

The project is expected to be completed by December 2026, when green spaces will be added to where the buildings currently sit.

State Rep. Lori Palmeri said that the demolitions are the first step to providing students access to new fully functional facilities.

"I was excited to see state funding of \$5.3 million going to UWO to improve infrastructure on our campus," Palmeri said.

Evers said that he was proud the commission was able to approve the projects to give essential upgrades to Universities of Wisconsin System campuses.

"I'm grateful to the commission for approving these projects and seeing the value in continuing to invest in the past, present and future of Wisconsin," Evers said. "I look forward to seeing firsthand the im-

pact these critical investments will have on communities and folks across our state."

Evers and the State Building Commission also approved a six million dollar project to repair and improve the Main Street Bridge in Oshkosh and improvements to the Oshkosh Correctional Institution.

Palmeri said that she is grateful that Evers is a strong believer in public infrastructure.

"The Main Street bridge is currently in working condition but has fallen behind over the years on full maintenance and is due for a large investment to insure a long lifespan ahead," Palmeri said. "Oshkosh Correctional Institution will also be receiving \$2.8 million to build a new wastewater screening station to ensure items that can cause damage to the City of Oshkosh's sewage treatment facility are removed."

Leibold said that the university has completed numerous projects over the summer including classroom furniture upgrades, the Blackhawk kitchen elevator replacement and the Scotty's Café renovation.

"In the meantime, several other projects are moving along nicely," Leibold said. "Repairs of the ma-

sonry façade on North Scott are nearly complete. Our Chemistry Stockroom Renovation bringing updated fume hoods, cabinetry and lab space will continue into the spring semester of 2026."

Leibold also said that improvements to the Arts & Communication building and above-ground pipes will continue throughout the fall semester.

"(We are) moving forward on the Steam & Condensate Utility Replacement, which will replace above-ground utility lines and steam pits," he said. "That work should go out to bid this winter, with construction starting in spring 2026. Yes, this means those pipes will be underground."

Leibold said that the university is assembling over 60 capital project requests for the future, and he said he wanted to thank students and staff for their support in the work the university is doing across campus.

"This fall, we'll be refining those proposals for review by the Chancellor and (the Universities of Wisconsin)," Leibold said. "Every project, big or small, brings us closer to a stronger, more vibrant learning environment for our students, faculty, staff and community."

University welcomes its new chancellor

By Josh Lehner
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UW Oshkosh students will be greeted by a new chancellor this fall as Manohar Singh has taken over the position from former chancellor Andrew Leavitt, who announced he'd be stepping down last October.

Singh, who was chosen unanimously by the Board of Regents, assumed the position on July 1.

He'll now oversee his first semester as chancellor amid the end of UWO's academic restructuring plan and continued development toward a redefined university. Part of this involves becoming better integrated with the surrounding community.

Singh, who has worked on the administrative side at many different universities, said that higher education has allowed him to do just that.

He said that as the dean of the School of Professional Studies at Humboldt State University, the president asked him to re-establish a program, which involved fundraising a \$10 million endowment.

"We collaborated with local hospitals, local insurance companies, ... local legislators from within the state of California," he said in an interview with the Advance-Titan in May. "Within six months, we were able to hit that target."

In an interview with the Oshkosh Northwestern, Singh said that the university should be a nexus for everyone and can help serve the various needs of the community.

"Whether you are doing scientific research to increase crop and dairy productivity for farmers or whether you are educating the students to serve as nurses for health care needs, we want to be known as a university that is an anchor institution in the community able to serve the emerging needs of the community because artificial intelligence is coming, and new technologies are coming," he said.

Singh also said that collaboration within the university is critical for success. When he joined Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), a survey rated the previous year's shared governance as a 3.6. After one year, that number increased to 6.9.

Turn to **Singh** / Page 2

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About the Newspaper
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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 sale representatives and more. Open to all majors and students on the UW Oshkosh campus.



Isaac Pischer / Advance-Titan

(Left) Pratt & Whitney’s rare 747SP test bed serves as a focal point to those entering Boeing Plaza during the 72nd annual EAA Airventure Oshkosh fly in. (Right) A Goodyear Blimp flies past the control tower at Wittman Regional Airport. During EAA Airventure, Wittman temporarily becomes the world’s busiest airport.

Record crowds propel EAA 2025

By Isaac Pischer
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The Experimental Aircraft Association’s annual AirVenture Oshkosh 2025 event was labeled by the group as a resounding success, drawing record-breaking crowds. This year’s “World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration” attracted nearly 705,000 attendees from over 94 countries, a new high, surpassing last year’s 686,000 participants. Notably, EAA hosted its first guest from Senegal. Many international visitors do not register, so the actual number is expected to be higher. EAA officials also reported that over 6,000 volunteers supported the event, which featured 2,500 show planes and a record 962 exhibitors. Of those attending, approximately 15,000 camped on-site, with 3,000 of them being aircraft campers. Volunteers contributed a total of 300,000 hours at the event. CEO and Chairman of the Board

for EAA, Jack Pelton, noted that both aviation enthusiasts and those with a casual interest attend the annual convention. “We’re really seeing a much broader family participation, so it’s moms, dads and the kids,” Pelton said. “And it gets me really, really excited about the future.” Despite some minor weather challenges, including a Thursday rainstorm, officials confirmed the event ran smoothly. Saturday night’s airshow drew one of the week’s largest crowds, and the EAA reported a 7% rise in warbird participation, with 361 ex-military aircraft taking part. Pelton stated that this year’s event truly embodied its theme. “Our theme of ‘One Week – Endless Possibilities’ certainly was true at Oshkosh in 2025,” Pelton said. “Whether it was aviation history or innovation or camaraderie, it was present in countless ways during the week. This year’s highlights and activities also set

the foundation for what’s to come in the world of flight, and that is perhaps the most exciting development of all.” Over 10,000 aircraft participated in the event, landing in Oshkosh and other nearby cities in east-central Wisconsin such as Fond du Lac and Appleton. During the 10-day period of special flight procedures, the control tower at Wittman Regional Airport managed 16,246 aircraft operations, which averages out to 108 takeoffs and landings per hour when the airport is open. In comparison, Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport saw approximately 101 operations per hour in June, making Wittman one of the busiest airports in the world during the event. This is particularly impressive given that Oshkosh’s airport is only open for approximately 10 hours a day, while other major airports operate around the clock. According to a new study conducted by UW Oshkosh, the event

annually generates \$257 million for the five counties in the Oshkosh region (Winnebago, Outagamie, Fond du Lac, Calumet and Brown). The Gathering, EAA Aviation Foundation’s annual event to support its aviation education programs, attracted more than 1,000 people and raised \$2.49 million, which will be focused on EAA’s year-round mission of growing participation in aviation. Planning is already well underway for AirVenture 2026, scheduled for July 20-26. According to Pelton, the opportunities for next year are endless. “There is never a shortage of ideas from EAA members, AirVenture attendees, our partners and from inside our own volunteer corps and staff,” Pelton said. “We’ll take a little time to enjoy this year’s accomplishments but will soon start planning for next year’s edition of The World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration.”

Singh: Looking at the future of UWO

From Page 1

“There has to be a goal, a vision, that everybody feels is their vision; it’s a shared vision,” he said. “Especially if you are in financial turmoil. ... The biggest thing is, the leader must be having a thoughtful blueprint in mind, which can be offered to faculty, staff, students, stakeholders, foundation board, Board of Regents, chancellor’s office.” UWO announced its \$18 million budget deficit two years ago and has been working toward remedying this, including the implementation of a new academic structure that’s expected to save the university \$1.5 million annually. Singh said he’s optimistic about the future of a revamped UWO and feels a passion for pushing the university forward. “During my interview process [for the chancellorship], I met around 200 people, including the external community to campus,” Singh said. “What I felt there was [that] the challenges have not destroyed the bonds that have formed over the years. The stress in the relationship is visible, but it is not a broken relationship.

UWO isn’t completely new to Singh. Nine years ago, he applied for a business dean position at the university. He said that during his visit nearly a decade ago, he met people from the area that impressed him with their warmth and dedication to UWO. “As an administrator, there’s no better place to go than a place that is roaring to go, and where the people are about themselves,” he said. “They’re selfless, they’re focused on the mission and they see their students as human beings.” A first generation college student himself, Singh’s college journey began at Panjab University in his native country of India, where he received a Master of Arts degree in economics with honors. He went on to receive a second Master of Arts in economics from the University of Waterloo in Canada. After this, he attended the University of Southern Illinois, Carbondale, where he received his Ph.D. in Finance and worked as a professor at various universities. On the administrative side of his career, Singh served as the dean of the College of Profes-



Josh Lehner / Advance-Titan

Manohar Singh, who became chancellor of UWO on July 1, speaks to students, faculty and staff during a candidates panel last semester.

sional Studies at Humboldt State University. After this, he became the dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Southern Connecticut State University. Prior to his chancellorship at UWO, Singh had served as the interim president of WCSU since August 2023, where he helped the institution navigate through financial and enrollment challenges, as well as leading the establishment of the School for Graduate, International and Career Studies.

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Getting in touch with Oshkosh’s history

By Josh Lehner
lehnerjo70@uwosh.edu

The history of Oshkosh flows throughout the city, and with it are the many features and activities it offers.

Oshkosh was once home to the Ho-Chunk Indians, who surrendered their land to the United States government in 1836. Webster Stanley, one of the area’s first white settlers, built his home in the area, followed by a trading post, a tavern and an inn. Settlers began flocking to the area, and soon enough, the first sawmills -- for which Oshkosh became famous -- began operating.

The Civil War and the expansion of railroads boosted Oshkosh’s lumber trade, giving the city its nickname “Sawdust City.” The town continued to flourish, but fires in 1874 and 1875 destroyed the original downtown. Still, many of the reconstructed buildings exist today.

Oshkosh’s history can be experienced through its many museums showcasing the diverse people who have called Oshkosh their home. Two of the museums are located within walking distance of campus.

The Oshkosh Public Museum

The Oshkosh Public Museum, 1331 Algoma Blvd., boasts more than 300,000 artifacts and archives in its collection, which includes both long-term and traveling exhibitions.

The museum displays more

than 70,000 historic photographs, as well as films, letters and diaries. It also features a wide array of programs and presentations throughout the year, the calendar for which is located at oshkoshmuseum.org/. Previews and more information on the museum’s exhibitions can be found on the website as well.

The museum’s shop also features unique items from local artisans.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except for major holidays.

Admission for adults is \$8, while seniors (62 and over) and college students with a student ID can get in for \$6. Admission for children (ages 4-17) is \$4, and children under 4 are free. Admission can be purchased at the museum.

Paine Art Center and Gardens

Located near the Oshkosh Public Museum, the Paine Art Center and Gardens, 1410 Algoma Blvd., sits at the heart of Oshkosh’s lore. Construction of the historic estate began in the 1920s as Oshkosh’s lumber business continued to expand.

The Paines didn’t build the house for themselves. Rather, they wanted the house to serve as a museum showcasing exquisite architecture, furnishings and art.

Construction of the house halted during the Great Depression

and didn’t resume until the mid-1940s. Nathan Paine died before the house was completed, but his wife, Jesse Paine, oversaw the house’s completion, opening it to the public in 1948.

The Paine website describes the estate’s style as a variety of “interior and exterior architectural features such as arches, doorways, columns, window panes and chimney stacks, [giving] it the appearance of being built over three centuries in evolving English styles. Much of the estate’s architecture, décor, artworks and landscaping derives from English country houses while utilizing and accentuating the natural resources and beauty of Wisconsin.”

The days and times of the Paine’s operation change throughout the year. To see when it’s available to the public, visit thepaine.org/plan-a-visit/.

Admission costs \$12 for adults and \$7 for youth ages 5-17. Paine members and children under 4 are admitted for free.

The EAA Aviation Museum

The Experimental Aircraft Association Aviation Museum, 3000 Poberezny Road, is an aeronautic enthusiast’s best friend. The museum features aircraft and memorabilia from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War and much more.

“Inside the museum is the entire story of personal flight,



Advance-Titan File Photo
The Paine Art Center holds exhibits all throughout the year, with many exhibits in their gardens throughout the summer and winter.

from the Wright Brothers to spaceflight, with nearly 100 aircraft on display,” EAA Director of Communications Dick Knapinski said. “Among the unique exhibitions are a full-size reproduction of SpaceShipOne, the world’s first successful civilian spacecraft, and a Vietnam War-veteran Huey helicopter.”

EAA also features a variety of special events throughout the year, though it’s best known for its annual airshow in July, which features over 10,000 personal, historical and military aircraft as well as aeronautical shows.

The museum is open Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission for adults (19 and over) is \$15, and admission for kids (18 and under) is \$12. Seniors (62 and over), veterans and active military personnel and their spouses can get in for \$13. Children 5 and under and EAA members are admitted for free.

View this story online at advancetitan.com to read about the The Military Veterans Museum.

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Volleyball looks to continue run of success

By Nolan Andler
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The UW Oshkosh women’s volleyball team heads into the 2025 season looking to continue its run of winning seasons.

The Titans won the WIAC regular season title and made the Elite Eight for the second consecutive season last year.

If the Titans want to continue that run this season, Coach Jon Ellmann knows that they will need younger players to step it up this season.

“We did indeed lose some amazing seniors that led in authentic and special ways,” Ellmann said. “Simply put, you can’t replace them. Nor would we want to.”

However, the Titans have a fair share of talent returning for the 2025 season, headlined by senior Izzy Coon and junior Sami Perlberg, who led the team in scoring last season. Meanwhile, Coon, who was second in assists last season, will now look to take over the reins offensively.

Despite who has left and who’s returning, Ellmann realizes that each player contributes in their own unique ways and he expects nothing different.

“Everyone on the team has some unique traits that are valuable to our success,” Ellmann said. “The excitement is really in the journey to cultivate leadership across the roster as we try to do every year.”

The Titans start the year ranked No. 6, according to the preseason American Volleyball Coaches Association rankings.

For the annual Marty Peterson Invitational (Sept. 5 and 6), which kicks off the team’s home slate, the Titans will host No. 11 Washington-St. Louis University (Missouri), No. 5 Emory College (Georgia), Marian University and No. 15 Claremont Mudd-Scripps (California). Almost all of these



Isaac Fischer / Advance-Titan

UWO’s Olivia Breunig (20) and Riley Kindt (11) go up to block a UW-Whitewater kill attempt in the WIAC Championship last year.

teams made the NCAA tournament last season.

The next weekend (Sept. 12 and 13), UWO hosts No. 3 Hope College (Michigan), No. 7 La Verne (California) and No. 20 University of Chicago.

Ellmann realizes it’s a great honor to play great teams and that it also prepares them for a tough WIAC schedule.

“To see some of the best programs in the country over the first few weeks of the season will help us prepare for WIAC play and will give us great insights as to where we need to focus,” he said.

Last season, Oshkosh won the WIAC title by one game with a 6-1 conference record. UWO and those four teams behind them in UW-Stevens Point, UW-Whitewater, UW-Eau Claire and UW-Platteville all made the NCAA tournament the past season.

Knowing that almost anyone in the conference is good enough to walk away with the WIAC title, Ellmann said he accepts the fact that it’s a challenge that the team is up for.

“We respect each and every team in the WIAC,” Ellmann

said.” We know that each year there are a multitude of teams that can come away with the regular and/or tournament title.” He also added that no matter who the team faces on any night, “The opponent can’t and won’t dictate our level of motivation and discipline.”

With the way the 2024 season ended for the Titans, Ellmann said he knows that he and the team are proud of the past year, but that 2025 is a new team and a refresh.

“I think those who are returning are proud of what we did

in 2024, however this is a new team and the goal remains the same: win a national championship,” Ellmann said. “We have some very high character, talented and driven additions to the team and when you combine that with the experience and leadership of our returners, the outcome can be very special.”

Oshkosh opens up its 2025 campaign at the Salisbury University Margie Knight Classic at Salisbury, Maryland, Aug. 29 and 30. UWO’s first game will be on Aug. 29 against Thiel College (Pennsylvania) at 4:30 p.m.

Women’s golf aims to cut up fairway in 2025

By Dylan Pryzbylski
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The UW Oshkosh women’s golf team will look to cut up the fairway for the 2025-26 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference after many golfers posted promising scores in 2024-25.

Head Coach Jeff Johnsen begins his second season with the Titan’s after a fourth-place finish at last year’s WIAC Championship. UWO’s highest placement since 2019-20.

The season started off with two third place finishes at Augustana College (Illinois) and Marian University before closing out the regular season with another third place finish at Millikin University (Illinois). In the spring season UWO started with a fourth place finish at UW-La Crosse and an eighth place finish at Gustavus Adolphus College (Minnesota). The team ended the spring season the same way the fall season started, back at Augustana College with a third place finish.

Oshkosh welcomes back five letter winners highlighted by senior Taryn Endres who finished a team high ninth at the WIAC Championship with a total of 244 strokes. Endres had a career best first place finish for the Titans at Millikan University with a score of 161.

Senior Hailey Matenaer finished 12th at the UW-La Crosse Spring Invite with a score of 88. Matenaer’s season best was at Augustana College where she finished sixth place with 159 total strokes.

Another returning senior, Sydney Bornhorst, finished 12th at Millikin University with a total score of 174. Bornhorst rounded out the season with a season best 10th place finish at Augustana with a total score of 163.

The Titans will open the season on Aug. 31 traveling to Rock Island, Illinois, at Highland Springs Golf Course. Oshkosh will have no home meets this season and will close out the fall campaign in Reedsburg for the WIAC Championship, hosted by UW-Stout.



Courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics

UWO’s Taryn Endres en route to her first career individual title at the two-day Dechert Classic in Decatur, Illinois, over the weekend.



Scoreboard
Upcoming Events

Friday, Aug. 29
Women's Tennis
at UW Whitewater at 2 p.m.

Women's Soccer
at Lewis & Clark College at 2 p.m.

Women's Volleyball
at Salisbury University Margie Knight Classic at 5:30 p.m.
against Thiel College (Pennsylvania)

Saturday, Aug. 30
Women's Tennis
at UW Whitewater Warhawk Invitational at 9 a.m.
against UW Whitewater

Women's Volleyball
at Salisbury University Margie Knight Classic at Noon ET.
against Penn State Altoona

at Salisbury University (Pennsylvania) at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 31
Women's Soccer
at Willamette University (Oregon) at 11 a.m. PT

Women's Golf
at Augustana College (Illinois) Highland Championship at 1 p.m.

Monday, Sep. 1
Women's Golf
at Augustana College (Illinois) Highland Championship at 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Sep. 2
Women's Tennis
at Lawrence University at 2 p.m.

Women's Volleyball
at St. Norbert College at 5 p.m.

vs Lakeland University at 7 p.m.

Friday, Sep. 5
Women's Golf
at Wisconsin Lutheran College Invitational at 11 a.m.

Women's Volleyball
at UW Oshkosh Marty Petersen Invitational

vs No. 11 Washington University in St. Louis (Missouri) at 2 p.m.

vs Claremont-Mudd Scripps (California) vs Emory University (Georgia) at 4:30 p.m.

vs Marian University at 7:00 p.m.

Women's Tennis
vs Ripon College at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sep. 6
Cross Country
at UW Oshkosh Alumni Meet
Men's at 9:15 a.m.
Women's at 10:00 a.m.

Women's Volleyball
vs No. 5 Emory University (Georgia) at 10 a.m.

Women's soccer kicks off Aug. 29

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh women's soccer team will look to improve off last season's 3-13-2 record when the 2025 campaign kicks off Aug. 29 on the road against Lewis & Clark College (Oregon) at noon.

The Titans finished seventh in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference last year after they went 2-5 in league play with a 3-2 win over UW-Stout and a 1-0 win against UW-River Falls. Oshkosh was outscored by their opponents 36-14 during the 2024 season and averaged 0.78 goals per game.

UWO head coach Erin Coppennoll returns to the helm of the Titans for her 21st season as the winningest coach in program history and third-winningest in WIAC history, with a 196-156-45 record. Coppennoll has led UWO to both of its regular season conference championships, all three of its WIAC Tournament titles and all five of its NCAA Tournament appearances.

The Titans welcome back 21 re-

turning letterwinners to the pitch this fall, including 2024 WIAC Kwik Trip Newcomer of the Year and All-WIAC First Team selection Ryley Meenk. Meenk started all 16 games she appeared in last season as a defender, recording one goal on four shots offensively.

Seniors Maris Heun, Gabby Born and Mallory Kerhin will all return for their final season for UWO. Heun and Born were the two top-scorers for the Titans last season with three goals apiece, and recorded eight and six points, respectively. Kerhin played seven games in goal for the Titans, finishing last season with a 0.731 save percentage and a 2.33 goals against average.

In the 2025 WIAC Women's Soccer Preseason Poll, head coaches and sports information directors league-wide selected three-time defending champion UW-La Crosse to win the conference title once again this season. UW-Plattville was voted to finish second, UW-Eau Claire was picked third, while UWO, which last won the league title in 2021, was selected to finish in seventh place for the second-straight year.



Courtesy of Jim Lund / UW-La Crosse Athletics
Jaden LeRoy takes a shot on goal against UW-La Crosse.

The Titans will play their first two matches of the year in Oregon against Lewis & Clark College (scheduled for Aug. 29 at noon) and Willamette University (scheduled for Aug. 31 at 9 a.m.), before traveling to St. Peter, Minnesota, to take on Gustavus Adolphus College.

UWO hosts its first match of the year Sept. 13 against Lake Forest College (Illinois) at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium, with

kickoff scheduled for 2 p.m. The Titans then welcome the College of St. Benedict (Minnesota) Sept. 14, followed by the third annual 151 Derby against the University of Dubuque (Iowa) Sept. 20 on the road at Oyen Field.

Oshkosh begins conference play on the road against UW-Eau Claire Oct. 4, and will close out the regular season at home against UW-River Falls Nov. 1 for senior day at 2 p.m.

OSHKOSH STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Want to serve and represent your fellow students and communities in university matters?

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is for YOU!

WHO ARE WE?

OSG is the student government that represents all students. We advocate for the best interests of the students at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. All students, regardless of their standing within the OSG, have the opportunity to serve as student representative on all of the many University Committees that exist, as well!

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

The OSG has many opportunities for students to serve on campus and have their voice and concerns heard:

The Executive - students elected or appointed to the Executive Board serve as the administrators of our services and programs, as well as being the main points of contact between the student body and university administrators.

The Senate - these two legislative bodies are made up of both elected and appointed students who represent various student communities around campus on all OSG and university business.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The OSG provides services to the student body, including:

•UWO Go

•Titan Discount Program

•The Cabinet (food pantry)

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Titans football seeks 12th WIAC title

By Zach Bellin
belliz88@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh football team aims to compete for the 2025 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title (WIAC) after the Titans’ fourth consecutive six win season with head coach Peter Jennings.

In the annual preseason WIAC poll, the Titans were predicted to place fifth in the conference. UWO also received votes in both the D3football.com and American Football Coaches Association preseason polls but fell short of cracking the nation’s top 25.

Last season, UWO finished with a record of 6-4 (4-3 WIAC) which put them in a fourth place tie with UW-Whitewater in the WIAC, behind UW-Platteville, UW-La Crosse, and UW-River Falls. They held the conference’s sixth best offense scoring 26.8 points per game, and the fifth best scoring defense allowing 26.1 points per game.

After the Titans picked up two impressive out of conference victories to start their season against Wheaton College (Illinois) and Linfield University (Oregon), UWO got clobbered by their final out of conference opponent Michigan Tech University and dropped its first WIAC game against nationally ranked UWW. The Titans went on to rally off four straight wins against conference op-

ponents UWL, UWP, UW-Stevens Point and UW-Eau Claire, then dropped the final two of the season.

UWO has 46 letterwinners including five previous All-WIAC selections that will be returning to the gridiron for the Titans this fall. Kyle Dietzen, a three time All-WIAC selection will lead the defense, as his teammate, Clayton Schwalbe, a two-time first team All-WIAC selection, catches passes for the offense.

With the departures of Trae Tetzlaff, the program’s career receptions leader and second most career receiving yard getter, as well as last year’s rushing yards leader Justice Lovelace, two huge holes open up in the offense. Look for returning running back Tristian Taylor to fill Lovelace’s void, as returning wide receivers Londyn Little and Jon Mathieu work to step up in the absence of Tetzlaff.

UWO’s 2025 season opens up against No. 16 Linfield University (Oregon) at Maxwell Field in McMinnville, Oregon on Sep. 6 at 1 p.m. PST. After that, the Titans will travel to Naperville, Illinois, to face off against the defending national champions No. 1 North Central College (Illinois), who are looking to protect a year-long winning streak. Out of conference play then wraps up with the Titans home opener against Roosevelt University (Illinois) on Sep. 20 at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium at 1 p.m.



Isaac Pischer / Advance-Titan
UWO’s Clayton Schwalbe looks for more yardage after completing a catch during the game versus UW-Stout at Titan Stadium Nov. 9, 2024.

Tennis looks to dethrone UWW’s dominance

By Zach Bellin
belliz88@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh women’s tennis team look to improve off its second straight fourth-place finish in the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC). After going 9-4 (3-3 WIAC) in the 2024-25 season, the Titans improved on their winning percentage from 2023-24, but met the same fate.

Head coach Steve Francour will be working with assistant coach Patrick Schwoerer for the second season together. Since returning to the program in 2022, Francour has helped the Titans accrue a 25-13 (8-9 WIAC) record, which by itself would be the program’s fifth winningest tenure by a head coach in its existence.

Last season started out at the UW-Whitewater Warhawk Invitational, where the Titans placed seventh out of the eight participating teams before bouncing back with two marginal victories against Lawrence University 6-1, and Ripon College, 7-0, at the UW Oshkosh Triangular. The Titans went on to drop two straight after that, losing to UW-La Crosse and Wartburg College (Iowa).

UWO bounced back strong again, with the team rattling off five straight victories two against WIAC opponents, to improve to 7-2 by early October. Ahead of the WIAC championship, the Titans finished out their season on a 2-2 stretch, beating UW-Stout and UW-Stevens Point while losing to UW-Whitewater and UW-Eau Claire. To round out the fall season, UWO placed

fifth at the 2024 WIAC Championship, while UWW collected their 18th straight WIAC title.

The Titans fell short of qualifying for the WIAC Team Tournament and NCAA Tournament in the spring half of the season, but did pick up a victory in their only match versus Wisconsin Lutheran College 5-2.

Ten letterwinners are returning from last season and will look to lead the team to a WIAC Championship this fall. The team’s two winningest singles competitors, Mana Usui and Olivia Pethan from last season, are amongst the returning athletes, as well as Usui’s doubles partner Kayla Gibbs, who held an overall .63 winning percentage in both forms of competition.

The two departees from last year’s squad are Alysa Pattee and




Courtesy of Steve Frommell / UWO Athletics
Mana Usui volleys the ball over the net against Marian last year.

Alessandra Rivera. Pattee went 8-5 in singles competition last year, ranking third on the team in wins, and was a part of the team’s winningest doubles duo pairing alongside Pethan, who went 8-4.

UWO and UWW will kick off

WIAC play and begin the season in Whitewater at the Warhawk Outdoor Tennis Courts Aug. 29 at 2 p.m. The Titans will appear at home for the first time Sept. 5 against Ripon College at the Kolf Sports Center Outdoor Tennis Courts.



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SCAN ME



Freshman year survival guide

10 things I wish I knew before my first year

By Cassidy Johnson
johnsonca51@uwosh.edu

Being a first year at any college can be incredibly daunting. It feels like being thrown into a foreign world without knowing any of its customs or rituals, and while learning these is a part of the college experience, I’m here to give you a bit of a leg up by telling you my top 10 things I wish I knew before starting college.

1. Introduce yourself to your neighbors

I am aware of how anxiety-inducing this proposition is, but the reward is far higher than the anxiety it conjures. I made the mistake of waiting until my second semester to do this, and always wish I had done it sooner. Not only is this a great way to make friends, but you’ll also be around these people for an entire year. You might as well get yourself acquainted. Not to mention they can be very helpful in those dire times when you need to borrow something or when you leave your Titan Card in the bathroom.

2. Don’t skip class

I know, I know. The idea that you can skip classes after years of being forbidden from doing so in high school is an enticing offer, but it’s also a very slippery slope. When you skip once, it makes it easier to skip again, and inversely harder to go back again. It’s okay to miss every once in a while if you’re feeling sick or if you just need a mental health day, but be careful not to make it into a habit. Even if you wake up late, still try and make it. You won’t get in trouble for getting to class late, just try not to make a habit out of that either. Besides, it’s actually less work to just go to class than trying to catch-up and find information on Canvas that was likely delivered in class by your professor. Beyond all of this, it’s also just a good way to make friends and get to know both your professors and classmates.

3. Save your money

It’s no great epiphany that college is expensive. For some, it’s their first time having to pay for food and shelter, but you can manage as long as you spend your money wisely. I know it’s easy to see your Titan Dollars as “free money,” but don’t forget that you paid for them as a part of your tuition. Try and use them on things like textbooks, school supplies, snacks and laundry instead of blowing it all on apparel or meals. Another thing you’ve paid for with your tuition are the many on-campus amenities, and taking advantage of these can help save you money. If you haven’t been able to afford a gym membership or mental health care, now is your opportunity to enjoy these services from the Counseling Center and the Student Recreation & Wellness Center.

You can also head down to



Courtesy of UWOPreCollege Flickr

A student at the UWOPreCollege Program this past summer gets help from one of the advisors.

the Career Closet in the Student Success Center for your four free items per semester, perfect for job interviews and career fairs. Those who live in the dorm also have access to loads of items that you can rent for free with your Titan Card from the front desk such as pans, whisks, tools, games and more. Some also have free entertainment like table tennis and pool tables.

Lastly, remember to get to the bookstore as soon as possible to get the best deals on textbooks. Otherwise, see if you can get your textbooks cheaper online on websites like Chegg.com or, if you’re lucky, for free in PDF format.

4. Get involved

You’ve probably heard this piece of advice a lot, but don’t ignore it like I did. Joining one of UW-Oshkosh’s many clubs and organizations is one of the best ways to meet people and find your community, and I wish I didn’t wait so long to get involved. I know it can be daunting, but going the first time is usually the hardest part. Just grab your roommate (or that neighbor you introduced yourself to) and at least just check it out. UWOPreCollege has dozens of clubs and organizations; you’re bound to find at least one that fits your interests. If you’re not quite ready to commit to a club or organization, you can also check out the many campus events such as craft nights, karaoke, BINGO, Titan Fest, Dinner on the Lawn and many more.

5. Know classroom etiquette

Okay. Time for a bit of a master-class on the correct classroom etiquette. There’s a lot of similarities, but college classrooms can also be pretty different from the

traditional high school classroom that you’re used to. First and foremost, you do not need to ask to go to the bathroom. I made that mistake my freshman year, and it was definitely embarrassing. You can just get up and go, no questions asked — unless you’re taking an exam, of course.

You should also try and refer to your professors by their correct title, both in-person and especially over email. Some professors are very lax about this, but they’ll normally let you know that in the first week or so. Otherwise, try and stick with calling them professor or Dr. if they have a Ph.D. Also make sure you’re using the correct grammar and formatting when emailing your professors by having a professional subject line, greeting and sign off and by separating your thoughts into paragraphs for easy reading. Short and sweet is usually the way to go.

6. Be safe

I know at this age we all think we’re invincible, but I assure you were not. In fact, being young and new to the city can make you more vulnerable, so prioritizing the safety of yourself and others is quite literally vital. Although we don’t live in New York City, dangers still exist here so make sure to buy yourself some pepper spray and other self-defense tools and employ things like the buddy system when you’re walking around at night. If you lost your friends or need to go somewhere alone, you can call the UW Oshkosh Police Department and a cop can escort you to your destination. If it’s farther than walking distance, you can also call UWOPreCollege for a free ride. Campus also has resources such as the blue lights that can

be found all around campus. Just press the button, and a member of the UWOPD will be there shortly.

7. Be smart about drinking

Being safe also includes being smart about drinking. I understand it’s called SloshKosh, but unfortunately it does not waive the law. There’s a way to enjoy it without getting in trouble or getting hurt. A common mistake many freshmen make is drinking so much their first semester that they barely scrape by or even fail their classes. Remember, you’re paying for these classes, so try and make the most of them. Another common mistake to avoid is getting a ticket for open intoxicants. This is a common offense where one has an open bottle of alcohol on public property. This is especially prevalent during Pub Crawl, and it can happen to those both above and below the drinking age.

8. Work hard, play hard

Another thing I wasn’t prepared for was the amount of discipline and resilience required to be a good student. It can be tough to adjust to, but as long as you try your best and ask questions, you should be fine. One vital lesson I learned in my first few years is the idea of doing things you don’t want to do. There will be a lot of times where you’re tired and simply don’t want to do your work, but you have to. In my experience, it’s best to just bite the bullet and at least just get started. Whenever I dread doing an assignment, I always just tell myself to at least start it. What I’ve found is that starting it is usually the hardest part, and after you get over that hump you’ll find yourself actually wanting to finish it.

The truth is, whether you like it or not, you’ll have to complete these assignments eventually, so you might as well make it easy on yourself and get a head start and avoid the anxiety that comes with procrastination. From experience, getting your stuff done also makes for a better night out so you don’t have your to-do list looming over your head. Wiz Khalifa’s motto “Work hard, play hard” describes this concept best. Working hard allows you to reward yourself with guilt-free fun.

9. Explore the city

Going along with the “Work hard, play hard” mentality, there’s lots of alcohol-free fun to be had downtown. Even during the day, employ the aforementioned buddy system and grab a few friends to explore the city of Oshkosh. There’s tons of fun shops and boutiques, even one owned by UWOPreCollege alumni called 01 Vintage perfect for cool and unique finds. Besides shopping, there’s lots of fun things to do like going to Fire Escape for some rainy-day pottery painting, 608 Axe Throwing for when you didn’t get the grade you wanted, Escape Oshkosh for a fun group excursion, summer and winter farmer’s markets and even art shows featuring local artists.

If none of these appeal to you, go ahead and explore Oshkosh yourself and see what you can find.

10. Finding your people

Last but not least, college is a great place to find your people. The social rules of high school are no longer an object, and you get your chance to find people you really vibe with. I’ve given you a few great ways to meet people such as getting involved, getting an on-campus job, and introducing yourself to your neighbors at both your dorm and in the classroom. If you’re lucky, you’ll find a group during orientation and stick with them all four years, but that’s not very realistic. I’ve heard of many people, including myself, who find a friend group their first semester that just doesn’t quite last. Don’t be discouraged if that happens to you; it just means your people are still out there. Regardless, making friends in your first year is still very important to help battle loneliness and especially because you often have to find a roommate for next year by the second semester. Even if you don’t have a friend group, you can find a roommate on Facebook by joining the Oshkosh 2029 Facebook group. Who knows, they might just end up being your best friend. My roommate is still friends with and still lives with his random roommate from freshman year, so I know it’s possible. Just don’t put too much pressure on yourself to find your people. If it’s meant to be, it’ll just happen.

What is Titan Underground?

Food, fun and festivities in Reeve Memorial Union

By Izaac Downie
downieiz@uwosh.edu

Titan Underground is a multi-purpose hub for students at UW-Oshkosh, conveniently located in the lower level of Reeve Memorial Union with many uses for its visitors.

Titan Underground has many different types of food available for customers, such as paninis, pizzas and a rotating soup of the day. They also serve various breakfast items available all day for students craving a late-night breakfast.

Students just looking for a quick bite to eat can also order finger foods like mac and cheese bites, cheese curds and chicken tenders.

Customers can use Titan Dollars, credit or debit cards, UWO gift cards or Ultimate Meals to pay at Titan Underground. They also have online ordering for pickup using Grubhub.

Aside from food and drink, Titan Underground also offers several leisure activities for students to utilize.

Students can gather their friends and enjoy various board games and puzzles, as well as



UW Oshkosh students pack into Titan Underground inside the Reeve Memorial Union to watch the Super Bowl earlier this year as part of a Reeve Union Board event.



Kelly Hueckman / Advance-Titan
Sharel Cassity performs with a jazz quartet in Titan Underground.

enjoy the pool tables and darts that are available to check out for free.

Many events throughout the school year are also hosted through Titan Underground. Students can come and be a part of events like trivia nights and karaoke nights on campus.

Checking the school's announcements through email is a great way to stay up-to-date on the different events taking place and to never miss out on the fun.

Students can also find Titan Underground to be a good place to do homework or to just relax outside of the dorms with friends.

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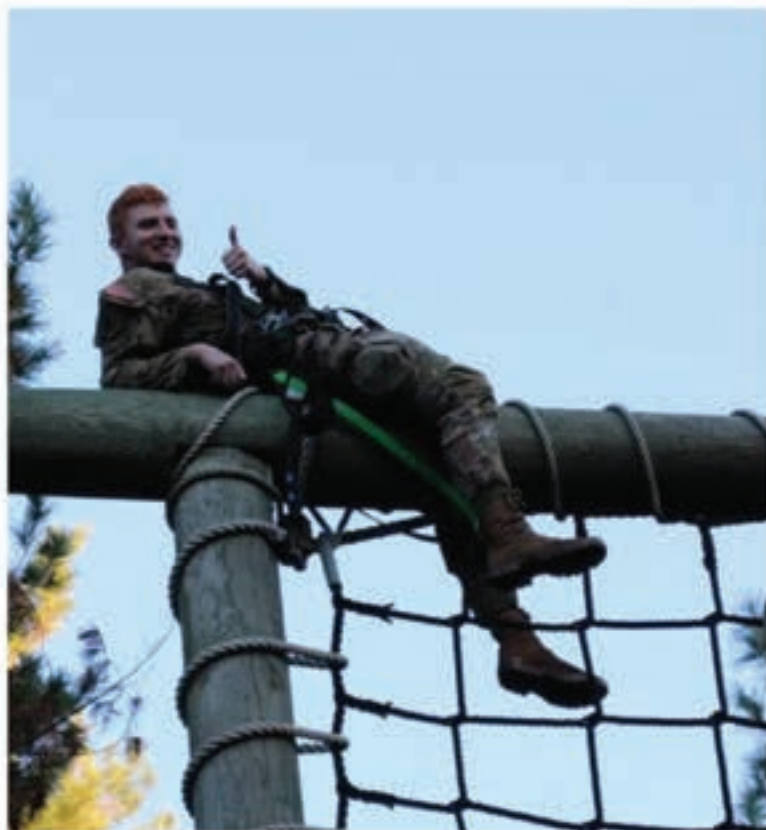


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How to start this year off strong

By Cassidy Johnson
johnsonca51@uwosh.edu

I know it's only the second week of classes, but the first few weeks of classes are actually the most vital in determining the rest of your academic year. You've probably heard it so much that the message has become static, but it's true: Once you fall behind, it's hard to catch up.

So, set yourself up for success this school year by working hard these first few weeks and starting the semester off strong with these tips. After all, it's only going to get harder and busier.

1. Take notes on your syllabus

The first tip I recommend is taking notes on your syllabus. I know syllabi can be boring, but make sure to at least skim through it and take notes on important information such as the attendance policy, office hours and the policy on late work.

It can also be helpful to jot down the grade distribution amongst assignments, essays and exams to help with prioritizing your work when it gets busy. I have this information on the first page of each and every one of my notebooks so it's easy to access whenever I need to reference a policy or any other course information.

2. Get organized

My second piece of advice is to get a planner or calendar and get organized. I personally prefer using a paper planner because I remember things better writing them down versus typing them. It also helps to be able to see my whole week planned out all at once.

You can also take the approach of my roommate, Sydney Antczak, and write your tasks down on a physical calendar. She prefers doing it this way because it allows her to see a whole month's schedule at a glance so she can better plan ahead.

"I also just like the pure satisfaction of physically crossing something off," Antczak said.

However, everyone's brain operates differently. If you prefer using an electronic planner, there's tons of awesome apps and websites you can use on your phone and/or laptop to help organize all of your to-do's. Some options include using the calendar app on your phone or apps like Minimalist. Both of these will send notifications



Antczak does her weekly planning. She has one large calendar for places and dates, and a smaller one for her assignments.

cations to ensure you won't miss a task or plan, and Minimalist even has widgets available to put on your home screen so you're always in the know.

I would also recommend writing any major assignments or exams down ahead of time. This reduces the chance of you missing important tasks, especially as the school year picks up and you have less time to devote to your planner. It also helps with planning the rest of your week and with prioritizing your work.

3. Ask for help

Another vital piece of advice is to utilize the many campus resources available to help you with your studies. UW-Oshkosh offers tutoring sessions via the Student Success Center in almost all subjects, and almost all professors have designated office hours that you can find on your syllabus.

Select subjects also have Supplemental Instruction sessions where you can review content from the week from a student who has already taken and passed the class successfully.

"I took advantage of the SI sessions for my U.S. History class freshman year, and it was very beneficial and even helped me pass the class," UWO student Jacob Kremer said.

SI provides a great opportunity to both recontextualize the information by going in-depth and providing more examples on some of the more confusing content. There's also an opportunity to further connect with some of your classmates if you're looking for a study buddy.

Don't forget that the school also offers the Counseling Center if you just need somebody to talk to about educational strains or any other mental strains in your life. You can also apply for accommodations for any learning disabilities you may have such as dyslexia, anxiety, ADHD and more.

4. Don't skip class!!!

I mentioned this before in my previous article, "Freshman survival guide: 10 tips and tricks," but I'm going to mention it again because it's that important. The

truth is, you're paying for your classes. You might as well get everything you can out of the class. Obviously, mental and physical health are also a big priority, so don't go at the expense of your well-being.

At the same time, you should save your absences for those days instead of skipping just because you "don't feel like it." Skipping is also more work in general as you have to both only figure out what you missed and teach yourself the content you missed from class. I also find that the guilt I get from skipping class inhibits me from being productive the rest of the day. It's a pretty rough cycle. At this point, I'm pretty much an expert at forcing myself to go to class even when I don't want to, and I can confidently say that I have never regretted going.

5. Don't overdo the drinking

Last but not least, remember not to overdo it with the drinking. I know there's lady's night on Wednesdays, karaoke on Thursdays and, of course, you have to go out Friday and Saturday...

except that you don't. It's fine to go every once in a while, but like skipping class, drinking can be a slippery slope.

Not only can this have detrimental effects on your education, but also on your relationships and physical health. Drinking four times a week consistently can also promote alcoholism. According to NPR, excessive drinking is defined as fifteen or more drinks a week for men, and 8 or more drinks a week for women. I understand that college, and especially UWO, is known for its excessive drinking, but remember what you're paying tuition for: an education. Don't be afraid to have fun and let loose after a hard week, but just be careful to make sure it doesn't hinder your education.

It's no secret that college can be hard, but using these tips can make a big difference. It can be a tough transition, especially compared to the more leisurely summer routine.

Honestly, I struggle with the transition too, but I know it'll get easier once I get into a routine.

Get involved with intramural sports

By Izaac Downie
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UW Oshkosh offers many different intramural sports for students on campus looking to stay active and engage in competition without the commitment and pressure of being on one of the university's athletic teams.

Some of the sports that the university offers during both the fall and spring semesters include flag football, basketball, pickleball and volleyball. Several sports

may only be available during either the fall or spring semesters.

Other intramural sports that UWO has offered in the past include a rock climbing league, as well as dodgeball and table tennis competitions, so the lineup of sports offered is always changing for students interested in participating.

Many of these sports contain different leagues to attract students wanting different levels of competition. Sports like volleyball and basketball have

had women-only and men-only leagues, as well as coed leagues to better meet students' preferences. Many sports also offer recreational and competitive leagues for students to choose from, depending on their play style.

The university uses an online service called IMLeagues to sign up and check out different intramural sports that are currently available. From there, students can sign up as a team for a certain league that they want to participate in.

Even if a student doesn't have a team in mind, they can still sign up for a league they want to join. IMLeagues will put that student down as a free agent, where other teams that still need players can recruit students to join their team.

These different leagues are meant to be fun and not a huge time commitment. For many of the sports, students will compete only once a week. Leagues also do not run very long, with a majority of the sports only taking

place for about a month.

Joining an intramural sport is also a great way to be more connected on campus and meet new people.



A guide to healthy eating on campus

By Anya Kelley
kelleyan55@uwosh.edu

Nutrition is much more complicated than you might think, and coming to college with no knowledge on how to eat healthy makes it even harder. UW Oshkosh has a plethora of amazing resources available for those trying to get a handle on their eating habits.

Get in contact with our on-site registered dietitian

Carese Walczyk is UWO’s registered dietitian. She uses a whole picture approach to nutrition to help students find the best nutrition options to fit their needs. Whether you’re looking to get healthy recipe ideas or heal a bad relationship with food, Carese is your girl.

She offers one-on-one nutrition counseling, sports performance consultations, allergen and specialty diet support and more.

If you’re interested in setting up an appointment with Carese, email diningdietitian@uwosh.edu.



Anya Kelley / Advance-Titan

Despite rising food prices due to inflation, UWO plans to keep meal plan rates stagnant while providing healthy options for students.

Use BeWell

BeWell is a program that was created by Aladdin Campus Dining. BeWell makes it easier to choose well when you’re making your plate. It combines nutrition science and trendy recipes to help support healthy diet choices.

Any time you see a blueberry symbol next to the food being

served, it means it qualifies as a BeWell offering. To qualify, foods must contain at least three of the five BeWell categories: contain a plant-based, whole food(s), contain a healthy fat, contain a lean protein or plant-based protein, have limited add-

ed sugar, and contain a high fiber food or probiotic food.

To learn more about the BeWell program, visit uwoshkosh-campus-dining.com/bewell/.


Check out the online menu feature

Using the online menus, you can see everything being offered at all of the dining spots on campus. The online menu breaks down the calorie count, macronutrients, allergens and diet category to make it easy for you to craft your perfect meal.

You can even use the build-your-

own feature to check out what’s really going into your salad or sandwich.

The online menu feature is a great way to plan your meals before you go. To access the online menu, visit menus-campus-dining.eliorna/e1586.



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Best thrifts of Oshkosh

By Madison Hull
hullm39@uwosh.edu

The thrill of hunting for cute and good-priced clothing is unmatched and incomparable to a chain clothing store. With inflation rising, normal clothing store’s prices seem too high to buy from. However, where are the best places for young people to update their wardrobe for cheap in Oshkosh?

01 Vintage

01 Vintage is a vintage clothing store offering apparel and hats from the 1970s through the 2000s. However, it is geared mostly to a masculine/unisex crowd and has a very small feminine attire rack. Being that it is a vintage store, the prices appeared to be a little high for my taste.

The collection includes vintage men’s shirts, sweatshirts, sports jerseys, jackets and baseball hats. Their window display was of vintage items such as a 1950s Barbie case, 80s New Balance and Nike shoes and vintage lunch boxes. This store is not my thing and I most likely never find anything to wear.

However, I understand that it is not my kind of store and I can see why people flock to this place. I have never seen a men’s-focused vintage store geared towards college students. They cater to a niche audience of young people looking for gender neutral clothes that you really cannot find anywhere else.



Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan

01 Vintage at 415 N Main St. in downtown Oshkosh is owned by two former UWO students.

The Turquoise Door

The Turquoise Door is right down the street from 01 Vintage and offers both designer and non-designer women’s shoes, clothes, purses and home décor. However, it’s a luxury consignment store, so keep that in mind when looking at the prices. They carry designer bags such as Coach, Vera Bradley, Kate Spade and vintage leather bags. However, Coach bags are at a better price than they would be at the outlet mall.

There is also a rack by the cash register of Lululemon Athletic and Athleta workout clothes and a rack of expensive brands such as Anthropologie and Free People. However, there was a lack of variety in any size larger than a small. They also buy clothes from sellers, however I have not done this. Compared to past experiences (hem hem Plato’s Closet), I would be wary of trying to make a ton of money trying to sell clothes.

One problem I noticed was the lack of variety in large-size clothing and no plus sizes to be found. There was plenty of selection from sizes 0-6, but good luck trying to find jeans like Levi’s or Abercrombie and Fitch. The rack for tops did not go past an XL and I would feel extremely frustrated if I needed a size from XXL-3X. However, they do carry jean sizes from 14-22. All in all, it’s a nice place to shop but leans on the price-



Fabulous Finds



The Turquoise Door

Works lotions and perfumes for sale. Overall, not much is going on here. They did have a better selection of plus-size clothes, which is always a bonus. It’s a nice store, but there’s not much to look at, which is fine.

All in all, Oshkosh has nice places to hunt the perfect vintage item and shop for designer bags at a reasonable price. Come visit Main Street and help support local businesses, they will be glad that you did.



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Student housing lookbook

By Cassidy Johnson and Suzanne Dawood
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Most college students spend the majority of their time in classes, extracurricular activities, clubs, dining halls, and more in an attempt to succeed at and receive an education, but now we get the chance to see where some students go at the end of the day when their work is all done.

Many buildings are integral to a student’s success in college, but perhaps the most vital in their journey is where they live and rest.

According to The Hippocratic Post and BedHut, having an aesthetically pleasing room can reduce stress and improve mood, sleep quality, focus and motivation.

Many college students, however, are in this unique position where they need a good space more than ever, but lack the funds to create one, or at least so they think.

Hearing from real-life college students both on and off campus, you can see (and hear) what life hacks other students are doing to make the best out of their living situation, and to make their place feel a little more like home.

Madison Wright

First up is Madison Wright, a senior majoring in African American studies who has lived in Fletcher Hall on campus since she was a sophomore.

“I love the amenities here. The huge elevator we have, the ice machine in the basement, the study rooms,” Wright said. “I love the fact that we have a kitchen full-size with fridge, microwave [and] oven on each floor.”

Another reason Wright enjoys Fletcher Hall is because of their modular furniture.

“Since I bought out the whole room, I get to use both sides [of the modular furniture], it’s very easy to unhook and hook stuff to move it, the cubbies, the desk, the bed itself, all you really need is one person [to move it].”

One of the main ways she likes to stay organized is by using the cubbies provided in the modular furniture.

“I love to stay organized with my cubbies. I try to personalize them as much as possible, and so I try to keep a good blend [of items] so I can easily grab and put stuff back.”

Wright also likes to stay orga-



Photos by Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan

Rylee Allen is an Art major living in Horizon Village. She decorated her room with lots of art projects from her classes.

nized by adding invisible command hooks to the side of her bed to help keep electronic cords organized, untangled and accessible.

While Wright enjoys how organized her dorm is, she says “My favorite part of my room I [would] have to say is my bed. My bed, like we previously discussed [is] a buyout, so what I’ve done is combined both [beds], and now it’s a queen-sized bed.”

Beyond the comfort it brings, her bed is also a favorite decoration with what she calls her “rose-and-thorn bungalow”, which is a rose garland from Amazon that she wrapped around her headboard pictured below.

Matching the rose garland on her bed, Wright also has “my cute vase of flowers that I keep by the windowsill” on top of the build-in counters by the window.

Wright has also decorated her dorm with a variety of posters on her wall depicting a variety of important black historical figures alongside inspirational quotes to keep her motivated.

“Since I’m an African-American [studies] minor, I like to keep a little bit of representation, a little bit of quot-age (?) that serves as not only a reminder, but cute decor,” Wright said.

Dylan Ruebl

Dylan Ruebl is a Junior studying Psychology who has been living in a house on Scott Ave for two years that he shares with four other people.

“It can get a little hectic living with a lot of people, but it’s nice

being able to just walk a few feet to talk to someone.”

Ruebl’s favorite part about his dorm is his bed as well, a sentiment he seems to share with some other college students.

However, he says his favorite part overall is “the vibe. The decorations, the way it’s laid out, everything. It makes me feel cozy,” Ruebl said.

One decoration that really helps create this vibe is the vines he has hanging across the north side of his room above his bed.

The vines [are my favorite decoration] because it makes me feel like I’m outdoors and adds a touch of nature and greenery to my room,” Ruebl said.

Perhaps his most meaningful decoration, however, is a nostalgic memento from his sister.

“[It’s] a ‘hear no evil’ monkey I got from my sister for Christmas last year. She got it for me and my high anxiety as a reminder to not listen to what others have to say.”

Rylee Allen

Another student living in the dorms is Rylee Allen, a junior and Art major living in Horizon Village.

“Living on your own in horizon can definitely be very isolating, but it’s really nice to have the extra space,” Allen said.

Allen originally shared a two-bedroom suite with her roommate, but now has the whole place to herself, complete with her own personal living space, one and a half bathrooms, a kitchen, and of course, her bedroom.

“My favorite thing about my room would probably be the ocean vibe, and having the opportunity to decorate the entire room with my style instead of sharing a theme or splitting the space with someone else,” Allen said. “I also really like that others feel welcome and comfortable to visit because of the space and vibe it gives off.”

Allen carries this ocean vibe over to her living room, lining the wall with pieces of her own artwork all with a similar blue theme.

“Once my roommate moved out I just carried the theme all over as much as I could.”

While the ocean vibe may be her favorite part of her space, her favorite decoration is a pink flag that says “University of You Dad” for far more sentimental reasons than you may think.

“My roommate last year and I started having everyone who visits sign it once they’ve been to the room, and the tradition has carried on into this year,” she said. It’s [my] most unique and interactive decoration, which also acts as a guest book of all [of] those we’ve met.”

That isn’t the only sentimental think Allen likes to keep in her space, however.

“I’ve got a lot of random little things that I’d consider sentimental,” she said.

“There’s gifts from my sisters all over, family and friend pictures hung up, jewelry from travel hung up, and other objects for important people, places, and events scattered around.”

Ian Brohem

Ian Brohem, a sophomore studying psychology, shares his ideal lookbook for his home located on John Ave.

Previously living in Fletcher Hall, he decided to move into a house with a few friends for his sophomore year.

“When I got there I just kinda winged it, bought decorations as we went along. I definitely slowly accumulated things.”

With a small space as a dorm, or room, Ian shares his tips on how he keeps his belongings organized.

“I always try to put things away when I’m done with them.” Ian says. “Everything has a place.”


As his room remains mostly clean, he mentions that this allows for him to see one of his favorite pieces in his room, his iconic green fuzzy rug that brings in the color of his room.

“My favorite decoration in my room would probably either be my rug, or PC setup,” he says.

As Ian continues the semester in his home, he shares his excitement to move back into the dorms for his Junior year.

“I got offered a position to be a CA [community assistant] next year, and I do have a plan for that dorm, and trust it’s gonna be amazing.”

Ian mentions that he’s made memories whether living in his home, or his dorm. Memories are made wherever you go, and he says that a home is able to be made anywhere.






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