

# The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUSES

VOL. 136, No. 3

SEPT. 18, 2025

ADVANCETITAN.COM

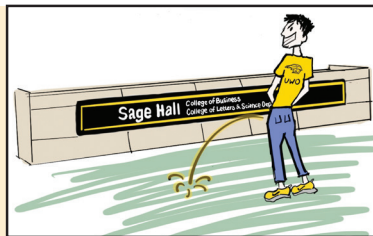
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UWO wins two matches at invitational



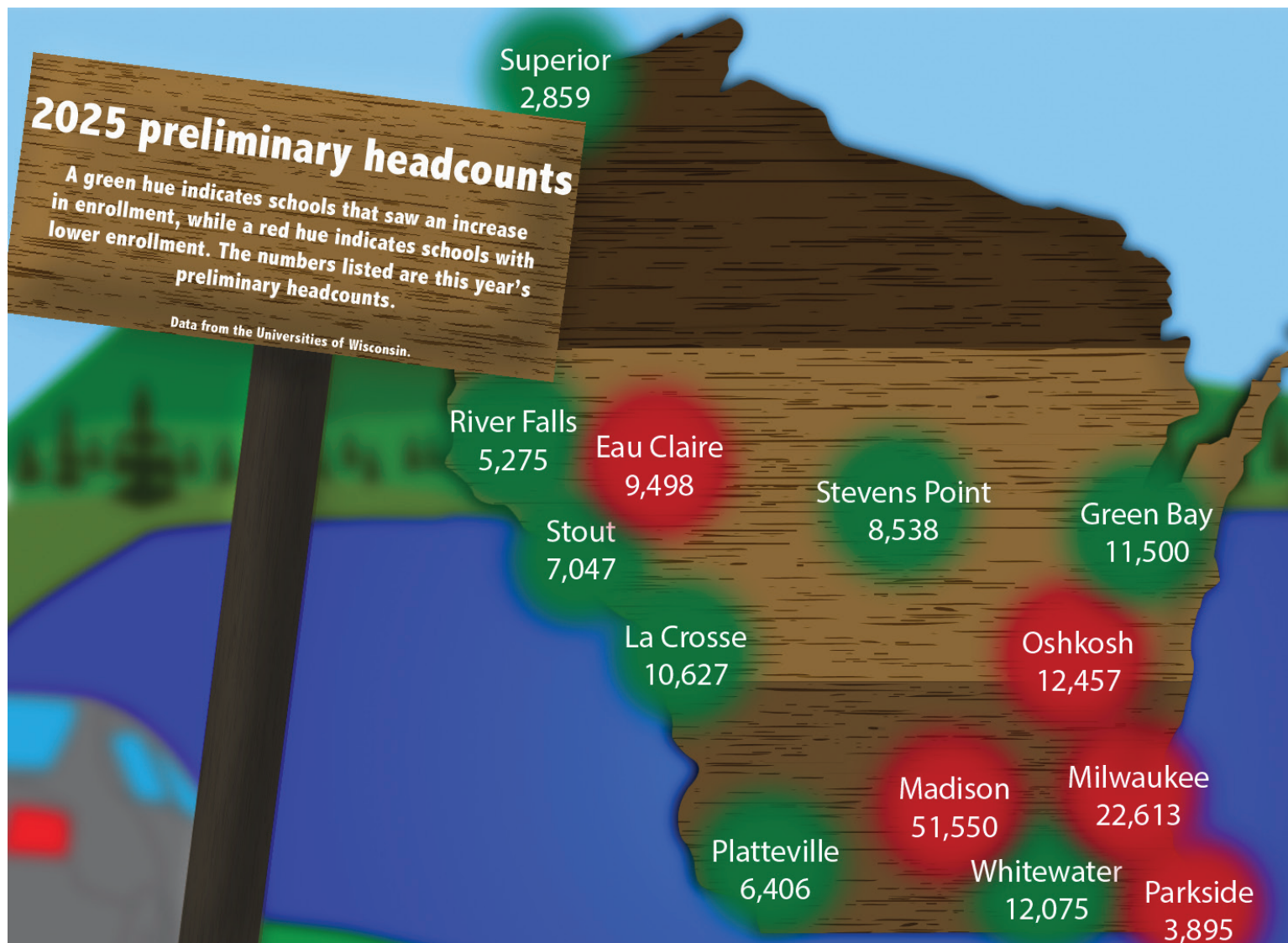
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Reactions to Kirk assassination



Graphic by Josh Lehner

## Delivery driver found guilty

By El Galster  
galsterel43@uwosh.edu

A pizza delivery driver charged in connection with a fatal hit-and-run in 2024 has been found guilty.

On Jan. 10, 2024, Oshkosh police received a 911 call reporting a hit-and-run on Ohio Street and West Third Avenue around 6:30 p.m. The caller reported that the 38-year-old male victim was in critical condition and that the van that caused the collision had fled the scene without slowing down. The victim died at the accident and has not yet been publicly identified.

The van was identified as belonging to Mark Radley, a 61-year-old pizza driver who was on the clock at the time. His van was tracked to his place of work and was observed to have severe damage to the front of the vehicle. Police reviewed security footage and noted that at 6:40 p.m., Radley pulled back into the pizza shop's parking lot, stepped out to observe the damage, shrugged and then re-entered the establishment.

According to the criminal complaint, when officers questioned Radley about what had happened to his van, he responded, "Did I hit something?" He claimed to have no recollection of the event's details, only that he had felt a "small jolt" in the car near Ohio Street.

"Just kept going, I guess, didn't know what it was," Radley said in the criminal complaint.

Radley was booked into the Winnebago County Jail with a single felony count of a hit-and-run causing death. At the time of his arrest, Radley pleaded no contest and argued that he was not competent to stand trial. On Feb. 12, 2025, the court ruled that he had been found competent to stand trial.

Radley, who faces a maximum sentence of 25 years in prison, will return to court for his sentencing date on Nov. 21.

## Enrollment continues to drop

### University sees 3.9% decline in system first-day estimates

By Isaac Fischer  
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UW Oshkosh is expected to see a drop in enrollment for the 2025-26 academic year based on official first-day estimates released by the Universities of Wisconsin.

According to a Sept. 9 official estimate from the UWs, UWO welcomed 12,457 Titans to campus this fall. This is down approximately 3.9% from last year, when UWO had 12,964 students enrolled across both the Oshkosh and Fox Valley campuses.

Despite the overall decline, UWO is seeing year-to-year growth in multiple sectors. Preliminary figures show a 4% increase in new transfer student enrollment, a 17% increase in new graduate student enrollment and a 4% rise in first-year student retention. The Honors College also experienced growth, up 2% after a record year for 2024-25.

Chancellor Monohar Singh said that this growth shows that UWO is supporting students.

"These categories highlight UWO's ability to attract and sup-

port students seeking strong academic communities, pathways to advanced degrees and accessible transfer opportunities," Singh said. "They are proof that students continue to see UW Oshkosh as a place where they can launch, continue or elevate their higher education journeys."

While UWO is seeing a decline in first-year student enrollment, university officials say that is expected after the discontinuation of the Fox Valley campus, which closed at the end of the spring semester.

Specifically for the Oshkosh campus, new first-year student estimates indicate a 2.2% year-over-year increase.

Singh said the deeper dive into UWO enrollment reveals resilience and encouraging momentum in student populations that align with institutional strengths and growth strategies.

"Enrollment is more than a single-year snapshot," Singh said. "We are navigating demographic headwinds and change in higher education with determination, creativity and a focus on student success. Our growth in areas like hon-

ors, transfer, graduate programs and student retention demonstrates that UWO remains a first-choice institution in Wisconsin and beyond."

Across the UWs, new freshman enrollment is up 3%, or nearly 900 students, according to the preliminary estimates — with eight universities showing new freshman enrollment increases of 5% or more. Overall, system enrollment is 164,340 in fall 2025, according to the preliminary estimates, down 96 students from the final 2024 fall enrollment counts.

The eight schools that saw an increase in enrollment were: UW-Green Bay (302 students), UW-La Crosse (169), UW-Platteville (15), UW-River Falls (2), UW-Stevens Point (287), UW-Stout (133), UW-Superior (40) and UW-Whitewater (323).

"We are seeing positive signs on enrollment for the third straight year," Universities of Wisconsin President Jay Rothman said. "New freshman enrollment is particularly promising. It's a win when our state's public universities continue to attract and retain talent Wisconsin will need to prosper."

Rothman attributed the promising trends to initiatives like Direct Admit Wisconsin, which offers automatic admission to qualified high school students along with the Wisconsin Tuition Promise, which provides tuition and fees for students from families earning less than \$55,000.

Official enrollment statistics, based on the 10th day of enrollment, will be released later in the fall. These official numbers are used for federal reporting.

### Fall headcounts at UWO

- 2024-25: 12,964
- 2023-24: 13,778
- 2022-23: 13,714
- 2021-22: 14,152
- 2020-21: 15,317
- 2019-20: 15,520
- 2018-19: 14,216

Data from UWO



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The Advance-Titan is an in-  
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hkosh student from is welcome  
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Chancellor hosts international student dinner



Vladyslav Plyaka / Advance-Titan

(Left) Singh gives opening remarks at the welcome dinner for international students. (Right) International students sit in groups and talk to each other while eating food at the Reeve Memorial Union Ballroom on Sept. 10.

By Vladyslav Plyaka  
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UW Oshkosh Chancellor Manohar Singh hosted a first-ever welcome dinner open to all international students at the university, with Singh giving opening remarks at the event on Sept. 10.

“This is your moment to rise and shine,” Singh, who originally moved from India to Canada for graduate school in 1989 and later on emigrated to the U.S., said. “Success can be achieved in the United States if you dream and if you work hard.”

The International Student Welcome Dinner was a collaboration between Chancellor Singh and New Student & Retention Programs to share and explore different cultures, as well as provide an opportunity for students to get to know each other.

According to International Ad-

missions and Recruitment Coordinator Raiden Montero, UWO currently has 107 international students, including 24 freshmen who came to the university this fall. The majority of foreign students come to the university from China and Korea, with India and Vietnam becoming growing markets in international admissions countrywide.

Aida Barahona-Marquez, an international student from Spain who finished her undergraduate at UWO and is currently pursuing a master’s in English, said she has never had such an experience.

“I thought it was very cool and exciting, because I’ve been here for like four years, and I’ve actually never done this before,” she said.

Barahona-Marquez said she hopes the university will do more similar events in the future.

“I genuinely didn’t even know there were so many international students,” she said. “I had met, like,

maybe two in the past. It was really nice, so I really hope that we get to do it in the future.”

Jennifer Aikins, a foreign student from Ghana who pursues mathematics education on a graduate level, said that the event made her feel connected with other students.

“I’ve met a lot of people, and then there’s this feeling that you are not alone as an international student,” she said. “Although I’m the only Ghanian so far, there’s a nice feeling knowing that other people are also coming from other (countries) and then we all came together, had a nice meal (and) good time.”

Aikins said she wishes that the university would continue to do more of such events.

“It’s been a good experience, and I like it,” she said. “I wish it continues so that everyone has an experience of that sense of belonging, which is so important to everyone.”

Singh said that international stu-



Vladyslav Plyaka / Advance-Titan  
Singh talks to a student.

dents are very valuable for UWO’s social culture.

“They (international students) are the wealth of us as a society,” he said. “We learn from them. We welcome them. We love them a lot because we know they’re here with the dreams, and we want to be part of their dreams.”

UWO Police Department announuces new headquarters

By El Galster  
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The UW Oshkosh Police Department officially moved into its new headquarters at Lincoln Hall in May.

According to UWOPD, the relocation to the modern facility comes after months of planning and construction, marking a significant milestone for the university’s law enforcement and the community it serves.

“Our new police department location makes far better use of space than our previous facility,” UWOPD Chief Chris Tarmann said. “It provides a more professional environment for both police officers and community service officers, something our old location lacked.”

Since 2021, UWOPD has operated out of its cramped headquarters in the basement of Radford Hall. Originally built as a dormitory and converted into offices in the 1960s, Radford Hall, among other campus buildings, was described by university officials as being “beyond their useful lives” and “no longer needed.” The Student Health Center, the lone remaining occupant of Radford Hall, is expected to also move to Lincoln Hall in spring 2026 in preparation for Radford’s demolition.

The new facility on the spacious



Isaac Pischer / Advance-Titan

A UWOPD squad car sits outside of Lincoln Hall, which is the new location for campus police.

second floor of Lincoln Hall is a significant upgrade in both form and function. Lincoln Hall was originally an elementary school that the Oshkosh School District closed in 2009. UWO purchased the building in 2010 and remodeled it to house the Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement and Children’s Learning and Care Center. These departments closed in 2023 due to budget cuts, leaving the second floor vacant and available for the police department.

The headquarters features a new dispatch center, a larger evidence storage facility, dedicated interview rooms, and modern cubicles for officer work areas. This improved layout is expected to streamline operations by bringing all the necessary equipment under one roof. Previously, evidence storage, interview rooms and an intoximeter — which is used for operating while intoxicated cases — were located at a substation on High Avenue, next to Blackhawk

Commons, another former headquarters.

Anyone needing assistance from the Police Department can call 920-424-1212 to speak with a dispatcher or use the chat function on the UWO mobile app. The police department lobby is located inside door three of Lincoln Hall, across the street from Scott Hall. Other resources that Chief Tarmann would like students to know about can be found on the UWO Police Department page under “services.”





Jess Duch / Advance-Titan

Signs warn drivers that the North Main Street bridge in Oshkosh is closed. The bridge will remain closed until April, 2026 as crews extend the lifespan of the structure.

# Bridge to remain closed until April 2026

By Jacob Link  
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The U.S. Highway 45 and Main Street bridge in Oshkosh will be closed until the spring of 2026 after construction to prevent further deterioration of the structure began Sept. 2.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Project Manager Bill Bertrand said on the project’s website that the bridge is still safe for pedestrians and vehicles to cross, but that the construction is meant to extend the roadway’s life.

“The purpose of the project is to preserve the operation of the structural, mechanical and electrical components of the U.S. 45

Main Street Bridge,” Bertrand said. “The existing structure and its mechanical and electrical elements have received various repairs and maintenance over its lifespan, but the structure has become deficient due to varying levels of deterioration. Many of the elements are deteriorated or have exhausted their useful service life. These include structural, mechanical, hydraulic and electrical components.”

The construction will look to specifically make improvements to the concrete decks on the bridge, replace the steel and update the hydraulics on the movable parts of the structure and make minor repairs on the operator’s house. According to Wis-

DOT, the changes will decrease maintenance costs and improve the operation of the movable parts of the bridge.

The bridge will be closed to all traffic until April of 2026, but the roadway near the structure will be open to access local businesses, such as the Oshkosh Convention Center and the Oshkosh Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Traffic will instead be directed to 9th Avenue, Oregon Street and Jackson Street, while pedestrians will be detoured to sidewalks along 6th Avenue, Oregon Street and Jackson Street.

According to Bertrand, the lifts on the bridge will still operate normally for all boats that require an opening until Oct. 14.

“[After that], lift spans will remain closed and masted vessels will not be allowed to pass under the bridge [until April 15, 2026],” Bertrand said. “Smaller un-masted vessels that don’t require a bridge opening will be able to pass under the bridge at any time, just not under the lift/movable spans.”

Bertrand also said that all businesses in the work zones that would like temporary signing on Main Street and U.S. 45 can do so by obtaining a free permit.

“All temporary business signing needs approval via the permit before placement to ensure it is in a safe location and do not pose a visual distraction or traffic hazard,” Bertrand said.

“Costs associated with creating the temporary signing are the responsibility of the business.”

According to WisDOT, temporary business signings cannot be placed on traffic control devices or state signs, and the organization said it encourages businesses to team up and have multiple businesses listed on one sign structure instead of having multiple individual signs. This makes it easier for travelers to identify signs and find their destination.

If anyone has questions regarding the closure of the U.S. Highway 45 and Main Street bridge, they can contact Bertrand at 920-360-3124 or at William.bertrand@dot.wi.gov.

# FVTC awarded training grants

## \$950,000 from state grant to be used for high demand workplace training

By Isaac Pischer  
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Fox Valley Technical College is the recipient of new grants, totaling almost one million dollars from the Wisconsin Technical College System, which will be used to fund high-demand workforce training.

In total, FVTC has secured \$950,000 in grants as part of the Workforce Advancement Training (WAT) program, which is expected to boost the region’s workforce.

WAT is part of the state’s \$5 million annual investment in workforce development and will support customized training programs designed to upskill employees and enhance business performance across Northeast Wisconsin.

The grants will support training in high-demand fields such as manufacturing, healthcare and transportation. The programs are designed to meet the evolving needs of local industries, with a focus on technical skills, safety, automation and leadership development. FVTC’s Business & Industry Services will work directly with over 100 area employers, providing tailored training that helps them remain competitive in a rapidly changing economy.

“These grants allow us to deliver high-impact, industry-specific training that directly supports the needs of our regional employers,” Director of Business & Industry Services at FVTC Kari Meixl said. “They also help employers greatly offset the cost of high-quality training, making it more accessible to invest in their workforce and stay competitive in today’s fast-changing environment.”

The impact of these grants extends beyond the classroom, directly benefiting both local companies and their employees. Global technology company Valmet is one of the many employers that have already seen the value of FVTC’s training.

“The knowledge and skills which our employees have gained at FVTC to teach classes (Train-the-Trainer Course) have met and exceeded our expectations,” Marc Grassel, a training manager at Valmet, said. “In addition, the cost is considerably less than other options, making FVTC a great value.”

The training grants demonstrate the collaboration between FVTC and the local business community. These funds enable the college to provide targeted education that addresses specific skill gaps, ensuring that students are prepared for



Courtesy of Royalbroil, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia

Fox Valley Technical College is the recipient of nearly \$1 million in new grants.

the jobs of today and tomorrow.

The grant also benefits students by making training more accessible and affordable, helping students like Connor McGowan advance their careers. McGowan said he hopes to transfer to FVTC after completing his general education requirements at UW Oshkosh. While he isn’t yet sure of the effect it will have on him, he is excited to see how it impacts the school and

the communities it serves.

“(The grant) will allow students to get more opportunities presented to them, whether that be through more career fairs or hands-on training,” McGowan said. “Having this funding will ensure that students are more prepared to enter the workforce already with their next steps in mind after graduation.”

The WAT grant program pro-

vides funding to Wisconsin businesses to upgrade the skills of their employees. The grants are distributed exclusively through the Wisconsin Technical College System and are intended to promote increased investment in worker development, improve business productivity, and support regional economic growth, according to the Wisconsin Technical College System.





Zach Bellin / Advance-Titan

UWO's Sami Perlberg (5) attempts a kill in the match against Hope College on Saturday. Perlberg reached 1,000 kills in her three-year career during the game against Hope.

## Titans take two of three in UWO Invitational

By Nolan Andler  
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The UW Oshkosh volleyball team took 2 out of 3 games in the UW Oshkosh Invitational over the past weekend (Sept. 12-13). The No. 3 nationally ranked Titans fell to No. 5 University of La Verne (California) 3-2 to start the invitational, but swept No. 8 Hope College (Michigan) and the University of Chicago to wrap it up the next day. In the match against Hope College, Junior Sami Perlberg recorded her 1,000th kill.

In the game against La Verne, Perlberg led the team with 24 kills. Izzy Coon led with 30 assists in the effort. The Titans started the first set 7-0, along with a 4-0 run and a 5-0 run respectively in the set. UWO was able to cruise to a 25-19 set one win.

The second set of the night

was tightly contested as neither team had a lead that was larger than four points while going back and forth. The Titans were able to have the last laugh in the set. With the set tied 25-25, a 2-0 run behind a kill from Perlberg and a Leopard attack error won the Titans the set at 27-25.

Despite falling 21-16 in set three, behind three kills from Perlberg, UWO made a valiant effort to close the gap at 24-23 behind La Verne. Before UWO was able to get the tying point and force the third set to overtime, the Leopards were able to get the final kill to win set three 25-23 and force a fourth set.

The fourth set was where the match shifted La Verne's way. The set started with a 9-9 tie, but a 4-0 run by the Leopards got them a 13-9 lead. From there, La Verne never relinquished the lead as the Leop-

ards cruised to a win in the fourth set and clinched set four 25-18. In the fifth set, it was all Leopards as two 4-0 runs allowed La Verne to claim an 11-3 lead. UWO couldn't do much in the fifth set as the Titans fell for the first time in 2025 with a 3-2 loss to the Leopards.

The Titans came back the next day with a doubleheader against Hope College and the University of Chicago.

In the first match of the day against Hope, UWO swept the Flying Dutch 3-0. Perlberg not only led the team with 16 kills, but one of the 16 was her 1,000th kill in her collegiate career.

Set one was all Titans as UWO dominated it from the start. With the Titans winning 8-6, an 8-1 run for UWO behind five Hope errors helped the Titans jump to a 16-7 lead. That run was more than enough as UWO cruised to

a 25-12 set one win.

Set two was the closest one of the game as neither team held a lead greater than three points for most of the match while trading punches. That was until UWO went on a 4-0 run to turn an 18-18 game into a 22-18 lead. The cushion was enough as UWO ended the set with a 25-21 win.

The third set was similar to the second set. Both teams traded punches early, but a 3-0 run with a 16-15 lead behind two kills from Perlberg got the Titans a 19-15 lead. And from there, UWO was able to use the cushion and close out the match against the Flying Dutch.

UWO dominated the entire match against the University of Chicago Maroons to wrap up the weekend.

The Titans were able to put sets one and two out of reach to win both 25-13 and 25-15 re-

spectively. Oshkosh then started the third set with a 5-1 run behind two combined kills by Emmy Wizceb and Grace Jurgens. UWO was able to build a lead as high as 18-7 on the way to a 25-17 set three win and a sweep over the Maroons.

The Titans will hit the road on Wednesday, Sept. 17 for its first WIAC game of the season as UWO will travel to Johnson Fieldhouse in Menominee to play against UW-Stout at 7 p.m. UWO will return home at Kolf Sports Center for the UW Oshkosh Triangular on Saturday, Sept. 20, as the Titans will face two teams from Minnesota in St. Catherine University and University of Northwestern-St. Paul. Both matches will start at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., respectively.

You can check the results of the Titans clash against the UWS Blue Devils at [uwosh-koshtitans.com](http://uwosh-koshtitans.com).

## Football drops game at No. 1 North Central

By Christian Cortez  
cortezch82@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh football team, ranked No. 19 in the nation according to d3.football.com fell to No. 1 North Central College (Illinois) 45-14 at Benedetti-Wehrli Stadium on Sept. 13.

The Titans had a total of 228 yards compared to North Central's 569 yards. Oshkosh quarterback Quentin Keene went 9-for-11 with 162 yards and one touchdown and one interception. Sophomore Cole Warren also got into the game and went 2-for-11 and threw one interception.

On defense, UWO's Kyle Dietzen had 12 tackles, one sack and one tackle for loss, Ben Hoefer had 10 tackles and Dayshawn Henry had 9 tackles and a blocked punt.

The first quarter was a slow start for North Central as the first drive for them ended in a punt. After Oshkosh went three-and-out on its drive, John Abernathy punted the ball to the 9-yard line where North Central would stall

out again and get pushed back to the 3-yard line.

During North Central's punt, Henry had blocked the punt and it was recovered by the Titans on the 1-yard line. UWO's Kellen Mella then punched it in for the 1-yard rushing touchdown and UWO had taken the lead 7-0.

But that was the last time that Oshkosh would hold the lead. When the second quarter started, North Central threw a 33-yard touchdown to even the score to 7-7. After a stalled drive from UWO, North Central marched down the field again and punched in another touchdown taking the lead 14-7.

UWO had gotten to North Central's 32-yard line before Keene's pass was intercepted by North Central's Jahmar Daniel who returned it for 27 yards. North Central capitalized on the interception with a 59-yard rushing touchdown from their quarterback Garret Wilson making the score 21-7. North Central then intercepted Warren at UWO's 41 and kicked a field goal making the score 24-7.



Courtesy of Terri Cole / UWO Athletics

The Titans huddle during a game last season. UWO opens up its home slate for 2025 on Saturday.

To start the second half, North Central stalled the Titan offense by forcing four straight three-and-outs. North Central did not let the opportunity go to waste scoring two more touchdowns

making the score 38-7.

After another touchdown drive from North Central, Oshkosh got back on the board with a touchdown pass from Keene to Jackson Brush going for 29 yards

making the score 45-14.

Oshkosh will face Roosevelt University (Illinois) in the first home game of the season on Saturday Sept. 20, at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium.



The UW Oshkosh men's and women's Cross Country teams raced at the UW-River Falls Invitational last Friday where four other teams competed.

The men's team placed first out of the four competing teams with a time of 2:12:41.8 and 18 points. All Titan runners finished in the top 60.

The Titans held all positions on the podium as Cameron Cullen placed first for the Titans with a time of 25:51.8, while Paul Proteau finished in second with a time of 26:35.1. UWO's Jason Skinkis placed third with a time of 26:40.9.

In the women's side of the twilight, the Titans placed second out of four teams with a team time of 2:02:53.4.

Lehna Mitchell was the only runner on the team to finish in the top three as she placed third in the race with a time of 23:27.6, while Emma Boegh placed eighth in the race with a time of 24:07.0. Gwen Felt finished in ninth place with a time of 24:13.3.

The men's and women's teams' next race will be at the UW-Oshkosh Titan Fall Classic which will take place at the XC Ranch in Oshkosh, with the women's race starting at 5 p.m. and the men's race following at 5:45 p.m.



Rylie Severson led all Titan golfers at the Illinois Wesleyan University Fall Classic with a score of 156 (+12), helping the Titans secure a 12th place finish.

# Women's golf places 12th at Illinois Wesleyan

this past weekend in Normal, Illinois.

The UW Oshkosh women's golf team finished 12th out of 19 teams, with a team score of 646 at the two-day Illinois Wesleyan University Fall Classic

UWO's Rylie Severson was the squad's top finisher in the meet after she placed 22nd with a score of 156 (+12). The next two Oshkosh finishers were Sophia Eggert and Hailey Maten-

aer, who both ended the contest with a 49th-place finish, posting scores of 163 (+19). Titans golfers Sydney Bornhorst and Taryn Endres finished the event with a score of 166 (+22), both tying for 64th, while Chloe Yang rounded out the event with a

score of 188 (+44) and slotted in at the 114th spot.

The Titans will be back in action at the Benedictine University (Illinois) Midwest Region Classic at Brighton Dale Links in Kansasville on Friday, Sept. 19, and Saturday, Sept. 20.

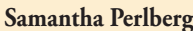
# Sept. 15 Kwik Trip WIAC Athletes of the Week

During the Marty Peterson Invitational, Perlberg hit a season high 27 kills as UW defeated Washington University in St. Louis on Sept. 5. Perlberg would end the tournament with 65 kills, 50 digs, three service aces, two blocks and an attack percentage of .74.

UW Oshkosh's Samantha Perlberg and Axel Vera Trejo have been named Athletes of the Week by the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) for their efforts on the court and field.

Perlberg is a junior pin hitter from Chipewa Falls while Vera Trejo is a freshman from Appleton, who previously played soccer for Iowa Western Community College.

two points coming after touchdowns and the remaining nine points being scored on field goals from 25, 33 and 36 yards from the posts.



# Contribute to the new Advance-Titan Continuity Fund

The Advance-Titan now has a fund at the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, giving you an easy way to contribute and ensure that the 130-year-old student newspaper will be around for many decades to come. With the Advance-Titan no longer receiving any UWO funding, this account will be used to help pay for equipment, conferences, operational costs and more as needed.

To contribute, make a check out to the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation (Memo should read Advance-Titan Continuity Fund) and mail to:

Oshkosh Area Community Foundation  
230 Ohio St., Suite 100  
Oshkosh, WI 54902

You can also contribute electronically through this link: [https://oacf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit\\_id=4036](https://oacf.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=4036)

The OACF can also accept RMDs, stocks, mutual funds, property and more. To learn more, call the OACF at (920) 426-3993.

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230 Ohio St., Suite 100  
Oshkosh, WI 54902

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Scoreboard

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Women’s Soccer

MSOE - 2

UWO - 1

Women’s Tennis

UWO - 7

Ripon - 0

Friday, Sept. 12

Women’s Cross Country

UWO - 1 of 4

Men’s Cross Country

UWO - 2 of 4

Women’s Volleyball

La Verne - 3

UWO - 2

Saturday, Sept. 13

Women’s Volleyball (Match 1)

UWO - 3

Hope - 0

Women’s Volleyball (Match 2)

UWO - 3

Chicago - 0

Football

North Central - 45

UWO - 14

Women’s Soccer

Lake Forest - 2

UWO - 1

Sunday, Sept. 14

Women’s Golf

UWO - 12 of 19

Women’s Soccer

UWO - 2

Saint Benedict - 1

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Sept. 17

Women’s Tennis

at Marian University at 6 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball

at UW-Stout at 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 19

Women’s Golf

at Benedictine University (Illinois) at 1:30 p.m.

Women’s Cross Country

at Titan Fall Classic at 5 p.m.

Men’s Cross Country

at Titan Fall Classic at 5:45 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 20

Women’s Golf

at Benedictine University (Illinois) at 1:30 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball

vs St. Catherine University (Minnesota) at 10 a.m.

vs University of Northwestern (Minnesota) at 3 p.m.

Football

vs Roosevelt University at 1 p.m.

Women’s Tennis

vs St. Norbert College at 11 a.m.

Women’s Soccer

at University of Dubuque (Iowa) at 2 p.m.

A-Trivia

Who was the last UW Oshkosh women’s volleyball player to record over 1,000 kills in her career?

Answer: Riley Kindt eclipsed 1,000 kills in 2023.



Jess Duch / Advance-Titan

Bre Schultz serves it up for the Titans at the Kolf Sports Center Outdoor Tennis Courts against Ripon College. UWO won the contest 7-0.

UWO tennis sweeps Ripon 7-0

By Matthew Hoyman  
hoymanma40@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh women’s tennis team (1-1) hosted Ripon College (0-3) at the Kolf Sports Center Outdoor Tennis Courts Sept. 10. UWO won the match 7-0, improving to 2-1 on the young season after defeating the Red Hawks.

The Titans swept the board in double competitions. In the first matchup, UWO’s Mana Usui and Kayla Gibbs defeated Ripon’s Josie Griepentrog and Hadley Berendsen 6-2. Oshkosh’s Olivia Pethan and Courtney Carpenter won by the same score of 6-2 against Ripon’s Jessi Griepentrog and Catherine Skoglund. Titans Sarah Schaeffer and Jameson

Gregory beat the Red Hawks’ Allison Pavlovec and Isabella Engstrom 6-1.

UWO dominated singles competitions by winning every matchup. Pethan defeated Josie Rondestvedt 6-0, 6-1. Usui beat Berendsen 6-1, 6-2. UWO’s Brianna Owens won against Griepentrog 6-2, 6-2. Oshkosh’s Breaanne Schultz succeeded against Allison Pavlovec 6-3, 6-2.

Schaeffer outlasted Engstorm 7-5 and took the next one 6-0 while the Titans’ Cate Gerl defeated Emily Bittinger 6-4, 4-1.

The second match of the week against UW-La Crosse, Sept. 13, was postponed and will be made up at a later date. The Titans will play Marian University at Fond du Lac High School, Wednesday, Sept. 17, at 6 p.m.

Oshkosh soccer goes 1-2 over weekend



Zach Bellin / Advance-Titan

UWO’s Brynn Higgins receives a pass in the middle of the field at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium in UWO’s 2-1 win over Saint Benedict.

By Zach Bellin  
belliz88@uwosh.edu

The UW Oshkosh women’s soccer team went 1-2 over the course of its busiest week of the season, picking up the Titans’ sole victory at home against the College of Saint Benedict (Minnesota) 2-1 Sept. 14.

In the win against Saint Benedict, UWO forward Addyson Knoebel found the back of the net just two minutes into the first half, off of an assist from Jaden LeRoy, putting the Titans (2-2-2) up 1-0. Addison Stephani responded minutes later for Saint Benedict by converting on her second straight attempt on goal.

The game-winning goal for the Titans wasn’t scored until the 54th minute when forward Gabby Born scored off of a Shannon Walsh assist. It was all defense from there on out as goalkeeper Mallory Kerhin continued keeping pace with her Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference-leading .839 save percentage.

For UWO’s first game of the week on Sept. 10, the Titans fell to the Milwaukee School of Engineering (1-4-1) in a defensive battle 2-1 at Viets Field.

The first half of the match was scoreless with both goalies saving a total of seven shots, and that scoreless streak continued 16 minutes into the

second half until MSOE opened up the scoring.

Raider Samathan Fleischman scored off an assist by Elizabeth Kuhn, but the Titans wasted no time responding with a goal of their own. LeRoy responded by converting her second shot on goal of the game after receiving a pass from Addyson Edwards.

Kerhin saved seven of nine shots on goal in the contest against MSOE.

The Titans also hosted undefeated Lake Forest College (Illinois) (7-0-0), where UWO fell short by one goal yet again, with the match concluding 2-1 in favor of the Foresters.

Both of Lake College’s goals came off the boot of Anna

Hoffman, who is tied for the NCAA Division III lead in total goals scored, with both being assisted by Izzy DeStafano, who leads D-III in total assists after Saturday’s performance.

LeRoy continued bringing it on the offensive side of things for the Titans as she connected on her only shot of the game in the 79th minute. UWO was knocking on the door to find the equalizer but fell short of a comeback victory against one of D-III’s best offensive duos.

The UWO women’s soccer team returns to action on the road against the University of Dubuque (Iowa) in the annual 151 Derby, at Oyen Field, Sept. 20, at 3 p.m.





Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan

Exhibit-goers look at historical Hmong-American artifacts and documents and experience “A Field of Secrets” at the exhibit’s reception last Thursday, Sept. 11.

# ‘A Field of Secrets’

## Celebrating 50 years of Hmong resettlement in Wisconsin

By Cassidy Johnson  
johnsonca51@uwosh.edu

History and art meet at UW Oshkosh’s Annex Gallery on the second floor of the Arts and Communications Center with its new exhibit, “A Field of Secrets,” depicting artifacts from Hmong-American refugees from the Vietnam War era and the “secret war” in Laos.

Though the exhibit has had many different iterations since

2018, this year’s installation is celebrating 50 years of Hmong refugee resettlement in Wisconsin.

The exhibit is put on by Cia Siab, a Hmong non-profit group founded by women from La Crosse. This specific exhibit is curated by Chong Moua and Choua Xiong, assistant professors of Hmong studies and history at UWO, with UWO alumna Mai Chong Yang as the project coordinator.

The exhibit tells the story of Hmong resettlement through artifacts like photographs, declassified CIA documents related to the secret war in Laos and refugee documents and paperwork.

These artifacts are suspended from the ceiling to create a dreamy landscape, even including a bench right in the middle of the exhibit so that you can further immerse yourself into the history.

These refugee documents in-

clude promissory notes, a written promise that refugees will pay back the plane ticket that took them to America, and family documents proving refugees went through the proper channels to come to the U.S.

“I think the coolest document we have is the promissory note,” said Moua. “People (sometimes think), ‘They came over for free, right?’ And I just want to say, no. Let me show you this note that I guarantee

you all refugee Hmong families had to sign it before they came here.”

Students or Oshkosh residents can check out the exhibit now until Oct. 2 at the Annex Gallery at room N204 in the Arts and Communications Center.

The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, and from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday.

# Who is the Oshkosh Pisser?

By Cassidy Johnson  
johnsonca51@uwosh.edu

There’s nothing quite like ushering in a new school year with widespread public urination – literally. I can’t think of another time where something like this has happened.

For better or for worse, this became a social media trend earlier this month where students nationwide were posting themselves urinating on their school’s landmarks on TikTok under profiles named (Insert School Name/City Here) Pisser.

A student from UW Oshkosh decided to join in on the trend under the profile name The Oshkosh Pisser, making their debut on the first day of classes, Sept. 3, with a video of the piss-petrator soiling the Sage Hall sign on High Avenue.

The profile continued to post the next day, Sept. 4, striking Dempsey Hall and then the Arts and Communication Center, and then hitting Halsey Science Center the next day, Sept. 5.

Who the “Oshkosh Pisser” is is still a mystery, and will likely remain one as the profile hasn’t posted since Sept. 5, their last post being a photo of a can of Coors Light with the caption, “Just adding some fuel to the fire.”

The UW Oshkosh Police Department said that the investigation is still ongoing and that they are unable to “share any specific details” at this time, but that they have received several complaints “related to this type of conduct.”

They also encourage anyone with additional information to report it to the the UWOPD either by phone at 920-424-1212, email uwopolice@uwosh.edu, or through the “Chat with UWOPD” feature on the UWO Mobile app.

Whether the trend was a form of retaliation to (or celebration of) the school year starting or just stupid fun, the trend is certainly unique. It’ll be interesting to see if the trend continues or if this was just a one-time thing.



Graphic by Jess Duch





# Consent is hot

By Suzanne Dawood  
dawoodsu14@uwosh.edu

Welcome to Sex and In The 920! I’m the Carrie Bradshaw of UW Oshkosh. As we enter the first semester of the new year, new relationships are starting. New semester, new me, new man. It is known throughout that we are currently in the “red-zone”. The U.S. Department of Justice titles the “red-zone” times the most amount of sexual assaults happen on campus during the first six weeks.

With this being said, we lean into the topic of consent, and how just saying “yes” or asking “can I kiss you?” is so attractive. Now, in today’s age, many individuals will often use the line, “Are you going to kiss me or what?” and to be honest, this feels like an ultimatum.

Now that may be the point, but I couldn’t help but wonder, are people just afraid to feel corny to ask for consent? The clear answer is no. Speaking from experience, many of my friends will boast about how their significant others will ask them for consent, and we all shout and scream with excitement. But, why are we excited over the bare minimum?

Again, in today’s age the bare minimum feels like a lot to ask for, but just asking if you could hug someone, kiss someone, or even sitting next to someone, should be considered. As individuals we all are in our own world, and we all have our limits. While you may be head over heels for your significant other, there will be moments where you don’t want to kiss, cuddle or hug, and that’s okay!

With that being said, you cannot force someone to kiss you whenever you want, you have to ask. Think of it like when you go to the movies, and the worker asks, “Do you want butter on your popcorn?”, while the clear answer for some may be yes, for many may be no. Some may not be ready for it, (a kiss, not popcorn), some individuals just don’t want to kiss someone they just met, or you just don’t want to. And that’s an answer in itself. It’s always okay to say no. No response is also a response. Understanding that asking for consent is not only attractive, but allows for ease that the other individual is also thinking what you’re thinking. And even if you may get a no, the act of asking is still very considerate, and the bare minimum.

Graphic by Cassidy Johnson

## Letters to the editor

# Our humanity in a time of division

By Olivia Madrigando

Hello,  
I am writing to The Advance-Titan as a proud alumna as well as someone who is an advocate for the democratic ideals that UW Oshkosh taught me to cherish.

While I am new to UWO as an employee, I just graduated from here in May with my Sociology degree and Public Administration emphasis. As a recent graduate of UWO, I feel it’s important to reflect on last week’s tragic events and their implications for our campus community. When someone exercises their right to free speech and pays with their life, we all lose something fundamental about what it means to live in a democracy.

During my internship at UWO with The Whitburn Center, I worked closely with WisACT where I focused on bridging political divides and creating healthy political conversations. I learned that our democracy depends not just on our right to disagree, but on our commitment to protect that right for everyone, especially those with whom we disagree most strongly. What happened last week is political violence, plain and simple.

It’s sickening and heartbreaking as it attacks the very foundation of civil society. When we allow political differences to escalate to violence, we don’t just harm individuals, we actively destroy democracy itself.

Consistency in our values demands that we reject violence, regardless of who is targeted. Violence is violence, whether it targets a conservative commentator, state representatives in

Minnesota, communities experiencing gun violence, the civilians in Gaza or vulnerable populations facing systemic harm. If we truly believe that political violence is wrong, and that any violence is wrong, we must apply that principle universally.

A person is a person, regardless of their political affiliation. Charlie Kirk was a husband and father, someone’s son, friend and colleague. His political views, whatever you thought of them, didn’t make him less deserving of safety, respect or life itself.

On our campus, we have an active chapter of Turning Point USA. I want these students to know that they are an integral part of our community, as much as anyone. To all our student groups, including Turning Point USA, College Democrats, College Republicans, Progressive Coalition, Pre-Law Society, Political Science Student Association and Oshkosh Student Government, I want to be clear: I rebuke this political violence, and as a member of this community, I want these students to know that I have their backs. Students need to know that a radical act of violence is not the norm for this community. I believe we must continue to be a model for civil discourse, and I want to hold up our campus as a shining example.

We’re living in a time when our political conversations have grown more heated and divisive. Too often, we’ve begun treating fellow citizens as enemies instead of neighbors who simply see things differently. But violence is never the answer. It doesn’t advance ideas, it silences them. It doesn’t create positive

change. It only brings chaos.  
If we truly believe in democracy, we need to recommit ourselves protecting free speech for everyone, not just those who share our views. We need to engage in honest conversations, even when they’re difficult. We MUST reject all forms of violence as a way to advance political beliefs. And most importantly, we need to remember that people across the political divide are human beings deserving of basic dignity and safety.

Some suggest that the America we dreamed of is gone, but I fundamentally disagree. The America I believe in, one where we can disagree passionately yet still see each other’s humanity, and where we protect each other’s right to speak even when we hate what they’re saying, that America isn’t gone. It’s being tested, absolutely, but it’s not lost.

Every time we choose dialogue over violence, every time we extend basic human dignity to someone whose politics we despise, every time we engage in good faith conversation despite our deep differences, we’re proving that the ideals we aspire to are still alive. They’re fragile, and they require our active protection, but they’re not dead.

Our democracy is facing dark times, but our collective response to last week’s tragic event, how we choose to move forward, will determine if we live up to the America we say we believe in

I refuse to let violence have the final word in our democracy. We owe it to ourselves, and to the memory of ALL of those we’ve lost, to do better.

# Turning point in the U.S. from Charlie Kirk’s death

By Wim Laven

Dear Editor,  
Charlie Kirk rose to prominence by promoting a racist, sexist and bigoted agenda under the guise of Christianity, using distorted, barroom-style arguments that masquerade as sincere debate. Prove me wrong.

It is not an argument or debate. It is fallacy. A trick that is dressed up as logic. If I’m not right, then prove it. It looks convincing on the surface, especially to those inclined to believe (for any number of reasons), but collapses under any real scrutiny because it is not actually a developed position.

In honest debate the first step is a clearly articulated position and then the support for that position follows. Premises develop, through logic, into a conclusion. Wanting something to be true does not make it so, evidence and reasoning that reflect reality are the structure of coherent discourse; fallacy is

merely performance.

It is meme thinking, present in social media threads, and it is easily recycled by trolls, AI bots, and disinformation campaigns. Charlie Kirk is not the first or last to peddle in such stagecraft. But I wish he had not been shot.

I do not care what he did or did not say about gun control, the murder of George Floyd or empathy. We teach second graders that two wrongs do not make a right and we spend our entire lives (hopefully) with the benefits and blessings of due process. Indeed, through Turning Point USA he had a professor watchlist, and friends of mine were harassed because of him, and I have other friends who celebrated Charlie Kirk for optimism that resonated with them.

This is truly a divided country; those who liked Kirk’s “courage is contagious” Christianity and felt empowered by it did not necessarily know or subscribe to his “Black women do not have the brain processing power to be

taken seriously” political positioning with DEI.

Those who know and are offended by his, “I’m sorry. If I see a Black pilot, I’m going to be like, ‘Boy, I hope he’s qualified’” politics, on the other hand, are not likely to know about the positivity and joy he brought to people through charity and faith.

What I’m most focused on in the moment, however, is a concern I have observed from many directions: hyping political violence, comes in waves, etc. I will take the “prove me wrong” on that front.

There is considerable evidence that violence, like disease, spreads in a contagious way. The wave phenomenon, so to speak. But the much more natural course of events human desire is for peace and in the timeline of the history of the species and predecessors (if we go all the way back to Lucy) only the smallest fraction — tiny slivers of humanity feature

senseless killing, war and political violence.

So, yes, there could be copycats, and revenge, and so on... but the waves subside, and this is what the evidence shows. There are many more people looking to do good on all sides — and the focus on the bad (again, from all sides) overshadows this truth. Media the news and everyday operate with a negative bias, which is internalized but misses the world of good we live side by side to.

I’ve sat side by side with hundreds of strangers, people just like Charlie Kirk, whom I may have some political disagreements with, but much more in common. The rhetoric and pressures can trick or scare us away from this awareness. The amygdala can be hijacked and push us to fight or flight type reactions; there is no doubt that some politicians and personalities thrive on this, but they are outliers.

Cognitive science can definitively demonstrate (prove me

wrong) that humans, along with a wide array of animal species, have reinforced neural pathways for harm aversion both for ourselves and others, empathic concern we sometimes share in the suffering of others, and a tendency to mirror the emotions we are surrounded by. We are literally hardwired with the disposition of doing on to others as they do on to us.

I am politically as opposed to Charlie Kirk as much as it gets and I don’t have an ounce of celebration for what happened to him. That is what shared humanity is; I know the pain that is losing a father or any loved one, and I would not wish that upon anyone. All the talk about hatred and rage reflects unnatural distortions and the manipulation of our natural dispositions — at our cores, we know and teach a social contract. Being kind to one another is fundamental no matter the holy book or political figures we subscribe to. Prove me wrong.