

The Advance-Titan

INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH CAMPUS

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Clery Report shows decrease in crime

By Jacob Link
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The UW Oshkosh Police Department reported a decrease in overall campus crime numbers last year, according to the 2025 UWO Annual Security Report and Annual Fire Safety Report that was released to the public Sept. 29.

UWOPD Chief of Police Chris Tarmann said that he felt it was affirming to see the strategies the department put in place led to lower crime numbers.

"The report reinforces that UW Oshkosh is a safe campus and that our focus on visibility, relationships and proactive service is working," Tarmann said.

The 128-page report, which mandates colleges and universities that receive federal financial aid to report crime statistics as part of the Clery Act of 1990, showed that UWOPD recorded 446 total law violations either on or off campus. This was down from 575 in 2023.

Aside from a decrease in off-campus violations, from 28 in 2023 to three in 2024, the largest drop in crime came from on-campus alcohol offenses, which dropped from 487 in 2023 to 396 in 2024. The other category to see a major decrease was on-campus rape, which fell from five on-campus cases in 2023 to two such instances in 2024.

Tarmann said that there were several factors that influenced the 2024 crime numbers.

"Our department has a strong focus on what I like to call relational policing; being visible, building relationships and staying engaged with students and staff," he said. "We also maintain strong partnerships with campus and community organizations that provide services, which helps reduce vulnerability and support individuals before situations escalate into criminal activity."

Tarmann said that there were other operational changes that impacted possible opportunities for crime.

"Fewer buildings are open after hours and overall campus activity is lower in certain areas," Tarmann said. "Even with a smaller police staff, our team is highly intentional with our presence and deployment. Our number one strategic priority is to 'protect our community,' and we do that by being visible, responsive and proactive. When we stay focused on doing

Weapons arrests

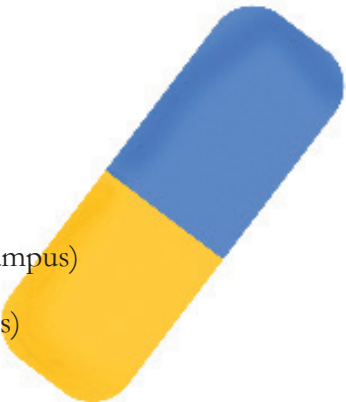
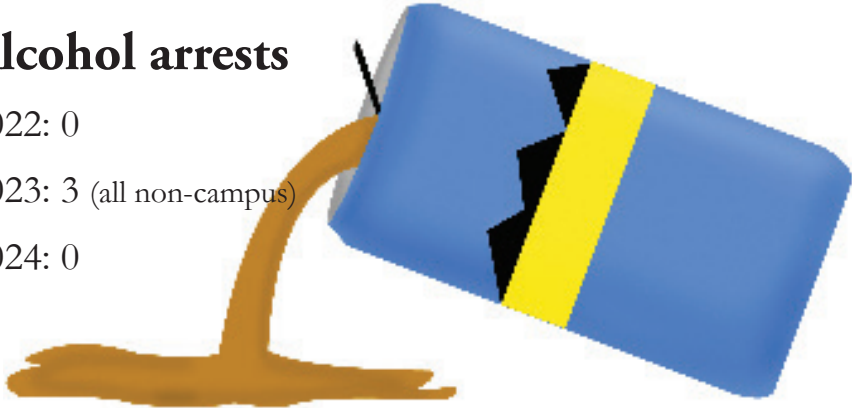
2022: 0
2023: 3 (all non-campus)
2024: 1

Drug arrests

2022: 0
2023: 22
(7 on campus, 15 off-campus)
2024: 5 (all on campus)

Alcohol arrests

2022: 0
2023: 3 (all non-campus)
2024: 0



Total referrals

Weapons	2022: 1	2023: 0	2024: 1
Drugs	2022: 36	2023: 30	2024: 29
Alcohol	2022: 396	2023: 503	2024: 406

the right things consistently, we make a strong impact."

Fondling was the only crime category to see a significant jump after it went from two cases in 2023 to six cases in 2024.

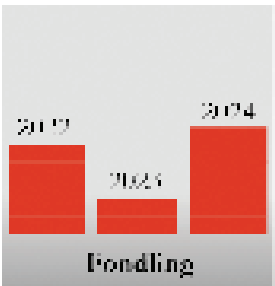
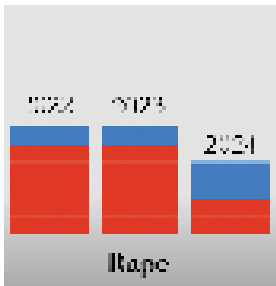
Tarmann said crimes like fondling can fluctuate from year to year based on the different situations and who is present in the community.

"Our focus is not only on responding to these incidents but on reducing opportunities for them to occur in the first place," he said. "We analyze the circumstances around these cases so we can address vulnerabilities such as lighting, environment, visibility and community knowledge, then we make environmental adjustments to increase safety."

Tarmann said that UWOPD works hard to build trust among the campus community.

"When people know that their report will be taken seriously and handled appropriately, they are more willing to come forward," he said. "At the same time, we maintain visibility and strong presence so that individuals who might consider committing these offenses recognize that inappropriate behavior will be met with swift enforcement."

According to Tarmann, UWOPD has put together new initiatives to address campus safety. This includes launching a bi-weekly safety blog that ap-



■ Total on campus ■ Non-campus

The following categories were not included because no referrals were recorded: nondelinquent negligent manslaughter, manslaughter by negligence, involuntary manslaughter, police officer aggravated assault and sexual assault.

*No offense was recorded for 2022 and 2024.

pears in the news feed on the department's website, strengthening partnerships with event and conference services to make sure UWOPD is aware of major events and enhancing internal communication so that all staff have access to current information and can respond more efficiently to calls for service.

Tarmann said he encourages everyone on campus to reach out to police if something doesn't look right.

"Campus safety is a shared effort," Tarmann said. "Our team is here for you, and we want students to feel comfortable approaching us, whether it's to report something concerning or simply to ask a question. The more connected we are with our community, the safer campus becomes."

Graphic by Josh Lehner

Most recent crime reports

Case #:	2025-0314	Date/Time Reported:	11/7/2025 11:49 AM
Location:	AREA 2: STUDENT REC AND WELLNESS CENTER 735 PEARL AVENUE		
Incident Occurred Between:	11/3/2025 06:06 PM and 11/3/2025 06:06 PM		
Incident Type:	THEFT: THEFT UNDER \$2500	Disposition:	OPEN
Dispatch:	THEFT		
Case #:	2025-0315	Date/Time Reported:	11/7/2025 12:13 PM
Location:	AREA 1: HORIZON VILLAGE 636 ELMWOOD AVE - 1ST FLOOR		
Incident Occurred Between:	9/27/2025 03:00 AM and 9/27/2025 03:20 AM		
Incident Type:	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION: SEX OFFENSES: SEXUAL	Disposition:	OPEN
Dispatch:			
Case #:	2025-0316	Date/Time Reported:	11/7/2025 10:47 PM
Location:	AREA 2: SCOTT HALL - NORTH SCOTT HALL 625 ALGOMA BLVD		
Incident Occurred Between:	11/7/2025 10:46 PM and 11/7/2025 11:38 PM		
Incident Type:	DRUG OFFENSE: POSSESSION OF A DRUG PARAPHRASE: CLOSED WARNING	Disposition:	CLOSED WARNING
Dispatch:	UWS VIOLATION: SMOKING		CLOSED CITATION
Case #:	2025-0317	Date/Time Reported:	11/8/2025 01:34 PM
Location:	AREA 1: CAMPUS AREA - NOT IN BUILDING		
Incident Occurred Between:	11/8/2025 01:34 PM and 11/8/2025 03:38 PM		
Incident Type:	THEFT: THEFT UNDER \$2500	Disposition:	
Dispatch:	THEFT		
Case #:	2025-0318	Date/Time Reported:	11/8/2025 02:10 AM
Location:	AREA 3: STREET LOCATIONS - PUBLIC PROPERTY: WISCONSIN STREET		
Incident Occurred Between:	11/8/2025 02:10 AM and 11/8/2025 02:23 AM		
Incident Type:	ALCOHOL OFFENSE: UNDERAGE POSSESSION/CONSUMPTION: CLOSED WARNING	Disposition:	CLOSED WARNING
Dispatch:	ALCOHOL OFFENSE		
Case #:	2025-0319	Date/Time Reported:	11/8/2025 06:14 PM
Location:	AREA 1: ARTS & COMMUNICATIONS 1001 ELMWOOD AVENUE		
Incident Occurred Between:	11/8/2025 12:00 AM and 11/8/2025 06:13 PM		
Incident Type:	THEFT: THEFT UNDER \$2500	Disposition:	OPEN
Dispatch:	THEFT		

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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.



Vladyslav Plyaka / Advance-Titan

The Oshkosh Area Community Pantry offers people in need with grocery items ranging from fresh produce, dairy, frozen foods, pasta, rice, bread and more. The pantry experiences a higher number of guests coming in due to the government shutdown.

Oshkosh deals with SNAP delays

By Vladyslav Plyaka
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Ryan Rasmussen is an Oshkosh native who has spent his career in the food and beverage hospitality industry. He had always wanted to work for a non-profit but was not able to find the right opportunity up until 2021. That year, he began to work with the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry (OACP), where he was able to give back to his friends, neighbors and the community.

When Rasmussen got to know that the government shutdown was happening, he immediately began thinking of ways to help more people in need who will be affected by the pause in food assistance programs. “We had to chart a path about trying to figure out what it is that we could try to do to prepare for what we assume to be an even greater influx of folks having to utilize pantries,” he said.

In September, Congress was unable to pass the appropriations bill to fund federal operations for the 2026 fiscal year, leading to a delay in pay for government employees and delays in federally funded programs. Among the areas affected by the government shutdown is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which provides food assistance to nearly 42 million people per month.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), SNAP is administered under the name FoodShare in Wisconsin, serving approximately 700,000 people in 2024.

Rasmussen, who is currently working as an executive director of OACP, recalls the day when the government shutdown happened as “a lot of uncertainty.” He said that in the last four years, the OACP has seen a 50% increase in the total number of guests that they are serving.

“When I first got here, we were averaging about 1,300 families a month,” Rasmussen said. “Today, we are sitting at 2,800 families a month and we are consistently registering, on average, about 100 new families each month.”

Rasmussen said that among the things that were done once the shutdown happened, the first was to figure out how to manage the demand if it got higher because of the SNAP delay.

“We really started to try to path how could we work with our partners and our funders to make sure that we had not only the food we could support, but we really then took a look at some of our hours of operation,” he said. “We ended up adding two additional shopping days this month for folks ... if they were being directly affected by SNAP delays.”

When Rasmussen meets visitors at the OACP, he said that most of them are upset about the SNAP pause from the federal government. Rasmussen said that these people might be feeling nervous about the situation they are in.

“I think they are nervous about not only this month, about what happened in November, but what could happen in the future,” he said.

Rasmussen said that some conversations in the U.S. about those people who are on the SNAP program range from ideas that these people “don’t deserve it” or “they should get a job.”

“Most of the folks around this program are seniors,” he said. “Most of the folks ... have a job. Most of the folks have ... families and kids and they are not just making enough in their jobs to be able to support their families’ expenses with ... the cost of everything else being high.”

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a nonpartisan think tank that analyzes federal and state budget policies, around 27 million people who are on SNAP are children, adults over 60 and people with disabilities. In 2021, 86% of households with a non-disabled, working-age adult who reported receiving SNAP had earnings that year. The analysis states that those adults often receive low pay or have unstable hours that cause income volatility.

Rasmussen said that the government’s communication on the pause in food assistance has created confusion in communities.

“Having communication

coming from multiple different sources has created a lot of confusion,” he said. “It really has increased our call volume in people just asking questions about not only SNAP benefits, but whether or not folks could qualify for us.”

John McConnell, the chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island, ordered the U.S. administration on Nov. 6 to fully fund SNAP benefits for that month. The lower-court decision was temporarily blocked after the U.S. administration asked the U.S. Supreme Court to appeal the decision.

The same day McConnell ruled in favor of SNAP, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers announced that around 700,000 Wisconsinites would receive their payments under the FoodShare “as quickly as possible.” On Nov. 8, the U.S. Department of Agriculture sent a memo to all states to “immediately undo” issued SNAP benefits for November, with Evers responding “No” to the note.

The First Circuit Court of Appeals denied the Trump administration’s request to halt the decision to fully fund the program because the district court properly ruled that “the overwhelming evidence of widespread harm” outweighs “the potential monetary harm to the government.”

Rasmussen said he is hopeful that in a couple of days, the government will be working and everything will be “back to normal.”

“Being able to get the government back open, get SNAP funding back open and ... kind of normalizing what the process is, is really, really important,” he said. “There is a lot of nervousness for folks that are dealing with a lot of things ... that are creating additional burdens for people that have to, you know, stretch their dollars.”

Rasmussen said Oshkosh’s 54th District representative Lori Palmeri, 55th District representative Nate Gustafson, State Senator Kristin Dassler-Alfheim, representing District 18, and other Oshkosh local representatives volunteered at the pantry during open hours last weekend.

“It was great to see that bipar-

tisan feeling kind of back in this pantry,” he said.

Rasmussen said that one of the nice things about the Oshkosh community is that people are always ready to help when someone needs help.

“There was some federal funding that was cut, which was called LFPA (Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Program),” he said. “(The impact) was about \$120,000 with a produce that we weren’t going to get this summer.”

Rasmussen said that after working with local farmers, private donors, funders that OACP works with and getting the community involved, they were able to mitigate the cuts.

“We were able to fundraise 70,000 of that (120,000) back that we could use to purchase produce this summer,” he said. “This community will always respond and help.”

Palmeri said that people who are affected by the government shutdown should reach out to their representatives.

“I would encourage anyone who is impacted by this delay in benefits to reach out to our federal representatives to detail the real life impact this shutdown is having on you or your family,” she said.

According to Palmeri’s office, DHS’s legal team is monitoring the situation and will continue to keep recipients updated on any changes.

The current government shutdown is the longest in U.S. history, marking 41 days on Nov. 11, breaking the previous record of 35 days in December 2018. On Monday, Nov. 10, the U.S. Senate passed a bill that would fund the government through Jan. 30, 2026. According to ABC News, the House of Representatives could vote on the legislation as early as Wednesday, Nov. 12.

The Advance-Titan called Glenn Grothman’s office in D.C., the representative of the Wisconsin 6th District, regarding the government shutdown and SNAP delays. The office initially responded to the phone call, but after referring to a different person, there was no further communication.



The entrance to the Oshkosh Food Co-Op. The co-op offers more than just produce, it also offers hot food and other opportunities.

Food Co-Op has more than produce

By Elijah Plonsky
plonse72@uwosh.edu

The Oshkosh Food Co-Op offers more than fresh produce; it's redefining the local grocery store experience by hosting community cooking classes and making healthy food more accessible for students and low-income residents in Oshkosh.

"The co-op is a member-owned store that seeks to serve the community," Jeremiah McDuffie, chief visionary officer and store leader of the Oshkosh Food Co-Op, said. "This store is accessible to all of our community members."

Forget fast food, the co-op offers Oshkosh residents "\$5 Hot Lunch Days" and free or low-cost cooking classes to teach people how to make healthy meals at home.

In 2013, the co-op was founded as a non-profit to provide the community with an independent grocery store that sells healthy, locally sourced food.

By combining education and access to discount programs, the co-op is building the community around budget-friendly classes and tasty meals that never come at the expense of nutrition.

McDuffie said these classes are part of the co-op's mission to help its neighbors, and one of their most

popular classes was taught by Madame Chu using her homemade Asian sauces.

"We had 80 to 85 people in our last Asian cooking class with Madame Chu, a lady who makes her own sauce from scratch and demonstrates how to use them," McDuffie said.

Dylan Schommer, a UW Oshkosh student and shopper at the co-op, said the idea of learning recipes through affordable classes is something that sounds like fun.

"I like the idea of a cooking class, I enjoy cooking but don't do it often, so it's a cool concept to me the co-op will teach people how to make nutritious food," Schommer said.

The co-op also offers Hot Lunch Days, McDuffie said, selling full dinners like chicken, asparagus and roasted potatoes for just \$5 to make healthy eating accessible.

"We have \$5 community meals called Hot Lunch Days, and just offered our organic chicken, with asparagus, salad and your choice of potato," McDuffie said.

Schommer said other students need to hear about Hot Lunch Days because the co-op already offers healthier options than most fast-food options in the area.

"I think more people need to know about Hot Lunch Days, the

meal they're offering at the co-op is definitely better than most other quick lunch options," Schommer said.

In addition to occasional Hot Lunch Days and cooking classes, McDuffie said the co-op offers a Food for All program to make healthy foods affordable for low-income people.

"We have an income-eligible program that's called Food for All, and you can save 20% on everything, except for alcohol," McDuffie said. "Most students qualify for it."

Funding for the program comes from customer donations at the cash register, any independent contributions received and grant support.

"Food for All is funded by rounding up at the register, and grants to make the store more accessible," McDuffie said. "A lot of people in downtown are income-challenged."

Schommer said the Food for All program is exactly the kind of assistance he looks for as a Pell Grant student trying to manage expenses.

"I would definitely be interested in participating in Food for All, seeing as I am a college student, and I do receive the Pell Grant for school," Schommer said.

McDuffie said Hot Lunch Days are impactful and recalled a mother

who thanked him for feeding her five children a healthy supper for \$35 during one of the events.

"The first time we did one of our lunch events, I had a mom come up to me in tears, because she's got five kids, and she's going to feed her family a nice meal for \$35," he said.

Schommer also said the \$5 price tag is too hard to beat since college students can get a good meal at a price they can afford, too.

"I think \$5 is a pretty good price; it's hard to get a substantial amount of food for that, much less anything that would be remotely good for you," Schommer said.

Echoing the community impact of events like Hot Lunch Days, Schommer said he believes any effort to provide a healthy alternative for lunch counts.

"I think Hot Lunch Days could have a very positive impact on people's health, and that every little bit of encouragement to eat healthier can help," Schommer said.

Beyond selling groceries, McDuffie said the co-op's larger goal is to build a stronger, healthier and more connected Oshkosh.

"Everything we do is a way to say we're more than a grocery store, we're not just here to make your money, we're here to serve the community," he said.

Elior to not renew UWO contract

By Jacob Link
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UW Oshkosh will have a new food service provider next school year after Elior, Inc. announced it no longer wanted to take part in the university's ongoing food vendor selection process, resulting in the layoffs of 155 employees.

Elior's contract with UWO was already set to expire in the spring, and the company said that it was forced to conduct layoffs starting May 17, 2026, because of the closure.

"All 155 affected employees have been notified of their separation dates and that their separation from employment will be permanent," Elior Director of Human Resources Jessica Lund-Denn said in a letter to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and Oshkosh Mayor Matt Mugerauer. "Some affected employees are represented by a collective bargaining agreement, and appropriate notice is being provided."

The layoffs include 51 food service workers, 27 student workers, 24 cooks and a registered dietitian.

Elior's decision to no longer be considered for a future contract comes after UWO Chancellor Manohar Singh told the Advance-Titan on Oct. 27 that the university was looking to make improvements to food services on campus.

"We have very serious conversations going on with Aladdin, (and) Elior is their contractor," Singh said. "They are on notice to improve their services ... they are responding well."

Alex Hummel, UWO's executive director of university relations and communications, said that Elior's decision will not affect the university's students, faculty or staff.

"UW Oshkosh will have a new dining services provider in place next spring to ensure a smooth transition and uninterrupted service for our campus community and guests," Hummel said.

UWO alumna named Christine Ann director

By Isaac Pischer
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The Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, which serves individuals and families throughout Winnebago and Green Lake counties, has announced the appointment of Carly Hirsch as the organization's new executive director.

The appointment is a homecoming for Hirsch, whose career began with the organization as an intern while studying at UW Oshkosh, before graduating in 2018.

Hirsch is one of 16 people serving on the team of 25, who are all UWO alumni. She succeeds fellow alumna Alicia Wenger, who left the organization earlier this year.

After earning a bachelor's degree in communication studies, Hirsch joined Christine Ann as a

full-time member, serving as a crisis advocate and volunteer coordinator. She provided direct support to survivors, managed the 24-hour crisis helpline and led volunteer engagement.

After taking a couple of years away from the company at Productive Living Systems, Hirsch returned to Christine Ann as associate director in 2021, where she has been instrumental in leading client service programs, strengthening staff development systems, trauma-informed advocacy and community education while expanding community partnerships.

The center also noted her role in the agency's recent Capital Campaign and its successful move to a new, larger facility at 240 Algoma Blvd.

The expansion has allowed Christine Ann to increase emer-

gency shelter capacity from 37 to 64 beds, launch a new transitional housing program and become one of only three pet-friendly domestic abuse shelters in Wisconsin, ensuring that survivors no longer have to choose between their safety and keeping their pets safe.

"I'm passionate about this work because every day we have the opportunity to help someone feel seen, supported and safe," Hirsch said. "It's a privilege to walk alongside survivors as they find strength and hope, and to be part of a community that believes in ending the cycle of violence."

Members of the board of directors praised her knowledge of Christine Ann and her leadership skills.

"(Hirsch) brings not only a deep understanding of our mission, but also the kind of strong, com-



Courtesy of Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services
Of the 25 members of the Christine Ann team, 16 are UWO alumni.

passionate leadership we need to thrive in the years ahead," Alicia Dambeck, president of the board of directors, said. "Her experience and vision, paired with a genuine heart for this work, will ensure Christine Ann continues to grow and deepen its impact throughout our communities."

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse

Services provides safety, shelter and support to individuals and families affected by domestic abuse throughout Winnebago and Green Lake counties. The agency offers emergency shelter, transitional housing, advocacy, youth programming and community education aimed at breaking the cycle of violence and fostering hope.



Nolan Andler / Advance-Titan

The UWO volleyball team rushes Grace Juergens after she secured the final kill to clinch the WIAC regular season championship on Friday night at the Kolf Sports Center.

Titans take home third straight WIAC title

By Nolan Andler
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The UW Oshkosh women’s volleyball team won its third straight Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season title last Friday.

The No. 5-ranked Titans got the WIAC championship by beating the No. 3 UW-Eau Claire Blugolds 3-1 in the regular season finale at Kolf Sports Center. Going into the game, the Titans and Blugolds were tied atop the WIAC standings with both teams then holding a 6-0 record in conference play. So it was the regular season championship game for both UWO and UWEC. Friday’s win is the cap of a 26-3 regular season for the Titans.

With all the stakes that were on the line in the game against the Blugolds, UWO’s Izzy Coon said

the team made sure not to let all of that affect them.

“We really focused on playing for each other and remembering our ‘why,’” Coon said. “We do our normal scouting on Eau Claire, but it wasn’t about who was on the other side of the net; it was about what we were going to do, our love for the sport and the family we built. That grounded us in that game and reminded us we are playing for something bigger.”

Samantha Perlberg led the team with 18 kills, 19 digs and two aces on the night. Coon and Jaclyn Dutkiewicz led in assists with 21 and 20, respectively. Lauren Grier and Grace Juergens had contributions in the kill department with 10 and 9, respectively. Callie Panasuk also contributed in digs with 15.

Set one was a preview of how the night was going to go for UWO, behind two kills from Per-

berg and four Blugold attack errors. UWO jumped out to an 8-2 lead and was able to use the gap to cruise to a 25-12 set one win. The second set was close to start out, as after UWO responded to a Blugold 3-0 start to make it 4-4. It was back and forth for the next couple of scores as both teams kept trading punches. That was until, with the set tied at 13, behind two kills from Grier, UWO went on a 5-0 run to make it 18-13. The Titans used that gap to finish the set with a 25-18 set two win.

Eau Claire was able to keep the game alive with a 25-18 set three win. UWO made sure not to let UWEC send the game into set five as the Titans closed out the match and the WIAC championship with a 25-18 set four win.

Coon said she credited the coaches for getting the team back in the right state of mind between sets

three and four.

“Riley Dahlquist looked at us and said, ‘What’s it going to take to win a conference championship,’” Coon said. “We wanted to play the whole game free, have fun, but this comment got us in the right headspace. The coaching staff also does a great job reminding us that even though it’s a big game, it’s still a normal volleyball game. Focusing on our side of the net was the biggest key.”

Going into this season, UWO lost six seniors after last season. But with what those players and the ones before last year’s class instilled into this team, head coach Jon Ellmann said he knows that anyone who has been a part of this team had an effect on this year’s team. But he also knows that this year’s team is taking credit for its own actions.

“One of the amazing things

about legacy is that it leaves little ripples,” Ellmann said. “Anyone that has ever put on an Oshkosh volleyball jersey has in some way or another impacted our current team. With that said, this team takes credit and responsibility for its own actions. This team doesn’t see challenges as tests to pass or fail. We see them as opportunities for problem solving.”

After Friday’s win, Ellmann earned his 200th career win as the head coach of the UWO women’s volleyball team. While the number of wins doesn’t mean much to Ellmann, the benchmarks along the way do.

“If you coach long enough, you win matches, so the number 200 doesn’t mean all that much to me, but these benchmarks do create an opportunity to pause and reflect,” Ellmann said.

Turn to *Volleyball* / Page 5

UWO Hall of Famer of the week: Kristin Stanley

By Katie Lechton
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Kristin Stanley, a member of the UW Oshkosh women’s basketball team from 1998-2002, played 115 games for the Titans, starting in 83 of them, was inducted into the UWO Athletics Hall of Fame this year.

During her time on the team, Stanley was awarded All-WIAC Honorable Mention in 1999 as well as two First Team honors in 2001 and 2002 while helping the Titans claim three WIAC championships and national championship appearances, as well as a 115-24 program record. The Titans went 26-2 (1998), 27-2 (1999), 22-7 (2000), 19-6 (2001) and 21-7 (2002) across the five seasons Stanley played guard.

Stanley scored 1,274 points for UWO, while also gathering 391 rebounds, 348 assists, 173 steals, 75 blocked shots, 190 3-pointers and a 3-point shot

percentage of 40.3%. These marks put her in the top seven of school and conference career statistics categories.

However, Stanley’s time on the team was more than just basketball for her. It was about being with her teammates.

“All of us have memories of our time together, whether it be the bus rides, the brutal practices, celebrating after a win or just being on campus together,” Stanley said. “It really wasn’t about what happened in the actual game. It was all the fun we had together that made our years at Titan so special.”

During the 2000 season, Stanley suffered a knee injury that kept her off the court for the remainder of the season, and her teammates helped her through it.

“My teammates kept my spirits high during my knee injury and rehab year, and I thanked them by coming back with a very large knee brace that gave them daily bruises during



Katie Lechton / Advance-Titan

Kristin Stanley speaks at the podium during the UWO Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

practice, which they still complain about,” she said.

When accepting her induction, Stanley thanked her support network for being by her side, while also not shying away from joking about her college days.

“It is very humbling to be

up here, as you never get anywhere in life without incredible people around you,” Stanley said. “From my supportive family, my coaches and all my teammates along the way. The game of basketball has given me so much. So many memories, friendships and the knees of a

75-year-old man with a very severe case of arthritis. This type of honor causes you to look back and wonder how you got here. As I’m not the tallest, nor am I the fastest. Although I never did have to enroll in speed camp like some of my teammates at the team’s table.”

UWO eliminated in WIAC quarterfinal

By Matthew Hoyman
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The UW Oshkosh (6-7-5, 2-4-1 conference) women's soccer team was eliminated in its 3-1 defeat to UW-River Falls (13-5-2, 3-3-1 conference) at Ramer Soccer Field in the WIAC Tournament quarterfinal round on Wednesday, Nov. 5. Oshkosh falls to 19-15-3 against River Falls all-time in head-to-head matches.

The No. 6 Titans and No. 3 Falcons tied in shots taken at 13. UWRF had two more saves than UWO at seven, and outled Oshkosh in corners 7-2.

Defense was prevalent early, with it being scoreless in the first 20-plus minutes of the first half; however, the Falcons made it 2-0 after 34 minutes because of goals from Gretchen Hanson and Brooke McDaniels.

Titans' Delaney Sponholz scored her first collegiate goal unassisted in the 83rd minute after being down 3-0 because of Ellie Ketcher's goal for UWRF.

Erin Coppernoll, Oshkosh's

women's head coach, said she was happy to see Sponholz have that moment.

"It was awesome to see Delaney get her first collegiate goal in her final eight minutes of play," Coppernoll said. "She has overcome two knee surgeries and was unsure of how this season would play out. To see her end the way her career did was simply amazing. A great story about resilience and adversity for her."

UWO's Gabby Born led the team with five shots, three being on goal. Oshkosh's goalkeeper, Mallory Kerhin, had five saves, while Courtney Bain had seven saves for River Falls. Kerhin was voted WIAC Kwik Trip Women's Soccer Defensive Athlete of the Week for the second time this season after holding River Falls scoreless in the Titans' win on Nov. 1.

Coppernoll saw a lot of growth this year from the women's soccer team.

"Last year, we didn't compete in training and in games," Coppernoll said. "This season, the



Courtesy of Terri Cole / UWO Athletics

UWO's Delaney Sponholz tries to evade a UW-River Falls defender in a game earlier this season.

team competed. We have a very deep team, and we saw that at times, when we subbed, our level of play went up and carried the team forward. Our defense

was better this season compared to last season. We still can improve in this area, but we were better than last season. If you can defend well, you have a

chance to win every game."

The goal for next year is for players to focus on improving their first touch and scoring more goals collectively.

Women's basketball gathers two early wins

By Dylan Przybylski
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The UW Oshkosh women's basketball team beat both Carroll University 62-59 and the University of Chicago (Illinois) 60-58 in overtime at the St. Norbert College Nicolet National Bank Tip-Off Tournament this past weekend.

The first quarter saw UWO take an early lead of 18-17 against Carroll. In the second quarter, the Pioneers outscored the Titans 18-6, making the score at half 35-24 in favor of the Pioneers. The Titans caught flames out of the half, finding themselves only down by two with a score of 44-42. The Titans would go on to win the game 62-59.

UWO shot (22-60) 36.7% from the field and (9-30) 30% from beyond the arc. The team shot (9-17) 52.9% from the free-throw line. The team was able to total 33 rebounds as well.

Carroll shot (25-53) 47.2% from the field and (4-11) 36.4% from 3-point range. The team shot (5-7) 71.4% from the free throw line. The team was able to pull down 37 rebounds as well.

The Titans were led by junior Sammi Beyer with 14 points,

shooting (5-16) 31.25% from the field. Senior Bridget Froehlke also had 14 points for the Titans, shooting (4-for-8) 50% from 3-point land. Senior Avery Poole was the last double-digit Titan for the game with 10 points. Senior Mahra Wieman had eight points for UWO.

Natalie Gricius led the Pioneers with 20 points, shooting (8-16) 50% from the field. Emilie Wizner was the only other Pioneer with double-digit points with 13. Anna Nielsen and Julia Lokker both tallied eight points for the Pioneers.

In the second game, the Titans took an early lead of 14-9 against the Maroons. In the second quarter, the Maroons outpaced the Titans by four points, but UWO still had the lead at the half with a score of 24-23. The Maroons came out of the half stronger than the Titans, making the score 39-35 in favor of the Maroons. In the fourth quarter, the buzzer rang with both teams tied at 51. The Titans would go on to win in overtime with a score of 60-58.

UWO shot (19-58) 32.8% from the field and (5-18) 27.8% from beyond the arc. The team shot (17-29) 58.6% from the free-throw line. The team was able to total 29



Jess Duch / Advance-Titan

UWO women's basketball head coach Brad Fischer talks to his team during a stoppage in play for the Titans.

rebounds as well.

The University of Chicago shot (21-54) 38.9% from the field and (8-17) 47.1% from 3-point range. The team shot (8-10) 80% from the free-throw line. The team was able to pull down 50 rebounds as well.

The Titans had two players in

double digits, Paige Seckar with 21 points and Wieman with 12. Poole and Froehlke both ended the game with nine points.

The Maroons also had two players hit double digits in Bri Simpson with 13 and Annabelle Spotts with 12. Karen Xin finished with nine and Caroline Workman fin-

ished with 8 points.

The Titans returned to action on Wednesday, Nov. 12, traveling to Concordia University. The score of the game can be found at uwoshkoshtitans.com. UWO will also travel to Eureka, Illinois, on Friday, Nov. 14, to face Eureka College at 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Titans take home third straight WIAC title

From Page 4

What Ellmann said he is grateful for is everything that was accomplished along the way, with the relationships and lessons that were taught.

"What you hold on to are the relationships," Ellmann said. "You hold on to the lessons that your fellow coaches and former players taught you. I am so unbelievably grateful for the opportunity to do this with so many amazing humans. Someone way smarter than me once said that if you want to be successful, surround yourself with great people. I feel like that's what

we've done here at UW Oshkosh."

This season, UWO was able to win its third straight WIAC championship behind a run from Sept. 26 - Oct. 22, where in every game in that time frame, UWO not only went undefeated but won all 27 sets in all nine games played. Four of those wins in that nine-game stretch were against WIAC teams in UW-Stevens Point, UW-River Falls, UW-La Crosse and UW-Platteville. The game on Oct. 29 was also key in the Titans' championship as UWO survived a five-set battle at UW-Whitewater. The win over the Warhawks for

UWO clinched the Titans a first-round bye in the WIAC tournament.

Last season, UWO fell in the WIAC tournament championship game to UWW for the second straight year. But unlike 2023 where the Titans were swept 3-0, UWO held an 11-8 lead in set five but wasn't able to score the final four points first before the Warhawks did. While that is a reminder to the team, they are focused on this year's tournament just one day at a time.

"Last years' experience fuels us, but we know we have to focus on

what we can do now," Coon said. "Every rep in practice this week is important, focusing on what we can control and sharpening the tools we already have. We will keep high energy and push each other with purpose. When we play for each other, that's when we play best, no matter who is across the net."

"We surely don't want to live in the past, but we are aware of it, and it's motivating," Ellmann said. "We respect every team in our conference and whomever we play Thursday will get 100% of our attention and effort. Prepara-

tion will be no different than it has been all season. We have planned out our entire week, but all of our energy is focused on preparing for Thursday."

UWO will open its time in the 2025 WIAC tournament in the semifinal round on Thursday, Nov. 13. The No. 1-seeded Titans will play No. 4-seeded UW-Whitewater at the Warhawks beat No. 5 seed UW-Stevens Point on Tuesday (Nov. 11). The game will take place at 7 p.m. at Kolf Sports Center. The game can be streamed on WIACNetwork.com or on 90.3 WRST-FM.



Scoreboard

Wednesday, Nov. 5

Women’s Soccer

UWRF - 3

UWO - 1

Thursday, Nov. 6

Men’s Cross Country

1st of 2 teams, 18

Women’s Volleyball

1st of 1 team, 15

Men’s Wrestling

UWW - 38

UWO - 9

Friday, Nov. 7

Women’s Basketball

UWO - 62

Carroll University - 59

Saturday, Nov. 8

Men’s Wrestling

Non-Scoring at Lakeland University

Women’s Swim and Dive

1st of 6 teams, 909.5

Men’s Swim and Dive

3rd of 6 teams, 586

Football

UWO - 41

UWSP - 15

Women’s Basketball

UWO - 60

University of Chicago (Ill.) - 58

Men’s Basketball

UWO - 60

Saint John’s University (Minn.) - 58

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Nov. 12

Men’s Wrestling

vs UW-Eau Claire at 7 p.m.

Women’s Basketball

at Concordia University at 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Women’s Volleyball

WIAC Tournament at 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 14

Men’s Basketball

vs Maryville College (Tenn.) in

Bloomington, Ill. at 5 p.m.

Women’s Basketball

at Eureka College (Ill.) at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15

Men’s Basketball

at Bloomington, Ill. at TBA

Women’s Volleyball

WIAC Tournament - TBA

Men’s Cross Country

at NCAA D-III Regional at 11 a.m.

Women’s Cross Country

at NCAA D-III Regional at noon

Men’s Swim and Dive

at St. Norbert College at 1 p.m.

Women’s Swim and Dive

at St. Norbert College at 1 p.m.

Football

vs UW-Whitewater at 1 p.m.

A-Trivia

When was the last time UW Oshkosh beat UW-Whitewater in football?

Answer: 2019



Nolan Andler / Advance-Titan

Tight end Clayton Schwalbe celebrates a 57-yard touchdown on the Titans’ second offensive play of the game against UW-Stevens Point.

Titans improve to 5-4 with 41-15 win

By Zach Bellin
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The UW Oshkosh football team defeated UW-Stevens Point (4-5) 41-15 while the program celebrated its 2015 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship team at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Amidst injury troubles, the Titans (5-4) were able to prevail against the Pointers behind the backs of the dynamic A.J. Korth and Kyle Dietzen, who have been as consistent as can be this season. Korth finished the game with a net total of 224 yards, 102 through the air and 122 on the ground with two passing touchdowns and a rushing touchdown, leading UWO to its best scoring week since Nov. 9 of last year against UW-Stout.

Dietzen collected 15 total tackles (nine solo, six assisted

and three for loss) and sacked the Pointers’ quarterback twice, along with a forced fumble and coming up huge on third downs throughout the entire game. His efforts earned him Kwik Trip WIAC Athlete of the Week honors for the third time this season.

Quentin Keene got hurt early in the game, slotting Korth for a bigger role, but not before Keene left his mark on the game. On the second offensive play of the game, Keene hit Clayton Schwalbe, who fought off his defender for a 57-yard touchdown.

After a nullified Korth rushing touchdown, Keene solidified his impact with yet another passing touchdown, this time to Jon Mathieu for 11 yards.

Oshkosh’s next scoring drive happened in less than a minute. Korth drove the team down the field and found Jackson Brush 30 yards downfield after he beat his

defender and managed his way into the endzone with eight seconds left in the first half.

In their second drive after half, UWO found paydirt thanks to the running game. Ammiel Jackson, Doug Burson and Korth each played a part in the drive, with Korth eventually becoming the successor after he scored a 35-yard rushing touchdown.

Heading into the fourth quarter, the Titans were sitting comfortably but decided to continue laying it on the Pointers, scoring two more touchdowns.

Kellan Mella, a familiar face to the endzone, caught a ball from Korth for 15 yards, then Will Brust and Gabe Torres each gathered their first collegiate touchdowns, connecting on a late touchdown for 55 yards.

Jackson came up huge in the backfield with Vallafskey missing yet another game. Jackson did

more than double his season rushing yards total of 55 he went into the contest with, as he finished the game with 60 yards on the ground.

Brush led the Titans in receiving yards with 78 on four receptions, while Schwalbe caught two balls for 65 yards, finishing second on the team. The Torres touchdown was his lone reception, enough for third on the team.

Outside of Dietzen on defense, Ben Wellhoefer was the next most productive with seven total tackles (two solo, five assisted, and 0.5 for loss). The Titans’ defense had eight total tackles for loss, pushing the Point offense back for 38 yards.

UWO hosts UW-Whitewater at J.J. Keller Field at Titan Stadium on Nov. 15 for their final regular-season game of the year, which will also be senior night for the Titans.

Herd’s home opener spoiled by Bulls 127-114

By Zach Bellin
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The Wisconsin Herd’s 2025-26 season home opener was spoiled by the Windy City Bulls 127-114 Nov. 11 at the Oshkosh Arena.

Guards Stephen Thompson and Cormac Ryan led the way for the Herd (0-2) both scoring 17 points while forward Alex Antetokounmpo came in a close second with 15 points of his own, he additionally grabbed four rebounds. Cormac only played in 16 minutes and didn’t finish the game due to an ankle injury.

Another notable performance for the Herd came from guard Johnny Davis. Davis wrapped the game up with 12 points, eight rebounds and three assists.

The Herd had seven different double-digit scorers in the contest but were no match for Bulls forward Noa Essengue who scored 28 points and the seven other double-digit scorers on the team.

From 3-point range, Wisconsin was outmatched shooting merely 28.6% compared to Windy City’s 34.5%. As a whole, the Bulls shot 48.9% from the field whereas the Herd finished the game with a team shooting percentage of 41.4%.

Ryan paced the Herd in the first

quarter with nine points, three rebounds and an assist, but newly donned Herd player Victor Oladipo got the scoring going with five straight points for the Herd to open the game.

Essengue and forward Mouhamadou Gueye brought the energy for Windy City (2-0) in the first quarter. Essengue provided 14 points, going 5-for-8 from the field and 2-for-3 from the 3-point line along with a made free throw. Gueye delivered seven points and two rebounds for the Bulls.

Regardless of having more turnovers than the Herd in the quarter, the Bulls went into the second leading 30-26.

Windy City’s Caleb Grill brought a spark off the bench in the second quarter by hitting two 3-pointers in his first two minutes on the court to accompany Essengue tacking on another nine points. An 8-0 run by Ryan and the Herd wasn’t enough to close the gap as Windy City fended it off and headed into half leading 71-65.

In the third quarter, the Bulls outscored the Herd 29-22. Emanuel Miller found rhythm in the quarter, scoring seven of his 13 points for the Bulls, while tacking on three rebounds and an assist. For the Herd



Jacob Link / Advance-Titan

Guard Cormac Ryan shoots a jumper against the Windy City Bulls. Ryan tied with guard Stephen Thompson for the team lead in points with 17.

it was a collective effort that quarter with no player amassing over six points.

As for the fourth and final quarter of the game, Wisconsin was able to keep pace with the Bulls in terms of scoring but it wasn’t enough to secure the

comeback and sneak away with a victory.

The Herd’s participation in the NBA G League Tip-Off Tournament journey continues Nov. 14 against the Cleveland Charge at the Public Auditorium in Cleveland at 6 p.m.



What’s your love language?

By Suzanne Dawood
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Welcome to Sex In-The-920! I’m the Carrie Bradshaw of UW Oshkosh, or your college sex guru. Understanding your love language can be difficult. You want to be fluent with someone and understand what someone is saying to you by their actions.

Love languages can be broken down by what you like to do for others, and then what you like to receive for yourself. Personally, my love language is words of affirmation for both perspectives. I like to be praised, and I want to praise someone back! But I am here to help you find your love language. I’ll introduce the different ones to you and explain them to help you find which one fits you best.

1. Acts of service

Acts of service represent words of affirmation, but physically doing so. An individual who likes to do things for others typically falls under this language. Do you like to help people with their homework? Do you like to make dinner for others, or pump gas for them? You may show your love by showing acts of service or doing things for the person you love. But if you like it when someone does this for you and helps you with day-to-day tasks, you should communicate this with your partner if you’re not receiving what you want. Remember, what you want/need in a relationship is the bare minimum, and if someone can’t show you that, then it’s not worth it.

2. Quality time

This love language is sort of self-explanatory. Do you constantly like being around your partner, or even friends? Do you constantly make plans for the next hangout? Then quality time may be your language.

I believe that this is a good language to have because you are putting in effort to hang out with your people. I have a friend whose boyfriend would constantly ask her to hang out, but she is very independent and likes to be alone, so she’d deny the hangout. Surprise, they didn’t work out! Not saying that you need to speak the same language, but you should accommodate their needs. If you feel the same as my friend, then maybe quality time is not your love language. But that’s okay, because there are three more!

3. Receiving gifts

Little surprises are always fun to receive. A random bouquet of flowers, or more V-bucks on Fortnite on a random Tuesday! Do you look forward to Christmas? Do you love surpris-

ing someone with gifts, but also love receiving them yourself? Then receiving gifts or giving gifts is your love language. As I mentioned so many times, if you want more gifts, you have to tell your partner that. You can’t just expect something when they don’t know what you want.

4. Physical touch

Again, this language is self-explanatory. Physical touch can range from always wanting a hug, to standing next to someone or even just sitting by someone. Always wanting to be near or touching is an act of physical touch.

Do you like to constantly be held? Do you want to constantly hold someone? Do you crave a little graze? If so, then touch is your love language!

I would say it’s better to be in a relationship with someone whose love language is also physical touch. It would be difficult to be in a relationship with someone who doesn’t like to be touched if that’s all you want. But I am not one to judge; if something is working in your relationship, then have at it!

5. Words of affirmation

Of course, I saved my favorite one for last! I am a little biased, but this is in the opinion section, so I’m allowed to be. Words of affirmation are when you like to constantly tell someone how much you like them or love them. Although I’m not the greatest at communicating, words of affirmation can allow for stronger communication and a stronger bond between you and your partner.

Do you like to constantly tell someone how attractive they are to make them feel more confident? Do you like to say, ‘I love you?’ Then you’re like me, and words of affirmation are for you! As I mentioned, it’s important to give even effort into a relationship. You truly get what you give, and if you’re not getting what you want, you either have to put in more effort or communicate that.

Finding a love language that matches yours can be difficult to find. But the point of a relationship is understanding the other person, and understanding their love languages. Being in a relationship means you have to be open to understanding the other person.

Remember, it’s difficult to get what you want if you don’t communicate it. And also remember, if you’re not getting what you want/need, you should tell your partner because it’s the bare minimum to get what you want out of a relationship. Communication is key, and you truly get what you give.

Opinion

SNAP out of it

By Angela Satterlee
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Nearly 42 million Americans didn’t receive their SNAP benefits Nov. 1 as a result of the temporary government shutdown. When something like this happens, it can feel far away in Washington, D.C., but from FoodShare benefits to student aid and local jobs, this shutdown is more than a political fight and hits closer to home than you think.

Earlier this month, the federal government entered a partial shutdown after Congress failed to pass a funding deal. Essential workers stayed on the job without pay, some federal services were paused and programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) were left scrambling for temporary funds.

At first, it sounded like something that wouldn’t affect most college students. But it didn’t take long for the impact to show up closer to home. According to the Federal Reserve Bank, just under 17,000 of Winnebago County residents rely on FoodShare, our state’s version of SNAP, and many of them are college students juggling tuition, rent and part-time jobs like myself. When news broke that benefits might be cut or de-

layed, I’d never been so afraid for myself, family and friends who rely on SNAP for food to live.

In Winnebago County, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services eventually announced that full November benefits would be paid after a federal court ordered the government to find the funds. That decision brought relief, but it shouldn’t have come down to a last-minute legal battle just to make sure people can eat. And this is not the case for the whole country — some states are still without any SNAP benefits.

Shutdowns have become bargaining tools in budget negotiations, with everyday people caught in the middle. While politicians argue over line items, families and students are left checking their QUEST cards, wondering if they can afford to eat this month.

At UW Oshkosh, federal funding touches nearly every part of campus life, from Pell Grants and research funding to work-study positions and meal assistance. Even short shutdowns can cause long delays for students waiting on financial aid or other government support.

Food insecurity is already a challenge among college students. When programs like FoodShare are threatened, those

supports have to stretch even further. During the shutdown, food pantries across Wisconsin saw increased demand, including those serving students and families in Oshkosh.

It’s easy to scroll past news of a government shutdown and think it’s “politics as usual.” But that attitude ignores the people who feel it most. Even if we can’t end what’s happening in Washington, D.C., we can take care of our own community.

If you’re able, consider donating to the UWO Food Pantry located in Reeve Memorial Union. Things like nonperishable food and hygiene items are always greatly appreciated. If you can’t donate items or money, you can donate your time instead. Volunteer at local organizations like the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry or Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, which work directly with families who experience food insecurity when programs like SNAP are delayed. The shutdown may have been temporary, but the need in our community isn’t.

The next time Washington plays politics with people’s livelihoods, remember that the consequences aren’t just in the headlines. If Congress won’t make sure people are fed, then we as a community can make sure no Titan goes hungry.

How to stay motivated

By Genevieve Haartman
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We’re past the halfway mark and quickly nearing the end of the semester. With the end in near sight, it is hard to stay motivated. Especially if you just have never-ending assignments or exams. I struggle with staying motivated and being on top of my work, but I thought, why not suggest some of the tips I use when I’m simply feeling unable to get started on anything?

A 10-minute timer

Oftentimes, the most difficult part of getting work done is getting it started. I was once told to just try setting a 10-minute timer and doing something related to the assignment at hand. Once the 10 minutes are up, you can stop.

Whenever I do this, though, more often than not, I get into the groove and I decide to just keep rolling. But even if those 10 minutes are too much, you can come back later and try again. Any amount of work is better than nothing, so just try a little at a time!

Make studying fun

I hate studying with all of my heart, but if I am able to make it somewhat enjoyable, it makes it all the easier. So, whenever I know I need to focus and get work done, I often go to a coffee shop or somewhere that will be quiet and I can easily focus. But the best part is having delicious coffee and a treat to snack on while I work.

If you don’t want to go to a coffee shop, bring a snack and

your favorite drink to your favorite study spot! Or you can reward yourself with a short spurt of a hobby, like reading, drawing or even playing a short video game when you reach your goals!

I also love to study with my friends because it’s fun and you can talk to them during your breaks, but you also get “pressured” into working, making it easier to stay on task.

Separate work and relaxation

I struggle to do homework at home or in my bed because these are the places I know I am meant to unwind and settle down. So if I’m trying to do homework in the places where I am meant to study, I never get anything done!

So, this is why I suggest finding a place you can designate as your study spot. Personally, I love New Moon Cafe, the local coffee shop in downtown Oshkosh. But it can be as sim-

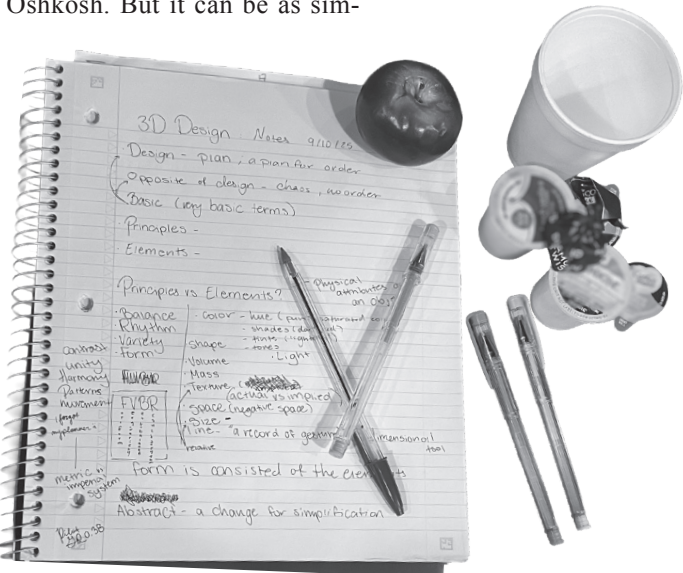
ple as your desk in your dorm room or a table in your favorite building.

Being able to have separation from your work and your relaxation makes it so much easier to relax when you want to and work when you need to!

Get organized

I am all over the place when it comes to keeping track of assignments and their due dates, especially if they are only in the syllabus or projects that you are given lots of time to complete.

But I have found that sitting down, even just once a week and spending about 15-20 minutes just figuring out what is due and what you should work on during the week keeps me on top of my assignments! And it is written down so I can always refer back to my planner if I am ever unsure about when things need to get done.



Suzanne Dawood / Advance-Titan

Friendsgiving on a budget

Five tips for a cheap & easy Thanksgiving for students



Cassidy Johnson / Advance-Titan

A cheap and easy pumpkin pie, following the information from the article and the recipe to the right.

By Angela Satterlee
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Thanksgiving is a time to gather with friends and family, celebrate what we’re grateful for, and, of course, enjoy a delicious meal. But for many college students living on a tight budget, the idea of putting together a big holiday feast can feel out of reach. The good news is that it’s possible to enjoy a satisfying Thanksgiving dinner without spending a fortune. Here’s how you can enjoy a cheap, yet festive, Thanksgiving dinner without skimping on flavor or fun.

1. Plan and budget wisely

The key to keeping your Thanksgiving dinner affordable is planning ahead. Instead of running to the store at the last minute, make a shopping list and set a budget and opt for budget-friendly stores like Walmart or Aldi. The average cost of a Thanksgiving dinner can be expensive, but by shopping smart, you can cut that cost.

2. Share the load with friends or roommates

For many students, Thanksgiving might be spent with friends, roommates or other people in similar situations. Instead of trying to

cook everything yourself, consider a potluck-style dinner where everyone contributes a dish. This is not only a cheaper option, but it also adds variety to the meal. One friend can bring mashed potatoes, another can bring a salad and someone else can handle the stuffing or dessert.

3. Make smaller portions

A whole turkey can be expensive, and many students don’t need to cook a whole turkey to enjoy the flavors of Thanksgiving. A cheaper alternative is buying turkey legs or thighs or you can even buy a chicken instead of a turkey.

4. Cheapen the staples

Potatoes: mashed potatoes are a classic side dish and very affordable. A five-pound bag of potatoes typically costs less than \$3, and they can easily serve several people.

Canned Cranberries: instead of making cranberry sauce from scratch, pick up a can of cranberry sauce for under \$2. It’s quick and can taste just as good.

Stuffing: a box of stuffing mix can cost as little as \$1, and you can add sautéed onions, garlic and herbs for extra flavor.

Green Beans: fresh or frozen

green beans are another affordable choice, and they’re easy to cook.

5. Desserts

Thanksgiving wouldn’t be complete without dessert, and luckily, there are plenty of budget-friendly options. Instead of splurging on expensive pies or store-bought sweets, consider baking your own. Pumpkin pie, for instance, can be made for under \$5 using canned pumpkin, eggs, sugar and spices. Apple crisp is another inexpensive dessert, requiring just apples, oats, sugar and butter. These homemade treats not only save money, but they also give you the satisfaction of preparing something from scratch.

Thanksgiving doesn’t have to be about extravagant meals or expensive dishes. For us college students, the focus can be on gratitude, friendship and enjoying the company of those around you. By planning carefully, being resourceful and embracing simple, yet flavorful, dishes, you can have a memorable Thanksgiving meal that doesn’t break the bank. So, gather your friends, get creative in the kitchen and remember that sometimes the best meals are the ones shared with those we care about the most.

Pumpkin Pie

Ingredients

- ¾ cup of sugar
- 2 teaspoons of pumpkin pie spice (or combine 2-4 of these spices: nutmeg, cinnamon, ginger, clove)
- ½ teaspoon of cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon of salt
- 2 eggs
- 15 ounces of canned pumpkin puree (\$2.19)
- 12 ounces of evaporated milk (\$1.89)
- Pre-made pie crust (\$1.99) (Graham, shortbread, pecan, etc.)

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 425°F.
2. Combine the sugar, pumpkin pie spice, cinnamon and salt.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk together eggs until they’re combined, and then add the above mixture. Stir.
4. Add in the pumpkin puree and evaporated milk. Stir until they’re perfectly combined.
5. Place the premade pie crust on a rimmed baking sheet and fill the crust with mix-



- ture. Use the baking sheet just in case the pie filling spills over during the baking process.
6. Bake for 15 minutes.
7. Reduce the heat to 350°F and bake for 30-40 more minutes until golden around the edges. To prevent the tip of the crust from burning, you can also cover it with tin foil.
8. When the pie is done, turn off the oven and open it to allow it to cool off until room temperature.
9. Refrigerate or serve fresh. Good served with whipped cream, ice cream or caramel sauce.

Apple Crisp

Ingredients

- 1 can of apple pie filling
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 2 cups flour or oats

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Spread apple pie filling in an 8-by-8-inch baking dish and sprinkle with cinnamon and nutmeg.
3. Cream together butter and

- brown sugar. Add flour or oats until mixture is clumped together and crumb-like.
4. Sprinkle mixture evenly over top of the apples.
 5. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until the top is a crisp golden brown and the apples should be hot and bubbling.
 6. Refrigerate or serve fresh. Good served with whipped cream, ice cream or caramel sauce.

Oshkosh Celebration of Lights returns to EAA

By Isaac Pischer
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A popular Oshkosh holiday tradition will be returning to the city as students return from Thanksgiving break, turning the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) grounds into a winter wonderland.

The Oshkosh Celebration of Lights will be held on the EAA grounds for its 24th season, its third at the current location.

The yearly festival, which runs between Thanksgiving weekend and New Year’s Eve, is an Oshkosh tradition with more than one million lights within dozens of displays, including a 100-foot sculpted tree.

The event moved from Menominee Park in Oshkosh to the EAA grounds in 2023 because the park grounds were unavailable.

Organizers explained that the event started more than 20 years ago after the founder, Tom Stephany, a former Oshkosh Parks Department Director, was inspired by a light show in Texas.

This year is also the first since Leon Thompson, who was considered a driving force of the event by organizers, died in August.

Celebration of Lights President Norman Reichenberger said that Thompson was dedicated to providing a family-friendly holiday event that everyone could enjoy and afford.

“We got along so well because we both had the same idea of what the Celebrations of Lights should be, and I’m trying to carry it on just exactly what his dream was for it,” he said.

The event, which sees more than 22,000 people drive through its

gates, was named 79th among the 150 most popular in the nation.

“Oshkosh’s Celebration of Lights delivers a mile-long drive-through experience with over one million twinkling lights,” the survey team said in its recognition of the event. “Santa’s Workshop, festive treats and charity opportunities make this display a Wisconsin holiday highlight.”

Special offerings during the event include visits with Santa through Dec. 23, horse-pulled wagon rides as well as community nights. Every Sunday, thanks to various sponsors, attendees can get in for free.

As a new addition in 2025, the Sunday community nights will include free admission to the EAA Aviation Museum, allowing visitors to enjoy both attractions in one day.

The 23rd Race for the Light 5K



Courtesy of Jim Koepnick

A golden retriever named Huck looks upon the bright lights.

Run/Walk, which benefits the Oshkosh Area United Way, is scheduled for Dec. 6. The unique course begins at the EAA Youth Education Center at 4:30 p.m. and takes participants directly through the illuminated Oshkosh Celebration of Lights display to the finish. Online registration is \$35 and comes with a T-shirt and jingle bells. Participants are encouraged to wear an ugly sweater to receive special recognition.

The event is open every night from 5:30 to 9 p.m. through Dec. 31. The cost is \$20 per carload, but visitors who bring in nonperishable food items or (sealed) hygiene essentials receive a \$5 discount.