

SPORTS

Yellowjacket Track and Field Hosts UMAC Indoor Championship

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The Upper Midwest Athletic Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships were held on the campus of UW-Superior. The two day event sees the championships of both men’s and women’s events all inside Dr. Lydia C. Thering Fieldhouse in the Marcovich Wellness Center.

For the Yellowjacket Men’s team they came into the event as the eight

time defending champs and looking to extend their dominance. On the women’s side the team looked to defend their title after claiming their first two in program history the two previous seasons.

After day one on the men’s side the team held the lead with 112 points. Helping the Yellowjackets on the way to the lead were Earl Foster and Garrett Lynch who finished

first and third respectively in the 60m hurdles. Zach Reese also set a season best in the 5,000 meter race clocking in at a time 16:14.29.

After day one on the women’s side the Yellowjackets were in third place behind Northwestern and Crown. The Yellowjacket women were helped out by a strong performance from Bel Dimaze in the high jump. Dimaze won the competition with a 1.52m jump. Tea Borner placed third in the 5000m race with a time of 19:24.04

On the second day of competition the Yellowjacket men would cruise to victory. They received 242 points for the weekend and were helped by Jesse Ortiz who won the 200m with a time of 22.43 seconds. Jason Thomas also took home the top spot in the pole vault at a



Halle Barker Leads A Pack of Runners During The 3000m Race
Photo by Andrew Mathews | The Promethean

height of 4.30m.

With the victory the men’s track and field team claim their ninth straight championship at the event. They will now send a select few to the Ripon Final Qualifier.

Day two for the women saw them stay in third place for the competition. Crown was able to creep ahead of Northwestern to win the women’s title while the Yellowjackets remained in third place.

Even though the team

may not have won the competition there were still Yellowjackets who had strong performances for the day. Myla Volk took home a victory in the triple jump. Summer Hesseldahl took second in the 60m hurdles. Kory Windish also placed second in the shot put. The women now will also send some to the Ripon Final Qualifier on March 7.



Earl Foster and Garrett Lynch Competing In 60m Hurdles.
Photo by Andrew Mathews | The Promethean

UWS Softball Gets Season Started With Six Games Over Two Weekends

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UW-Superior Yellowjackets opened up the Softball season with an 11-2 win over Macalester College in the first game of two on Feb 21. In the first game, sophomore Karen Balabon, senior Zoe Thomson, and freshman Peyton Bennett all had two hits in the first game.

UWS didn’t look back after a four-run first inning led by Thomson’s two RBIs. Senior Ellie Macal wanted in on the fun, and in the second inning, she hit a two-run homerun. UWS stayed hot all game on the bats, and the pitching helped close things out with sophomore Bella Garley and junior Samantha Swartz both pitching 3.0

innings in the win.

Moving onto game two of the day against another Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference team, Carleton. UWS’ late-game comeback was led by senior Lily Hanson who singled bringing in senior Kendallyn Kalenberg for a run but that wasn’t enough after Carleton’s six unanswered run stretch from the third to the sixth inning. Freshman Abby Mitchell’s pitching was the bright spot in this loss to Carleton, with five strikeouts through 2.0 innings pitched.

UWS was able to bounce back with another doubleheader on the first of March at the 2025 UW-Oshkosh Invitational. The Yellowjackets collected

a pair of wins over Wisconsin Lutheran College and Loras College. In the first game against WLC, Garley pitched a complete game in her first win of the season and added 4 RBIs at the plate. On the offensive side, sophomore Carly Stuckmayer and Balabon led the team with three hits beating WLC by a final score of 9-2.

In game two on the day against Loras, UWS opened and finished all their scoring in the game in the second inning. Those six runs were enough to secure the 6-3 win over Loras, with Swartz picking up her second win of the season with two strikeouts in the game. Bennett led the offense with a single and



Baylee O'Donnell Went 6-6, With Nine RBIs Over Two Games Against UW-Oshkosh and Beloit.
File photo by Harrison Law | UWS Athletics

two RBIs.

One day two of the invitational UWS split their two games. In Game one the Yellowjackets were outpaced by UW-Oshkosh 10-1. The lone bright spot on offense was Baylee O'Donnell’s RBI single to put the Yellowjackets on the board. In Game 2 UWS was able to

take control over Beloit winning 19-4 behind a 14 run fourth inning. The offense was yet again highlighted by O'Donnell as she launched a grand slam in the fourth inning. The Yellowjackets now head to Florida for the 35th Annual Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic.

UWS Women’s Basketball’s Besonen Eclipses 1,000 Career Points

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Hitting 1,000 points is a difficult task to complete in the sport of basketball. Elise Besonen, senior guard, for the women’s basketball team has been able to complete this task by averaging just over 16 points per game this season.

Besonen has been an anchor for the Yellow-

jackets, starting in every game this season while also playing in 100 career games.

When asked about that moment she found out she hit the milestone, Besonen had this to say. “Honestly, I wasn’t entirely sure that I had scored my 1,000th point until coach pulled me

aside during the game and congratulated me. It was never something I really kept track of as I didn’t want to make it a huge deal. I’ve just been focusing on the things I can do to help our team and enjoying the last few opportunities we have left to play together.”

Besonen hitting 1,000 career points puts her in the top ten percent of scorers at the University of Wisconsin-Superior. She is also the first player to hit this milestone under head coach Emily Carpenter.

Coach Carpenter said this about Besonen, “Elise is one of the most unselfish players I have coached. She could care less about individual stats. So, to see someone



Emily Carpenter Presents Besonen With A Ball Commemorating 1000 Career Points
Photo by Holden Law | UWS Athletics

so team oriented accomplish this goal, is so inspiring.”

Besonen isn’t only the leading scorer; she also leads the Yellowjackets in most of the offensive categories. They include field goals made, field goal percentage, three-point shots, free throws,

assists, steals, and minutes played.

This seasons Besonen set her career best for points in a Yellowjacket uniform in a matchuo against Northwestern with 32. She currently sits at 1,142 points for her career.



Elise Besonen Drives To Hoop vs St. Scholastica Defender
Photo by Andrew Mathews | The Promethean