

A STEP AHEAD

Hailey Bower has conducted what's believed to be a record 400 tours as a guide for the Office of Admissions.

Bower Always a Step Ahead Guiding Visitors around Campus

When she walks across the stage at commencement next week, Hailey Bower will graduate from Purdue University Fort Wayne as one of the most visible Mastodons over the past four years. She has encouraged hundreds to follow in her footsteps on campus, literally and figuratively.

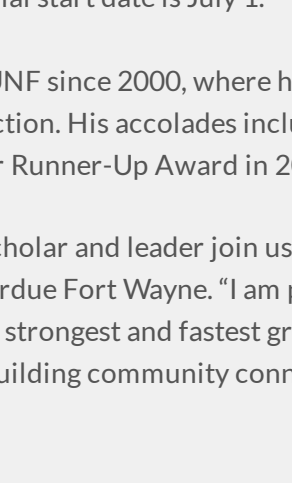
Sometime in March, the hospitality and tourism management major conducted her 400th tour as a guide for the Office of Admissions. It's assumed Bower holds the record, and no one is sure how many of the prospective students she's guided have ended up on campus, but she runs into them all the time.

"She'll go above and beyond to make each individual student feel welcome and appreciated," said Ryan Meriwether, assistant director of admissions events. "She makes sure that every student feels like they are represented no matter how many are on a tour."

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Sherif Elfayoumy Chosen as Steel Dynamics Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science

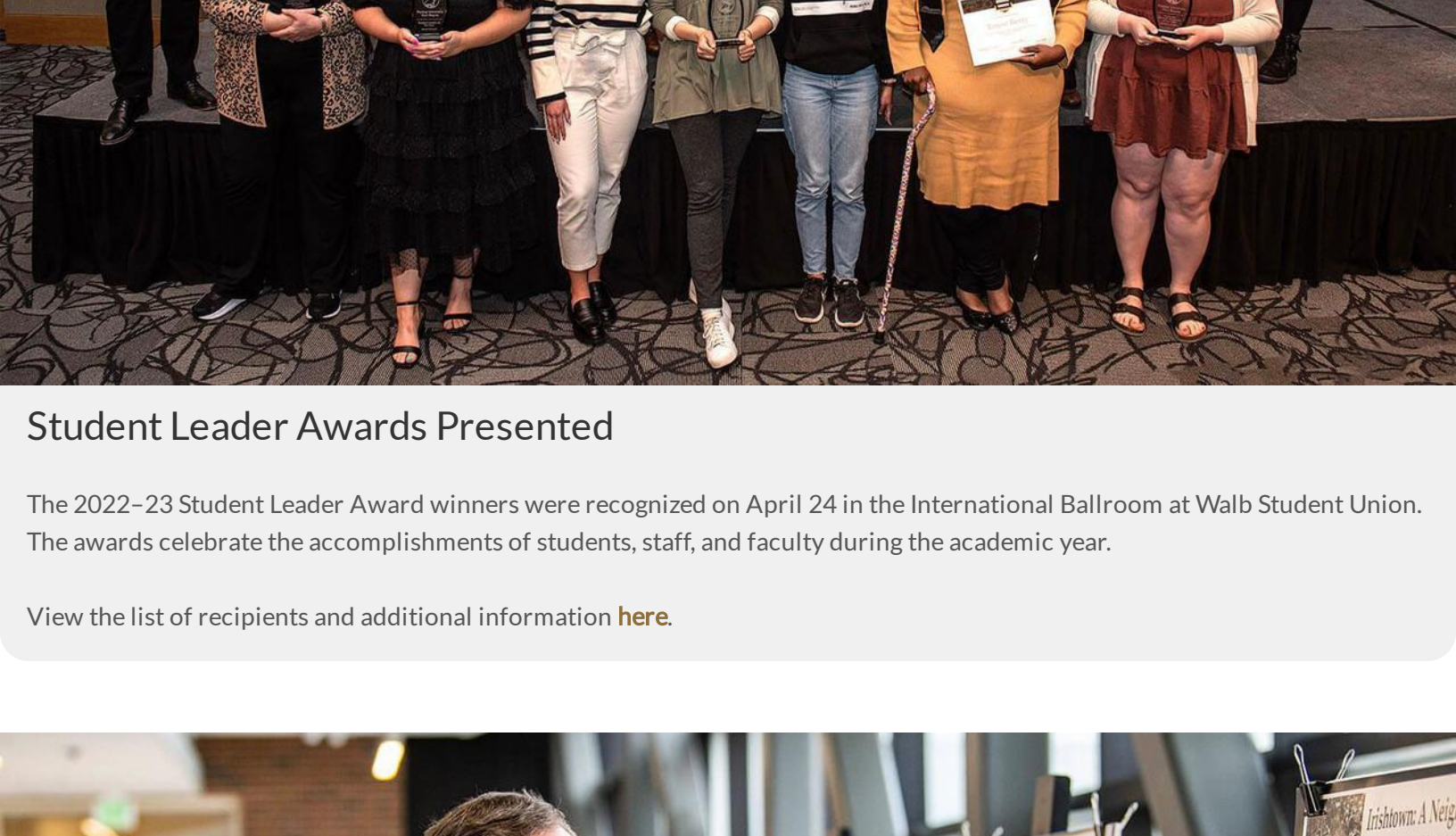


Sherif Elfayoumy, director of the School of Computing at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, has been selected by Purdue University Fort Wayne to become the Steel Dynamics Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science. Chosen as part of a national search, his official start date is July 1.

Working in various roles, Elfayoumy has been with UNF since 2000, where he also served as a professor and associate dean of the College of Computing, Engineering and Construction. His accolades include receiving the FIS Distinguished Professor Award in 2014 and the UNF Distinguished Professor Runner-Up Award in 2018.

"We are very fortunate to have a nationally known scholar and leader join us as dean of our College of ETCS," said Carl Drummond, vice chancellor for academic affairs, Purdue Fort Wayne. "I am particularly thrilled that Dr. Elfayoumy comes to us with leadership experience in computer science, our strongest and fastest growing program at both the undergraduate and graduate level. He brings a wealth of experience in building community connections and I am certain he will rapidly become connected with our many corporate partners."

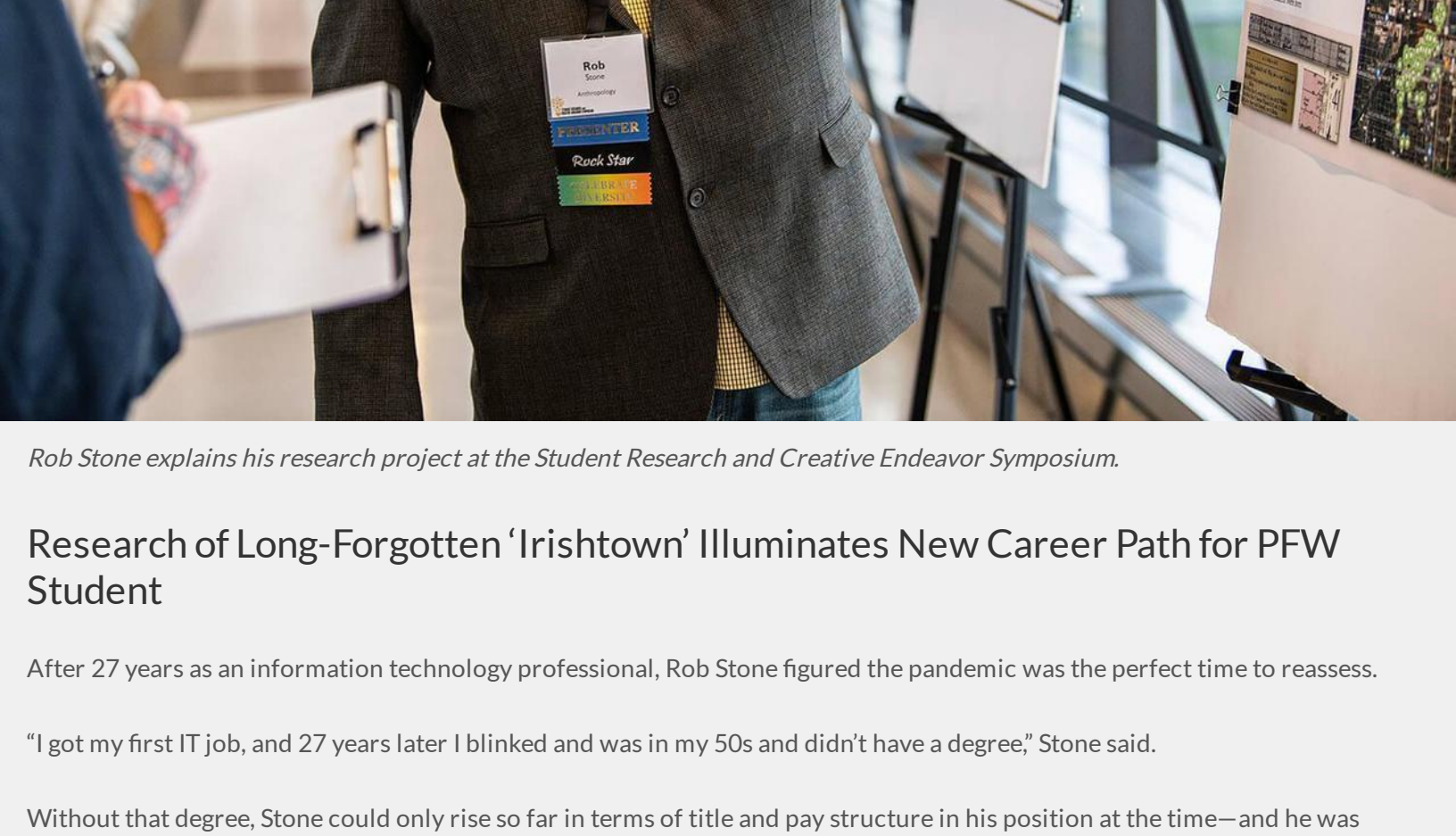
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Student Leader Awards Presented

The 2022-23 Student Leader Award winners were recognized on April 24 in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union. The awards celebrate the accomplishments of students, staff, and faculty during the academic year.

View the list of recipients and additional information [here](#).



Rob Stone explains his research project at the Student Research and Creative Endeavor Symposium.

Research of Long-Forgotten 'Irishtown' Illuminates New Career Path for PFW Student

After 27 years as an information technology professional, Rob Stone figured the pandemic was the perfect time to reassess.

"I got my first IT job, and 27 years later I blinked and was in my 50s and didn't have a degree," Stone said.

Without that degree, Stone could only rise so far in terms of title and pay structure in his position at the time—and he was burned out. Now 55, Stone had always loved studying human history, so he started taking anthropology classes at Purdue Fort Wayne. Stone had been writing history-based articles for years as a hobby, using the pen name O'Donoghue because it's his grandmother's maiden name.

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Adilov's Strong Research Impresses Faculty and Family

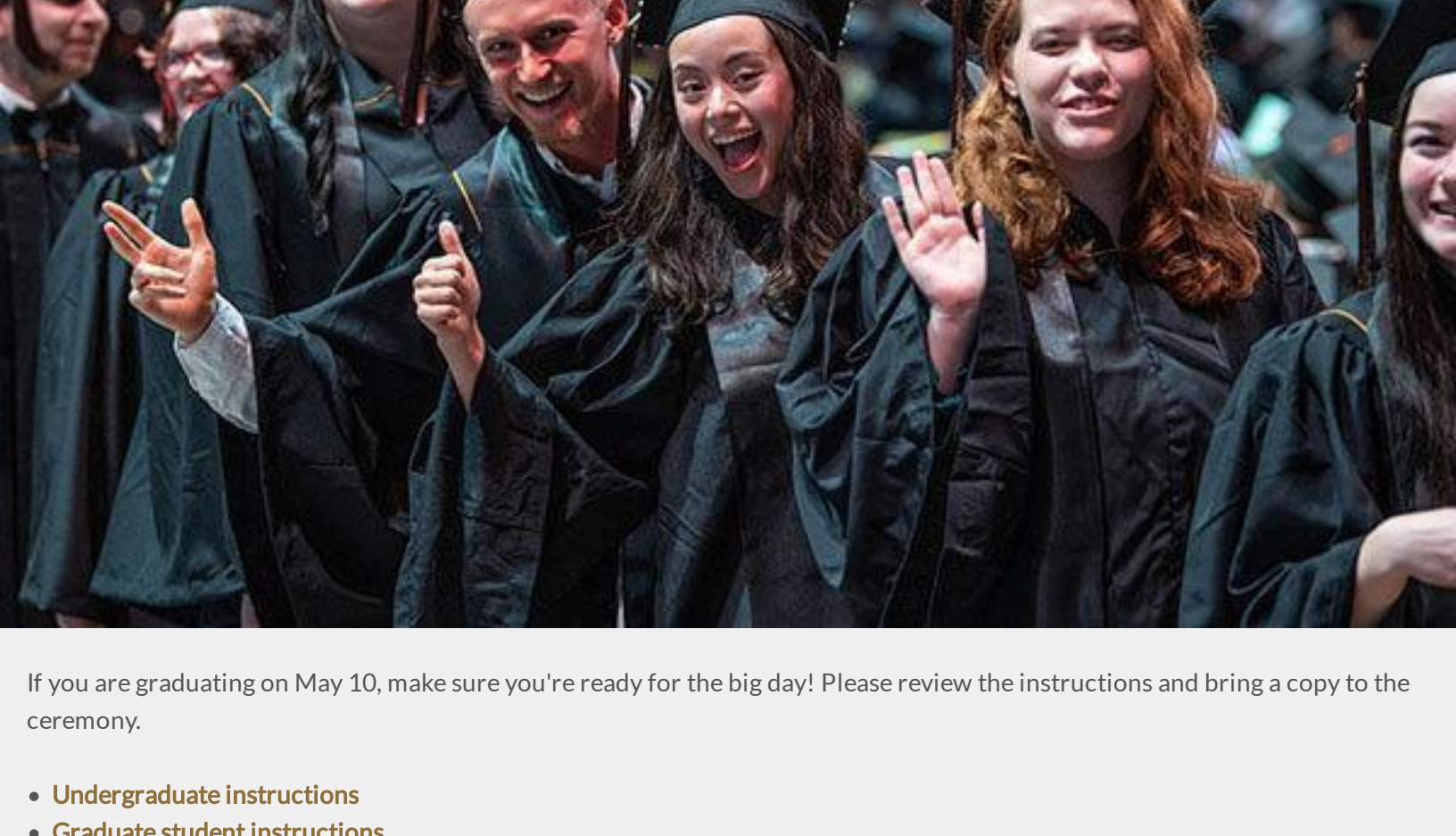
Colleagues think Nodir Adilov's work is fascinating, and his students are intrigued, but there's an easy way to tell the impact of his work. His 11-year-old son thinks what dad does is cool.

Dan Adilov is fascinated with everything in outer space such as planets, rockets, and satellites—and his father, the Purdue University Fort Wayne professor of economics, is among the nation's leading experts on the economics of space, particularly the debris ringing the planet.

NASA estimates there are about 23,000 items of space debris larger than a softball orbiting the earth. This includes nonfunctional spacecraft, abandoned launch vehicle stages, mission-related debris, and fragmentation debris—all falling at up to 17,500 miles per hour. According to NASA, there are 500,000 pieces of debris the size of a marble or larger and more than 100 million smaller pieces.

[READ MORE](#)

Important Commencement Instructions for Graduates



If you are graduating on May 10, make sure you're ready for the big day! Please review the instructions and bring a copy to the ceremony.

- [Undergraduate instructions](#)
- [Graduate student instructions](#)

Also remember to check out the [Commencement website](#) for general information and FAQ. Questions? Contact commence@pfw.edu.

Last Day to Register for Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner

After Commencement, it's time to celebrate! The Mastodon Alumni Community invites graduates, family, and friends to the inaugural Chancellor's New Alumni Dinner in Expo II at Memorial Coliseum. Menu choices include chicken, beef, and vegetarian plated meals, and a cash bar option.

2023 Graduates | \$10
Adults | \$25
Children (3-12) | \$10
Children (2 and under) | Free

Note: You must be 21 years or older to purchase alcoholic drinks.

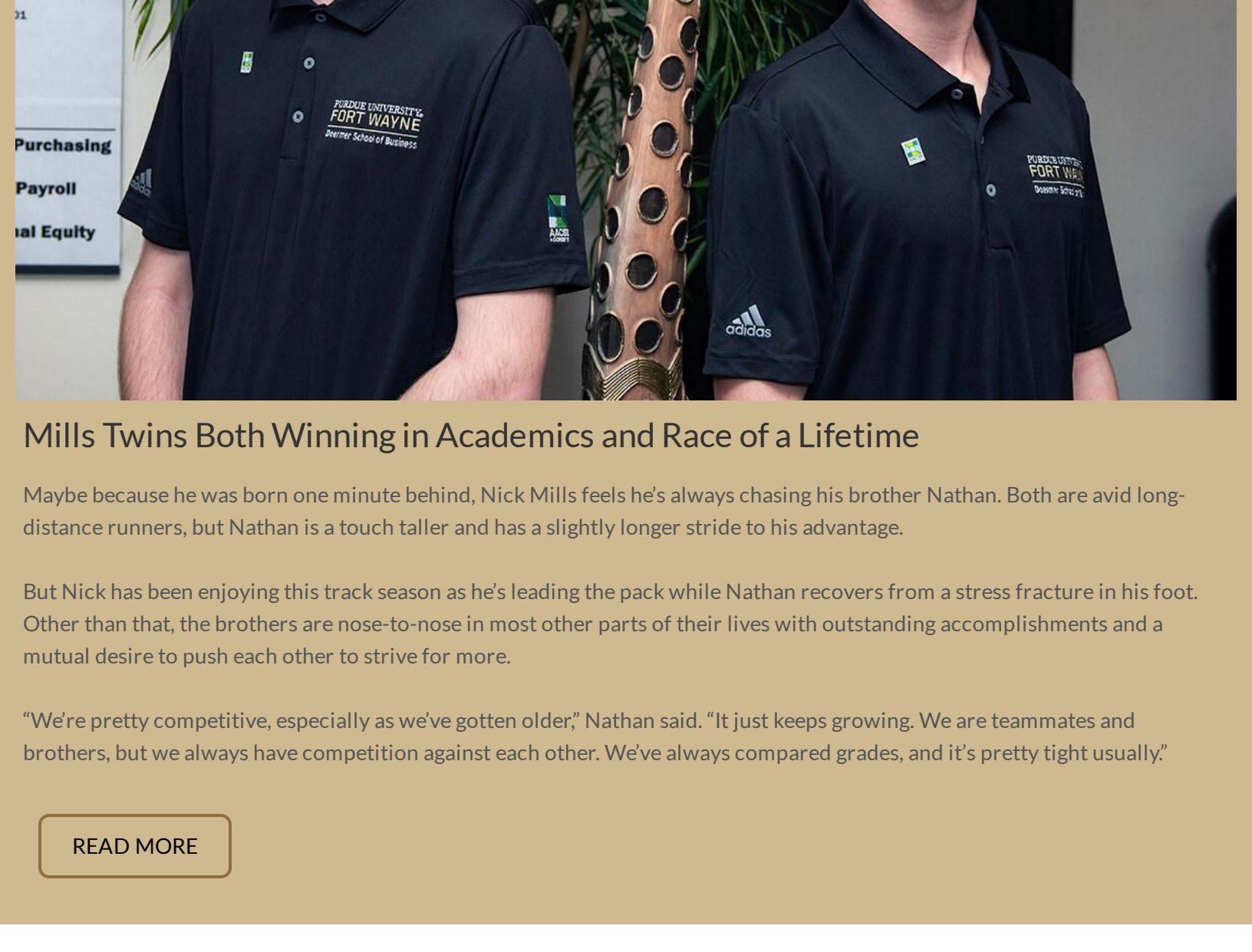
In addition, you're invited to join the alumni after-party in Expo III. Listen to the band A Night to Remember, enjoy an appetizer, grab a cocktail at the cash bar, and snap a pic for your socials at the photo station. Graduates will also receive a free commemorative gift.

Today is the last day to register.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Herd That

The student experience is a big part of who we are as Mastodons. Here's one of our stories.



Mills Twins Both Winning in Academics and Race of a Lifetime

Maybe because he was born one minute behind, Nick Mills feels he's always chasing his brother Nathan. Both are avid long-distance runners, but Nathan is a touch taller and has a slightly longer stride to his advantage.

But Nick has been enjoying this track season as he's leading the pack while Nathan recovers from a stress fracture in his foot. Other than that, the brothers are nose-to-nose in most other parts of their lives with outstanding accomplishments and a mutual desire to push each other to strive for more.

"We're pretty competitive, especially as we've gotten older," Nathan said. "It just keeps growing. We are teammates and brothers, but we always have competition against each other. We've always compared grades, and it's pretty tight usually."

[READ MORE](#)

Don Dates

There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. To find your favorites—or discover new activities—check the Don Dates website often to see what's happening on campus.

MAY
8

Mon., 4–5 p.m.

Lavender Graduation

The Q Center and the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will host the third annual Lavender Graduation, an LGBTQIA+ inclusive and ally ceremony that is separate from PFW's Commencement...

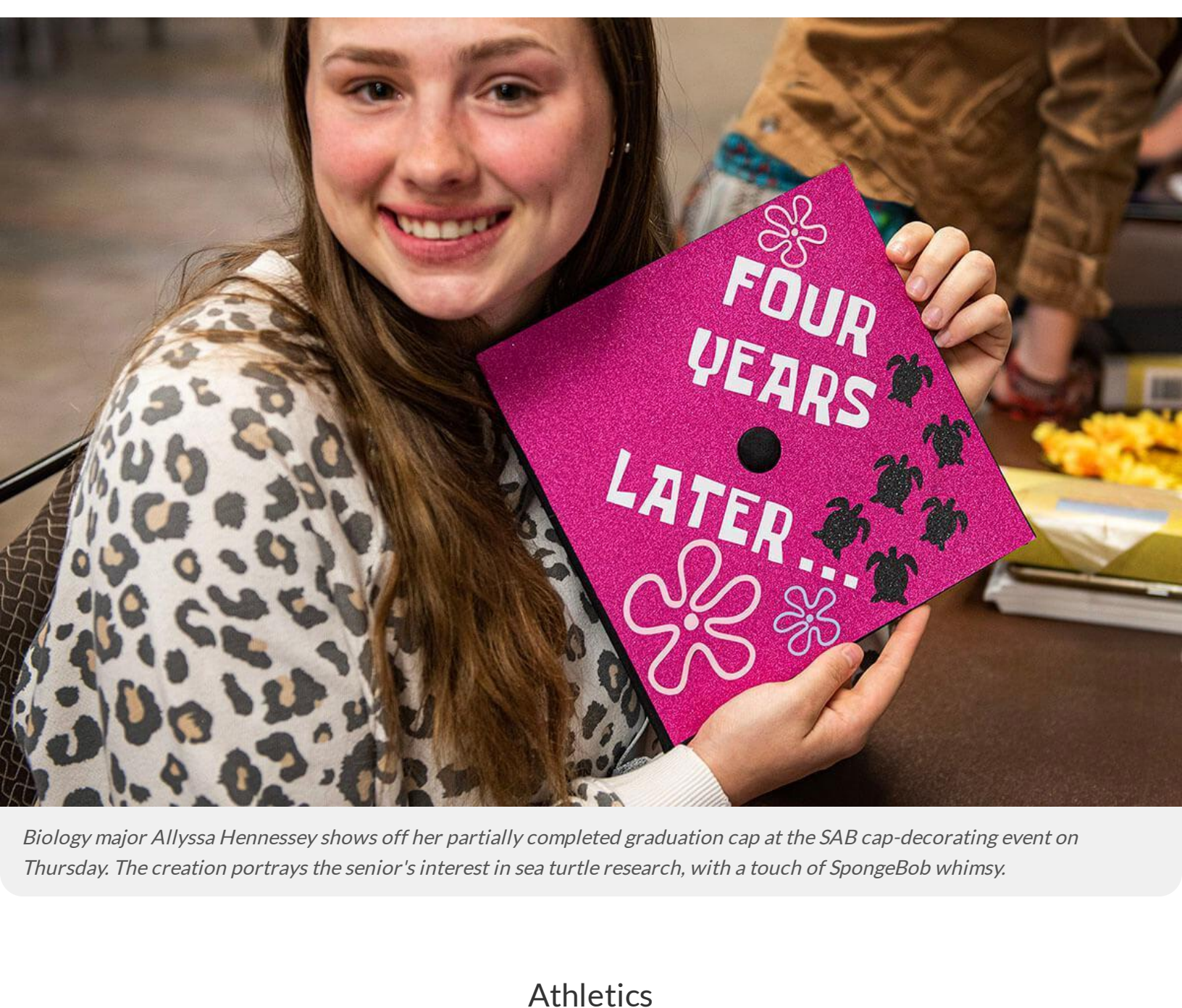
MAY
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Mon., 5–7 p.m.

Multicultural Graduation

The Multicultural Center and the Office of International Education will host the second annual Multicultural Graduation...

Mastodon Moments

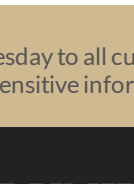


Biology major Allyssa Hennessey shows off her partially completed graduation cap at the SAB cap-decorating event on Thursday. The creation portrays the senior's interest in sea turtle research, with a touch of SpongeBob whimsy.

Athletics



Don Dates



News Center



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life Special Edition is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

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