

# donlife



For Students

March 6, 2024



## Mastodon Women's Basketball to Host Horizon League Postseason Tournament Game Tomorrow Night; Free Admission with a Valid Student ID

Students are invited to shift the spring break party to Gates Sports Center on Thursday at 7 p.m. as PFW's No. 3-seeded women's team takes on No. 6 seed Detroit Mercy in the quarterfinals of the 2024 Barbasol Horizon League Basketball Championships. Students who present a valid PFW or IUFW ID at the door can get into the game for free!

Tuesday night at Gates, PFW's No. 8-seeded men's team defeated No. 9 seed Robert Morris 78-63 in its first-round matchup of the Horizon League postseason tournament. Next up for the Dons is a road contest against No. 1 seed Oakland on Thursday at 7 p.m.

Both Horizon League tournament schedules can be access by [clicking here](#). View all schedules for Mastodon Athletics at [gomastodons.com](http://gomastodons.com).



## Self-Proclaimed ‘Cripple Threat of Comedy’ to Perform at PFW March 28

Despite being born with a disability in both arms, Ryan Niemiller, the self-proclaimed “Cripple Threat of Comedy” who finished 3rd in season 14 of NBC’s America’s Got Talent, will share his views of the world from the perspective of the disabled on March 28 at Purdue University Fort Wayne. The show kicks off at 7 p.m. in Auer Performance Hall and is open to students, faculty, staff, and the general public. Tickets are free and may be picked up at the **Schatzlein Box Office** or online via the university’s **ticketing platform**.

Niemiller’s appearance at PFW is sponsored by the **Disability Access Center**, with help from multiple campus partners.

“We wanted to bring Niemiller to campus because he has a visible disability, is an Indiana native, and has been a well-known comic throughout the country for several years,” said Ryan McCombs, director of the Disability Access Center. “March is also when Indiana observes Disability Awareness Month, and this event will be the grand finale of our related programming.”

McCombs said the show was also scheduled to coincide with the university’s annual **Well-being Summit** for students, faculty, and staff. Various activities are being offered earlier in the day between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Most will take place in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union.

**Click here** to catch all of Niemiller’s 2019 AGT performances.

For more information, contact the Disability Access Center at **dac@pfw.edu** or 260-481-6657.



*Mary Encabo-Bischoff, director of the ELP program and current TENL program director, was a recent presenter at the Anthropology Club's lunchtime lecture series.*

## University's English Language Partners Program Expands to Japan

Shortly after his sister city delegation toured Purdue University Fort Wayne in October, the mayor of Takaoka, Japan, agreed to a partnership with the English Language Partners program of the **Three Rivers Language Center** in the College of Liberal Arts. Implementation started Feb. 5 as PFW student Bella Escobar met seven students and two professors from Takaoka University of Law for a class she led online.

"My students are eager to learn English, and although some are a bit shy, I try to remind them that I also feel it intimidating learning Japanese, and that I am here to help," said Escobar, a senior who is majoring in English and English linguistics with a concentration in **Teaching English as a New Language**. "I hope to get to know them more during the semester."

The program lasts 13 weeks with Monday morning classes. Escobar has studied Japanese for four years at PFW and is president of the Japanese Club student organization. She hopes to apply for a Japan exchange and teaching program following graduation in May.

[READ MORE](#)



*Donna Brazile met with a group of about 25 students in the IDEASpace at Helmke Library before her Omnibus series presentation Thursday night. She advised them to not give up on the political process and even become the leaders America needs.*

## Process Over Partisanship: Brazile Speaks to Next Generation of Political Leaders

While congresspeople near her home in Washington continue to snipe at each other over an emergency funding package—and just about everything else—political strategist and media analyst Donna Brazile refrained from adding to the vitriol during her Purdue University Fort Wayne visit Thursday. Instead, Brazile preached civility and community during her Omnibus Speaker Series presentation in Auer Performance Hall.

“Every vote matters, every voice matters, and we need every American,” Brazile said. “I don’t care what your partisan affiliation is; go out here and be a cheerleader for democracy. We need more people cheering democracy on.”

Instead of adding to the rancor, Brazile used humor, often poking fun at herself, such as why HGTV is her favorite cable network. Brazile seemed to preach the country’s political tension is caused by too many taking partisanship too seriously. The goal, she said, shouldn’t be which side can dictate and force the other to submit, but how we can work together to make the country better.

[READ MORE](#)

## Eventful

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

MARCH

12

Tues., 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

## Talent Tuesday: Meet Your Next Employer

Speak with employers who are offering internship, part-time, and full-time positions that you wouldn't get the chance to know about otherwise...

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MARCH

12

Tues, noon-4 p.m.

## Crafting with The Q Center and Pride Docuseries: The 1980's

Join The Q Center for arts and crafts—Perler beads, coloring, bracelet-making, and more. The center is also continuing the viewing of the PRIDE docuseries, covering queer history in the 1980's...

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MARCH

13

Wed., 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

## Multicultural Coffee Café

The Multicultural Center will serve up Italian Espresso at its monthly Multicultural Coffee Café...

## News Spotlight

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*A sampling of external news coverage of Purdue University Fort Wayne.*

Oliver comments on literacy bill that would hold back more third graders

Associated Press and WANE 15 | Thursday

PFW professor uses games he created to help teach German language

WANE 15 | Feb. 28

## Mastodon Moments

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*Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.*



*The Mastodon Career Expo assisted students and alumni from PFW and IUFW in the Lutheran Health Fieldhouse on Wednesday. Attendees had an opportunity to network with local and regional employers—and practice the all-important elevator pitch.*

Athletics



Events Calendar



News Center



Don Life Archive



*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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