Chief Deputy Accused of Racial Insensitivity over Facebook Post

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Saturday morning, October 14, Dan Kontos, Chief Deputy of the Portage County Sheriff’s Department, shared his regular weekend-humor post on the Department’s Facebook fan-page.

The meme’s original source is not known. It featured a Super Troopers character and read as “OFFICERS BE LIKE ‘LAST NAME SMITH – SAM, MARY, IDA, TOM, HENRY. FIRST NAME TAWNEEQUA – COMMON SPELLING.’”

The punchline was the officer’s refusal to spell “Tawneequa” over the radio.

Disidents claimed that the post was racially-charged. Advocates, including Kontos, claimed that the joke and the name “Tawneequa” had no connection to any eth-

continued on page 3

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, the Stevens Point Academic Representation Council hosted a panel discussion regarding the Wisconsin Idea.

Speakers included: Rep. Katrina Shankland, D-WI; Sen. Patrick Testin, R-WI; Randi Weingarten, President of the American Federation of Teachers; Amanda Greenhal, UWSP student; Jeff Snowbarger, UWSP English professor; and Nathan Sandwick, UW-Extension educator. The panel was moderated by Kym Buchanan, Chair of the School of Education.

The panel took place in the DUC Theater, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Its focus pertained to current challenges the university faces, the university’s options for action, and the implications of these actions.

In 2015 Gov. Scott Walker, R-WI, included the removal/revision of the Wisconsin Idea’s goals in his budget proposal, to be replaced with goals “to meet the state’s workforce needs.” The Wisconsin Idea was only preserved due to the public’s negative reaction toward his proposal.

“This is a dangerous moment in this state and this country,” said Weingarten.

The speakers took turns discussing the necessity of the Wisconsin Idea for the first hour of the panel, and a Q&A session followed for the next hour. SPARC supplied free cookies and coffee for the event.

The panel precedes Cornerstone Press’s annotated republishing of “The Wisconsin Idea,” coming this Spring. “The Wisconsin Idea” had first been published by Charles McCarthy in 1912. It represented the goals and ideals of the Progressive movement. Today, scholars consider the published work to be an important cultural and historical relic.

The Wisconsin Idea sought to apply the benefits from knowledge, education and research into improving the state’s infrastructure, legislation, conservation practices, agriculture and state of living. Wisconsin
Advisory Work Group Continues to Search for Best Solution to Budget Storm

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The advisory group called the Academic and Budget Advisory Work Group (ABAWG) the pro­vost on what cuts can be made in the university have come up with some ways they can save a couple hundred thousand dollars from needing to be cut.

One of the ideas the board made was a new imagined university that would condense the five colleges into three.

Ari Farrell, a Natural resource planning and political science major said that, "The deans brought this idea to the ABAWG group to look at what an administrative restructuring would look like.

"With this restructuring the university would only save a small slice from the 6.4 million needing to be cut. The money they save from this possible restructure would come from cutting an entire deans office and deans office staff," said Farrell.

"While it would only save a small portion from being cut that is a couple hundred thousand that would not have to come from the faculty and staff," said Farrell, "this idea was more to show us what it would look like if we chose to cut administrative staff."

Farrell also explained that the idea included would be skimming some of the majors down into discipline rather than completely cut a major. So, a student can still get the skill sets of an area and gain the knowledge but also focus on another at the same time.

"Officially nothing is off the table for discussion," said Farrell.

"One thing we can say is certainly that magnitude of this situation is large, and the effects are sobering. Some feel that its not that bad while others can see it's so not good," said Bradley Kerber, our Student Government President and an elementary education major.

Both SGA and the ABAWG hope to keep the general campus public up to date as much as possible and will continue their discussions and hosting forums on the issues and fallout from budget storm yet to come.

"We are definitely caught between a rock and a hard place," said Farrell.
An Overview of the Wisconsin Governor 2018 Candidates

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The Wisconsin general election is happening on Tuesday, Nov. 6 and it is important to know who is running and what their views on social, domestic, economic, and international issues are.

The offices to be elected include Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, U.S Senator, Representative in Congress, and more. This article serves as a brief introduction to the Governor candidates and incumbent and their views on a variety of issues.

The incumbent for Wisconsin Governor is Scott Walker. He is a republican candidate running for a fourth reelection in November. According to scottwalker.com, Walker plans to expand the youth apprenticeship program, only available to 11th and 12th graders, to 7th-10th graders as well. The apprenticeship program will give middle school students, under the supervision of a mentor, hands-on experience at a fabrication lab. High school students would receive on-the-job training in the classroom. Walker also proposed a New Graduate Tax Credit that will allow University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Technical School, or other private college or university graduates with at least a two-year degree to be eligible for a $1,000 tax credit per year for up to five years who remain in Wisconsin.

According to the book he wrote in 2013, "Unintimidated," Scott Walker cut funding for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin in 2011 to partner up with "less controversial organizations" (pp. 216) to promote healthcare for women that added an emphasis on abstinence as preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases (STDS).

When it comes to immigration, Walker is for stricter border control which he discussed in the Republican Party Presidential debate in 2015.

A candidate running against Scott Walker is the democratic Tony Evers. Evers is currently the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Wisconsin and has been since 2009. When it comes to education, according to tonyevers.com, Evers wants to increase funding for public schools and allow current and former students to refinance their loans at a lower interest rate.

Evers plans to reverse Walker's decision to defund Planned Parenthood and ensure that citizens of Wisconsin can have access to services like birth control and sexually transmitted infections (STI) tests.

When it comes to environmental safety, he is proposing a "Safe Water, Safe Kids" plan that includes creating an academic and behavioral intervention program for children with elevated blood lead levels and allow a twenty-five percent tax credit of the cost it takes to remove and replace windows in a historic property to correct lead hazards.

Libertarian candidate, Philip Anderson, is the current Chair of the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin and a realtor with First Weber Realty. Anderson supports the legalization of marijuana, and the "decriminalization of other drugs" according to his website, teamguy.org. Anderson also supports treating drug addiction as a medical problem and moving users into treatment programs and out of jail.

Anderson's views on education include letting parents have access to the revenues raised for K-12 education to use on public schools, private schools, or homeschooling. He also wants to reform the State University System since it "burdens students with crippling debt... and tolerates a lack of true academic freedom or free expression on campus."

There is also a Green Party candidate, Michael J. White, who is currently a member on the Wisconsin Green Party. According to his website, mwright4gov.com, he is against building a wall at the border and for a higher minimum wage. White also believes that solar, wind, and tidal power are not sufficient enough energy sources and that nuclear energy is needed to replace fossil fuels.

Maggie Turnbull, the Independent candidate, is an astrophysicist who works on research regarding star systems that may have habitable planets. Turnbull also served as an elected official on the Antigo Common Council and founded the Antigo Farmers market.

She is in support of increasing school funding, focusing public schools on the emotional well-being of students by teaching them how to handle difficult emotions, and creating a "new Wisconsin Idea," according to her website, maggieforgovernor.com.

She also supports getting people who are serving time for "victimless crimes" integrated back into society.

The final candidate for Wisconsin governor is Wisconsin Party Candidate Arnie Enz. Enz is a software engineer who owns his own information technology business.

continued on page 8
Overview of Campus’s Parking Regulations

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UWSP’s parking information is elusive, often only listed online – however, failure to remember much of this information can introduce fines of up to $100.

Despite the information below, students are still recommended to investigate all parking legislation themselves before deciding what to do with their vehicle on the campus parking lot.

The Parking Services Office can be found in the George Stein building – located next to the residence halls and track field, with a noticeably large brick chimney.

Parking Services does not enforce parking on the sides of any streets on campus – the Stevens Point Police Department monitors these areas.

Several parking lots exist on the UWSP campus, but only four are intended for student parking. Student-permit lots are Lots J, P, Q and W. Lot Q contains a large portion of the area considered “DAY PARKING ONLY,” wherein any nighttime parking is prohibited.

Staff lots are A, D, E, F, H, K, R, S, T, V, W and Z. Staff also have an unlisted quantity of areas reserved in other parking lots, such as P.

Metered lots are located in F-East, F-West, G, R, V, T, Y and Z. Each lot follows its own set of rules but, generally, student-permit lots are often not enforced between 7 p.m. and 2 a.m. and are also open Friday 7 p.m. through Monday 2 a.m.

Most lots allow unregistered short-term parking. This parking lasts 30 minutes and is only permitted if the vehicle’s flashers are on.

Motorcycle-specific areas have been created. These stalls can be found in Lots A, D, E, H, R, T, V and W. Mopeds may be parked at bike racks and may be fined if found parked anywhere else.

To obtain a permit, a student must apply online, or receive forms from the Parking Services Office. Permits for most vehicles cost $200 per academic year, or $120 per semester, and $50 for the summer.

The student’s permit will be a small hangtag that they may apply to their vehicle. This permit will list the lots available to the student for parking.

Although Parking Services mentions a “decal” for a permit as well, the Procedures and Regulations page only details how to display a hangtag properly: within view of the front windshield, preferably hanging from the rearview mirror.

As of September this year, lost or forgotten hangtags will only be replaced once per year, and will cost $20 fine.

Students can obtain a special permit for night-classes – the “L-after 2pm” permit that only covers parking from 2 p.m. to 1 a.m., but also only costs $130 per academic year. Students can also simply find nearby lots or streets that allow open parking after 5 p.m.

If a guest to the campus would like to buy a temporary permit, Parking Services offers a guest-parking permit which costs $6 per day or $24 per week. According to the Procedures and Regulations page, this parking is only $5 per day or $20 per week – this latter information is likely incorrect.

Meters are open from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. on weekdays and any time on weekends. Parking after 2 a.m. is not allowed until the given lot opens for the morning.

A vehicle with an expired meter, or parked overnight, may be ticketed for $10 every two hours.

If a student receives a citation, they are asked to pay within 21 days of the issued date. The citation will give this due-date, after which the fines will begin escalating.

After the due-date, additional citations will be given for the escalating fines. Eventually, notification letters will be sent to the vehicle’s owner. Later, possibly, the owner may be suspended by the DMV.

To contest or appeal a citation, the student must pay the citation and send the appeal within these 21 days. If not, the citation will not be appealed. If the citation comes from parking in a fire zone, metered lot, or disability stall, the citations will not be appealed.

Parking Services states that all citation/permit income goes into its operation funds.

The ordinance states that no parking is allowed in any lots from 2 a.m. until 6 a.m., except on weekends in particular lots. Most student-permit lots and metered areas are also open all weekend from 7 p.m. until 2 a.m. Monday.

Overnight guests can also park in Lot Q and W from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., Monday through Friday.

The Parking Services website states that, “Effective September 1, 2018, all parking needs to be paid for.” It is unclear what that means.

The Parking Services website contains numerous grammatical issues, linguistic ambiguities, website formatting errors, and internal inconsistencies that make it unlikely for readers to understand the material adequately. Parking Services did not respond when asked if the website would be revised.

The Pointer visited the Parking Services Office for a brief discussion to clarify parts of this article’s information. Parking Services declined to speak, referring instead to their email ParkingServices.Office@uwsp.edu. Parking Services did not respond to any subsequent emails.
High electric bills got you down? Let us help!

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Most of us are in the same boat. College students just struggling to get by. Some of us have jobs, some of us don’t. No matter the case, you can keep your wallets a bit heavier this winter by following these cheap and easy conservation tips to help lower your electric bill.

For starters, consider leaving your blinds open during the daytime and closed at night. During the day, heat from the sun will enter your home and help warm you up a bit. At night, closing your blinds will help keep the heat from escaping.

Furthermore, it is smart to plastic wrap your windows. By wrapping your windows, you are preventing drafts from entering your home. Additionally, placing towels underneath the door entering your home will further prevent cold drafts from chilling your roommates.

When you’re away from home, there is no reason to still run your heat at a high temperature. Whether you’re in class or out to eat, try lowering the temperature in your home a few degrees. This will shave dollars off your electric bill in the long run! When you return home, feel free to crank it up a few degrees.

Lastly, monitor your holiday decorations and additional lightings! While they are pretty to look at, holiday lights and decorations use electricity, which ultimately costs you more money in the long run. Before bed, ensure that your holiday lights are off and not in use.

Saving money in college can be the difference between eating ramen for a week and actually enjoying your meals. If you’re simply conscious of your electrical consumption, you will see dramatically lower electric bills. Good-luck, and happy savings!

Campus Energy Usage

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What’s up pointers, as I’m sure you are aware we are a natural resources based campus, but how much do you actually know about what we do on this campus to promote the Go Green Attitude. Do you know our main sources of energy, or about the on-campus power plant? How about just the simple clean initiatives, policies or energy saving projects that the campus does for us? There’s so much to know, after reading this, you will know it all.

Our campus uses two primary utilities and those are Fuel and Electricity. Fuel is used to fire our boilers. These boilers create steam, which is then used for ambient heat, humidification, and domestic hot water. The primary source of fuel is natural gas and for any backup purposes we use coal and fuel oil(diesel). According to Mr. Paul Hasler(facility services director), “coal will be eliminated as a fuel source for our campus in 2020 and beyond”. Now for electricity, it’s plain and simple, we do not generate any electricity on campus (with the exception of emergency that operate in a very limited capacity during and electrical interruptions). The electricity we use is supplied by WPS, and is generated from both fossil fuel and sustainable sources(solar, wind, etc.).

You know that tall brick rod that sticks up by debot field? Ever wonder what it was or why it’s there? Well that is the on-campus power plant or more specifically, the heating plant. This generates all the steam on campus. The steam produces heat for our buildings and for domestic water, food preparation, process heating, campus laboratory applications, and St. Michael’s Hospital. This plant runs 24/7 with only seven plant operators. There are 2.5 miles of 8" steam pipe winding all across campus. Running alongside are smaller condensate pipe that is used to recover steam. The plant only shuts down for nine days usually immediately after spring graduation for maintenance operations.

Our campus does a lot more than just get people a diploma and go. We do many different energy savings project and clean initiatives to not only create a better environment to the campus, but for the students living here. Our biggest thing to know that is just amazing is that we are a 100% renewable energy based campus. Seven of our residence halls have rooftop mounted solar panels in order to preheat the domestic hot water. All the residence halls have green advocates that promote sustainability and green awareness. Every year we have an energy consumption competition between all the residence halls to see who can save the most energy from the previous years competition. Every hall contains compost pails for students to use and they are free to use.

Our campus does many great things. Notice how I say “our campus”, because that’s what it is. It’s your campus and it represents you in ways that you may not realize. The Go Green attitude and resources that this campus offers is something everyone should be aware of, and now the next time someone asks about your school, you can say more than just it’s a natural resources based campus.
Culture is Everything for Women's Soccer Team

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After the first half of the women's soccer WIAC conference matches have passed the UW-Stevens Point women's soccer team is settled at a 10-2-2 record. (three wins and one tie record).

When asked how she felt the season is doing Head Coach Dawn Crow said “We are doing really well. I think we are doing better than people actually thought. We have been nationally ranked this year so we were number 25 out of 450 some odd Division III women's soccer teams and we were the only team in our conference ranked at that particular time. We've had some ups and downs dealing with some injuries and sickness and all that fun stuff that goes with it so it definitely has been a team effort the last couple of weeks and it has been kinda nice to see how things are falling into place for us to have a successful year and hopefully keep the soccer team going up.”

Coach Crow has said that the team has really grown up over the past couple of years and is continually trying to get better. Crow was brought in four years ago to bring the soccer program back on course and is still working towards that. “Last year our hashtag was break through like this is the year that we kinda start to go through and doing the things that we need to get done this year is rise up and the whole purpose of that one was more of we know we were close just getting over that hump and the girls have done that.”

The team itself has pulled together as a unit to work together according to Coach Crow. She said, “We are leading the country in a lot of states I think we are in the top 50 in a bunch of different categories which I enjoy from the standpoint of our kids can do anything for us. I think we are doing better than people actually thought”.

Looking back on the past four years Coach Crow has seen some difference in this years team she says that “compared to past teams I think we are more athletic than we’ve been so that’s definitely a strength I think we are more skilled than we have been in the past as well. More game savvy, they are very educated on the game of soccer. I think where we still struggle sometimes is we get involved in a panic where we play down to the level of the team we are playing. So we start hammering balls down the middle but if our ladies get to a point where they can get possession and remain in possession and move the ball side to side they are going to open up even more opportunities.”

Coach Crow says that everyone has some goals in mind for this season which makes working at practice a little easier. “We do the whole one game at a time but our big thing is, ‘are we getting better than we were the day before?’ Whether it’s practice, whether its a game or whether it’s whatever. We’re looking to get to a point where we are getting better every day. I always joke that we are striving for perfection knowing that it will never be reachable. But if we are putting our mind in that frame and then basically its gonna get to a point where we are getting closer and closer to it. You know obviously, we want to do better than we did the year before and we’re doing that but I think we are at that point where the girls have some goals in mind and they want to make sure that they are doing everything to make sure that they get there.”

Looking at the girls, Coach Crow says that they are the ones that run how the season goes on and off of the field. How the girls act is a huge part of how their season turns out. “You know we believe that the person is much better than the player and we value the person you know what they do on the soccer field obviously helps but by the same token it doesn’t. Nothing changes by the performance on the field because everybody knows that no one is trying to mess up but our culture is one of the biggest things that saves us. There is not a lot of bickering, there is not a lot of drama, we definitely do not do drama. They have kinda embraced that and have gone with that and so it has been sort of a unique situation and I think our culture drives the program. I think everyone is kinda motivated to make sure that the person to the right and left of them is working just as hard for our group as they are for each other. I’m a firm believer that the culture is what dictates the program because you can have the best-skilled people but if they are more ‘me over we’ then it is never going to happen. Our ladies don’t care who gets the credit as long as they are moving in the right direction.”

The women’s soccer team will be competing in their fifth conference game at UW-Oshkosh October 17th and are back at home on the 20th against UW-Platteville.
**Athletic Hall of Fame Induction 2018**

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Despite the cold and snow nothing could stop UW-Stevens Point’s Athletic Hall of Fame Induction ceremony from taking place this past weekend. The Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 1969 with the intent of giving recognition for outstanding contributions to the UW-Stevens Point’s athletic program. The Hall of Fame has inducted over 240 athletes, administrators, coaches, teams, and friends of the athletics program since its creation.

This year Kari Moldrem (Rowecamp) (1995-1998 softball), Amy Truckey (Statz) (2003-2007 women’s hockey), Douglas Coe (2006-2008 baseball), Jared Jenkins (2007-2010 football), Jessica Urban (2006-2010 women’s golf), and Rick Witt (1977-2014 cross country/track and field coach) were inducted into the Hall of Fame. The induction was held on Friday, October 19th and the athletes and coach were again recognized during halftime of the Homecoming football game against UW-Stout on Saturday, October 20th. Brad Duckworth, the Director of Athletics led the ceremony with the help of Colleen Glosowski, the Hall of Fame Committee President. Noah Pulisifer and Makani Peters, UWSP SAAC Board Members also assisted in the ceremony.

Kari Moldrem (Rowecamp) played a major contributor to helping the first Pointers team to win a soft national championship in 1998. She holds the record for most RBI in a season (57), and career triples (13). She was also named First-Team All-WIAC two-times, was MVP of the 1996 NCAA Midwest Regional Tournament and was a 1997 TPS Second-Team All-Region Utility Player selection.

Amy Truckey (Statz) finished the season of her senior year leading the WIAC in career wins (68) her record stood for 10 years before being beaten last year. However, she still holds the records for wins in a season (20), career shutouts (20), and is second in the number of saves (1811). Truckey was part of two NCHA regular season titles and four NCHA playoff titles.

Douglas Coe assisted the Pointer’s fifth-place finish in the 2006 College World Series, third place in 2007 and the NCAA Regionals in 2008. In 2008 he was named WIAC Position Player of the Year, First-Team All-Region, Second-Team D3 Baseball All American and First-Team ABCA All-American. He holds the record for career slugging percentage (.703) and most games played in a single-season (53). Coe is also ranked third in batting average (.392) and fourth in single-season home runs (15).

Jared Jenkins was named an All-American punter twice and was named an All-WIAC selection three times. Jenkins holds the punting records for game, season and career averages and has held the best punting average in the WIAC (45.0 yards) since 2010. As a wide receiver Jenkins ranked first for most touchdown catches in a game (4) and receiving yards in a career (3,632). He is also second for most receptions in a career (273) and touchdown passes caught in a career (34).

Jessica Urban is the most decorated golfer in UW-Stevens Point history. She was named an All-American twice, First-Tema All-WIAC four times, WIAC Player of the Year twice and an All-Regional Central team selection all four years. Urban qualified for the NCAA with her team once and the individual tournament four times. She earned individual and team runner-up finishes in 2009 and then in 2010 NCAA Division III Individual National Champion. Urban was named to the WIAC All-Time team and in 2009 received NCAA Division III Player of the Year honors, PING NGCA Division III Player of the Year honors and was a two-time First-Team All-American.

Rick Witt had a 37-year coaching career and over that time coached 25 NCAA Individual National champions and 245 NCAA All-Americans in both track and field and cross country. His teams also finished Top 4 in the NCAA 11 times and had 22 Top 10 NCAA finishes. He was named WIAC Coach of the Year six times, NCAA Track and Field/Cross Country Association Regional Coach of the Year nine times, WIAC Coach of the Year eight times and in 1996 was named the NCAA National Cross Country Coach of the Year.

Homecoming Let Down

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There was much anticipation for the UW-Stevens Point homecoming football game against UW-Stout on October 20th. However, when it came down to it the Pointers fell flat and lost 31-27.

The UW-Stout Blue Devils started the game off with a 7-0 lead following the Pointer’s turnover on their second possession. Christian Almonte returned Stout’s kickoff and took it for a 93-yard touchdown putting the Pointers on the board.

UW-Stout returned by scoring another touchdown in the second quarter but the extra point was no good making it a 13-7 game.

The Pointer’s quarterback Max Herro completed a 61-yard touchdown pass to Almonte on the next Pointers bringing UWSP back on top by one point.

On the ensuing Stout drive, Kameron Kryzanski took advantage of a UW-Stout fumble by returning it for a touchdown to give the Pointers a 21-13 lead.

The Blue Devils scored on a 13-yard pass and after a successful two-point attempt they were able to end the half in a tie with the Pointers 21-21.

The fourth quarter started with UW-Stout engineering a 72-yard drive capped off with a 1-yard touchdown run. During their next possession, the Blue Devils kicked a field goal which brought their lead to 31-21.

On the Pointers final drive, Shamaj Williams had five carries on the drive which ended with an 8-yard touchdown run by Williams, but the extra point was no good to leave the game on a 31-27 score.

Next Saturday, October 27th is the Pointer’s final home game against UW-Oshkosh and it doubles as Senior Day.
continued from page 3

According to his website a-rnieenz.com, he supports reforming the voting system to a Score Voting or Ranked Choice Voting. Score Voting is when a voter scores every candidate from one to five and whoever has the highest average wins, and Rank Choice Voting includes fair representation, fair elections where every vote counts, and fair access to the polls. Enz is also an environmentalist. His website directs his supporters to articles that support his views on carrying capacity and using resources.

For information on the other offices to be elected, visit www.wisconsinvote.org/candidates-and-races.

Authorities Assess Items Found in Search for Missing Girl

JEFF BAENEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS.

BARRON, Wis. (AP) — Investigators are assessing several items that volunteers found Tuesday during an expanded search for clues that might lead to a missing 13-year-old Wisconsin girl whose parents were killed, but none of them yet seem to be linked to her disappearance, a sheriff said.

Barron County Sheriff Chris Fitzgerald released a statement on Facebook thanking the 2,000 volunteers who spent the day walking through swamps, cornfields and woods in chilly weather to help find Jayme Closs, who is believed to have been abducted.

Fitzgerald said authorities had received over 1,400 tips as of Tuesday and had closed 1,100 of them while continuing to work the others. Some of those tips led authorities to conduct Tuesday's expanded search.

People from in and around the Closs family's hometown of Barron and as far away as the Minneapolis area, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) to the southwest, heeded the call for volunteer help.

After being instructed to proceed slowly, to yell "Stop!" if they see anything and to wait for the authorities to come check it out, volunteers fanned out in lines to search marshes, wooded areas and fields. Video posted on Twitter by a KMSP-TV reporter showed searchers walking in a grid pattern, using the sticks to bat down tall grass and vegetation.

Reporters tracking various search groups tweeted that volunteers were told to look for anything that could be a clue, such as a cellphone, piece of clothing or gun.

Jayme Closs has been missing since sheriff's deputies responding to a 911 call early on the morning of Oct. 15 found the door to her family's home near Barron kicked in and her parents, James and Denise Closs, dead inside. They had been shot. Investigators believe Jayme was abducted and ruled her out as a suspect on the investigation's first day.

Joe Scheu, a retiree from the nearby village of Haugen, said he was taking part in Tuesday's search because he has a 13-year-old granddaughter and he wanted to help out. He said the violence in the case is terrible and that he feels sorry for Jayme.

Jill Robinson, who lives about 60 miles (100 kilometers) south in Eleva, drove to Barron with a friend to join the search.

"I guess I'm not doing anything different than I would hope someone would do if it was one of my loved ones in this situation right now," said Robinson, 48. "I just think anytime it hits close to home like this, it just makes you think it could be you or one of our loved ones."

Investigators are also searching for two cars — a red or orange Dodge Challenger and a black Ford Edge or black Acura MDX — that may have been near the Closs family's home on the night of the attack, Fitzgerald said. He didn't have information about the cars' license plates.

Relatives plan to hold a funeral for James and Denise Closs on Saturday at 1 p.m. at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Cameron, a village next to Barron. The funeral will be preceded by an 11 a.m. visitation.

Fitzgerald said he planned to provide another update on Wednesday afternoon.

American Horror Story: Every Season Ranked for Your Spooky Pleasure

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"American Horror Story" is one of the most popular horror shows in recent memory. There's been a fervor surrounding the Ryan Murphy-produced and written series since its inception. From the inclusion of a talented cast of actors (including the woman who birthed acting herself - Jessica Lange), to its campy and playful experimentation within the horror genre, it has become a cultural staple.

While some seasons are made better than others (and I mean that), no one can deny the amount of star power attached to the series.

In preparation for Halloween, here's a list of my ranking of each "American Horror Story" season. Because the eighth season "Apocalypse" is currently airing and has not concluded, it will not be a part of the ranking. Spoilers are ahead!

7. AHS: Freak Show

"Freak Show" had a lot going for it: a terrifying clown antagonist named Twisty that could go toe-to-toe with Pennywise, a carnival theme, and a pair of conjoined sisters played by the talented Emmy-nominated actresses Sarah Paulson. In terms of pushing the boundaries, this season seemed like the most anticipated yet when it first premiered in 2014. But killing one of the best antagonists the series has seen early in the season, its lack of an interesting plot, and underwritten characters led "Freak Show" to falter under its own weight. At least we got an episode dedicated to the fan-favorite Pepper from "Asylum".

6. AHS: Hotel

As a self-proclaimed Lady Gaga fan, I was excited after the announcement that she was joining the fifth season, titled "Hotel". Although the premise of stylish vampires and ghosts living in a haunted hotel fit right up the show's alley, the season contained some of the most undercooked characters the series has seen. The Countess, played by Lady Gaga, is menacing, gaudy, and chic, but even she couldn't save the season. A subplot revolving around a serial killer titled The Ten Commandments Killer had a limp plot twist that anyone could honestly figure out after watching a few minutes of Wes Bentley brooding onscreen.

5. AHS: Cult

I wasn't totally sold on the concept of "Cult"; did we really need to relive the trauma that was the 2016 election? "Cult" had a slow start in terms of reaching the full campy heights the show
What is Art?

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Recently, UW-Stevens Point has received national attention for their wish to discontinue several liberal arts majors from the current curriculum. This proposal has not been without its share of backlash. And though the cuts to specific majors will not be an immediate change, the school’s relationship with the humanities has sparked a larger conversation on what constitutes “art.”

The definition of art is not an easy one. The English Oxford Dictionary defines it as “The expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power.”

Of course, this definition is not all inclusive. What makes art meaningful, or what makes something art at all, seems to be in the eye of the beholder.

Aside from serving as the Arts and Entertainment Editor for the Pointer, I also hold the position of Centertainment. This requires me to fill the large glass cases outside of the Laird room in the DUC with a wide variety of art each semester. It is no wonder then I am interested in just what exactly students believe to be art.

I had the opportunity to talk to students from various majors about their own definition of this concept. Of course, this was no easy task. Scholars have been debating this question for thousands of years; so it was no surprise when each student’s eyes became wide as saucers.

In the end, all of the answers I received were united by a common thread: expression. Below are students defining art for themselves, in their own words:

“I think that art is a way to express yourself and connect people” Allie Glaser, Dance major.

“Art is the only way you can express your feelings to someone else when they haven’t gone through that situation.” Courtney Krell, Arts Management and Communication major.

“As for my own definition of art? I agree; it’s all about expression, but to me art is anything that makes you feel something. It helps you learn: about yourself, and about others’ lives and experiences that you may not have ever encountered on your own. Art is about visibility and representation. It’s about having a voice, sharing your own unique version of the human experience with others, and helping them to understand.”

The humanities are cut on this campus, other methods of artistic expression are under attack as well. Restrictions on student organizations’ ability to express themselves have been the most recent topic of concern. It is worthy to note that there may not be a consensus on the definition of what constitutes artistic, however we still attend a public university. UWSP is still a liberal arts college, and should give its students the right to express and represent themselves however they see fit. Whether this be through sculpture, writing, performance, or mediums that denote cultural, sexual, or emotional identity, they should feel safe to pursue these opportunities.

“Maniac” Review: The Strangest Show You Need to be Watching

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Netflix adds so much original content these days that it can be easy to overlook great shows. One show you should be sure to book mark for your next binge session is “Maniac,” one of the strangest and most original shows you’ll see all year.

The show focuses on two central characters: Owen Milgrim (Justin Theroux) and Annie (Sonoya Mizuno). Both actors turn in well, portraying the chain-smoking Dr. Azumi. Mizuno is clearly a rising star, and viewers of “Maniac” will be glad to see that she’s given much more to do here than in “Ex Machina.”

“Maniac” is hilarious one second, and heartbreaking the next as the show delicately balances its dark sense of humor with its gritty science fiction world. Fans of “Blade Runner,” or Terry Gilliam’s “Brazil,” will have plenty to enjoy in “Maniac” as the production design feels like an amalgam of the two films.

“Maniac’s” story is expansive, and covers a lot of ground in the show’s 10 episodes. Equal parts Coen-esque crime story, spy thriller, and high-fantasy adventure, the show never takes a breath long enough to grow stale, and leaves the viewer guessing what will happen next. While all those genres in one show may sound a little overwhelming, it all makes sense within the world of “Maniac.”

Cary Fukunaga, (“True Detective,” “Beasts of No Nation”), proves once again that he is one of the most exciting directors working in television. “Maniac” is original, startling, and powerful in a way that very little television manages to be.

“Maniac” isn’t afraid to grapple with serious issues, and the characters of this world confront serious trauma, and loss.

Jonah Hill’s Owen struggles with schizophrenia, and the trust issues that stem from constantly doubting if what you’re seeing is real. Schizophrenia here is shown for the devastating condition that it is, rather than an interesting character quirk in the style of films like “A Beautiful Mind.”

Similarly, Emma Stone’s character Annie abuses experimental medications in order to cope with past traumas, but her addiction isn’t glamorized.

Annie and Owen go on a journey together that defies explanation and really must be seen to be believed. Despite the darker elements of the show, “Maniac” manages to communicate a refreshingly positive message about the importance of human connection.

In a world full of gritty, depressing, and monochromatic television about horrible people doing horrible things, the positivity of “Maniac” might be just the thing you’re looking for.
"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" Sizzles at UW Stevens Point

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The Theatre and Dance Department opened the first show in its 2018-19 season this past Friday with Tennessee Williams’s classic play “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.” The show received glowing praise from audience members, not only at the sold out opening night performance, but at the other two sold out showings on Saturday and Sunday last weekend.

The play, which focuses on a passionate and prominent Southern family in the 1950’s, examines the toll that secrets, lies, and toxic relationships have on individuals, and serves as an example of what happens when these issues are not dealt with in the correct way.

Tennessee Williams is considered to be one of the greatest playwrights in American history, and his plays have not only been made into many equally popular movies, but have been favorites of performance companies the world over. A pillar of the theatrical cannon, works by Williams like “A Streetcar Named Desire”, “The Glass Menagerie”, and “Summer and Smoke” have been staged in their fair share of theaters.

Though Williams’ work can be considered contemporary, many college students in the tech-crazed world of the 21st century may find it hard to connect with a group of Southerners who surely smoke a pack a day and have no concept of politically correct attitudes or actions. But the beauty of Williams is in his ability to craft eternal characters: we can recognize ourselves and our families in these people, though decades separate our experience.

The actors onstage do due justice to the stories these characters must tell. Since we live in the Midwest, all were required to adopt a Southern accent, which was done authentically and subtly. Not only were the actors required to adjust their speech patterns, but also to build a past world in which the fight for gender equality had made little progress, especially in south, and the days of cotton plantations and slavery were a not-too-distant memory.

For the majority of students who have grown up in the Midwest, we are invited into an entirely new culture, one we have little firsthand knowledge about. The performances given by these students is both a believable and meaningful one.

Of course, productions are so much more than the performances seen by the audience. Directed by Assistant Professor and BFA Acting Program Coordinator Jared Hanlin, “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” featured a stunning set which needs to be believed, and a meticulously gathered array of props that help to bring the story to audiences in an authentic way.

Though the show is over 60 years old, it exhibits many themes that are very timely in our current political and cultural climate. One of these is the toxic masculinity of the 50s, presented in a time where gender relations are on everyone’s mind. Audiences may be initially shocked by the treatment of gender by the characters, but may realize by the end of the evening that we have not moved very far from this issue, even today.

Another is the conversation, or absence of it, about LGBTQ relations even among the elite of the 1950s. Of course members of the LGBTQ community are much more present today than they were 60 years ago, but that conversation is one that is ongoing and constantly evolving and changing.

“Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” is jammed packed with action, tension, and “Southern Charm”, and tickets are going fast, so students are encouraged to get them before they’re gone. Performances will be this Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30pm at the Noel Fine Arts Center.
Local Bands Clash for ‘Battle of the Bands’ Crown

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The Dreyfus University Center Encore hosted “Battle of the Bands 2018” on Oct. 19, welcoming bands from all over the Wisconsin area for the chance to win a $275 contract.

The event, set up through Centerentainment, featured seven performing bands composed of university students, teenagers, and visitors from the surrounding area. The grand prize is a $275 contract to headline in The Encore during the spring semester. The runner-up will receive a $100 contract.

A panel of six judges sitting above the stage were tasked with rating each band in specific categories such as songwriting, musicality, and stage presence.

This year, the audience was given the opportunity to help vote the winner. Sheets of paper with a QR code and a URL link were posted throughout The Encore. Scanning the code or entering in the link would bring audience members to a private poll, where they could submit a vote for their favorite band of the night. The compilation of the votes would factor in the decision making for the winner and the runner-up.

Though many great bands put up a fight, the first-place winner of the night was awarded to Funkyard Dealers, a groovy ensemble band that incorporates funk. Funkyard Dealers performing at ‘Battle of the Bands’. PC: Alex Grant.

Jeremiah Urbans, guitar player for Funkyard Dealers, responded that he was excited and surprised by the win.

Urbans noted that the band has been performing for quite some time now. “We’ve been together since...oh, probably 2013. I joined in 2015, but these guys – the three-piece started about in 2013. So, I came on a couple years after that...”

Second place went to Wilhelm, an indie/rock band that formed in Iola, Wisconsin. The quartet band ed together in 2016 and recently released their debut EP titled “between you and me.”

Although winners were chosen, all the bands put on a great show. Bear Down is a talented rock band that only started a month prior to the event. No Love Dog is a psychedelic punk group that has great band chemistry. Scorched Waves is a charming rock group comprised of teenagers. The Upper DeBoyz, a clever name based on the dining center on campus currently under renovation, gave a hilarious political take on life at UWSP. It was a unique performance that separated itself from the other performers.

The first half of the season worked as ghost-themed reality show titled “My Roanoke Nightmare”. Set up in the style of “A Haunting”, it comprised of interviews with a family who experienced a haunting and a dramatic re-enactment of said events. The second half flipped the script, switching to documentary-style footage that focused on a new show starring the real Miller family and the dramatic re-enactment actors facing the terrors of their haunted mansion together. Memorable performances, gory thrills, and a tight plot helped the season return to its roots.

2. AHS: Asylum  
Who would have thought a plot featuring mad scientist Nazis, aliens, cannibalistic zombies, and demonic possession would have become one of the best seasons of AHS? The season focuses on Jessica Lange as the strict head nun at a mental asylum. Journalist Lana Winters, played by Sarah Paulson, is wrongly admitted and plans her dire escape. The season is surprisingly tight-knit considering its kitchen sink approach to horror themes. An endearing lead cast and fantastic episodes make “Asylum” a leader of the pack. Plus, any season showcasing Jessica Lange singing “The Name Game” is solid in my book.

3. AHS: Murder House  
“Murder House” was the season that started it all. This spin on the classic haunted house trope conjured a ghost in a gimp suit and the birth of the Antichrist with gruesome glee. The season felt a little drawn out at points, but the fantastic performances and a great story helped make “Murder House” an effectively creepy season.

4. AHS: Roanoke  
After a disappointing fifth season, “Roanoke” dazed in the series back to what made American Horror Story so appealing in the first place—a small cast of characters we can grow attached to in a haunted house situation. Although many thought it would be a rehash of “Murder House”, the brilliant sixth episode revealed a plot twist that changed the course of the second half of the season. The characters are amazing, not only for providing us a cast that we genuinely care about, but also with the inclusion of some legendary actors and guest stars. With leading ladies like Jessica Lange, Angela Bassett, and Kathy Bates, you know you are about to receive a true performance. Impressive guest stars from Leslie Jordan, or Broadway icons Patti LuPone and Christine Ebersole, to a casual visit from the White Witch herself Stevie Nicks brought star power to the season. Not to mention Emma Robert’s portrayal of Madison Montgomery provided the world with a myriad of hilarious GIFs; she’s truly generous woman.

1. AHS: Coven  
The choice was tough, but ultimately, “Coven” reigns supreme as the best season. Although the season doesn’t have the best plot (I’ll give that title to “Asylum”), the characters and performances supersede the issue and ultimately blessed us with the campiest and most entertaining season to date.

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