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Chaos in Kenosha



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield

UW Oshkosh alumnus Leviathan Whitfield went to Kenosha Aug. 25 to document social unrest, what he found was pandemonium.

Alumnus shares experience on the ground

By Joseph Schulz
schulj78@uwosh.edu

As chaos began to envelop Kenosha in the late days of summer, following the Aug. 23 police shooting of Jacob Blake, UW Oshkosh alumnus Leviathan Whitfield traveled to Kenosha to document the unrest.

Whitfield graduated from UWO in 2010 with a degree in English and Secondary Education. He has previously photographed other newsworthy events, such as former President Barack Obama's inauguration and

President Donald Trump's rallies.

When he saw the unrest unfolding in Kenosha on the news, he felt compelled to document what was happening.

"I, initially, had reservations about going, but I did it anyway," he said. "I had no idea that it was going to be that violent that evening."

Two days after Blake was shot seven times by Kenosha police officer Rusten Sheskey, Whitfield arrived in the city with his camera in hand to witness the unrest unfolding in his home state.

He described pandemonium on the streets, as vehicles burned and police in riot gear roamed the streets.

Beyond police, Whitfield recalled seeing an armed militia of "counter protesters" roaming the streets as well, threatening those protesting systemic racism and police brutality.

The night he went to Kenosha, Aug. 25, also happened to be the night in which 17-year-old Illinois resident Kyle Rittenhouse shot three people, killing two protesters and

injuring another.

Whitfield saw and photographed Rittenhouse that day, and was close enough to hear a few of the shootings.

At first, Whitfield said Rittenhouse was walking around with a fire extinguisher, trying to put out fires. As the night wore on, however, Whitfield described Rittenhouse as gradually becoming more and more on-edge.

"It was a very tense situation and I could sense it on him," Whitfield said of Rittenhouse's demeanor.

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Family at the heart of Myron's recovery

By Joseph Schulz
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Myron Batiste shook his head and laughed at the mugshot showing a sullen man with dead eyes, staring into the void. Wearing his best shirt and tie, Myron was laughing because he is no longer the same man in that photo. On this day, Oct. 10, 2019, Myron is one of four people to complete the Winnebago County Drug Court program.

The 54-year-old Oshkosh man held his daughters, Kriscilly, 7, and Aaliyah, 4, in the courtroom as his case manager, Jennifer Delfosse, spoke on his behalf at the commencement.

"He truly came in sick and tired of being sick and tired," Delfosse said. "Through this program, Myron has learned many new things [and] he has been engaged in many functions and groups. One of the things I love about Myron is his willing-

ness to help anyone in need."

Before Drug Court, Myron would regularly leave his family in pursuit of a high. Now he's a devoted father, domestic partner and a strong advocate for those still battling drug addiction. He volunteers weekly at the Boys and Girls Club of Oshkosh, telling young people his story as part of H.O.P.E. group, an initiative that aims to educate young people about the dangers of substance abuse. It took two

years and two months to get to this moment, but the path to Drug Court took much longer.

The early days

Myron was born to a well-to-do family in Louisiana in 1965. His father was a small business owner and his mother was a supervisor at a hotel. Myron had his first sip of alcohol at 13 years old, sneaking gulps of his grandmother's homemade wine before moving on to the stron-

ger stuff. Eventually, he would drink his parents' clear alcohol and refill the bottles with water. His substance abuse escalated when he reached his 20s and began going to clubs on the weekend.

"As the years progressed, the usage of alcohol became more and more," Myron said. "Then I started finding myself partying with people that were doing more than just alcohol, and they'd always try to get me to

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CLASS DISCUSSION POSTS

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Courtesy of Getty Images

A hearing on the university’s motion to dismiss a Title IX lawsuit is set for Oct. 29.

Title IX lawsuit nearing conclusion

By Joseph Schulz
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A year-long legal dispute between UW Oshkosh and a former student over the constitutionality of a Title IX proceeding that followed an alleged sexual assault could be nearing its end.

A hearing on the university’s motion to dismiss the lawsuit is set for Oct. 29, and a recent legal brief filed by the university says administrative proceedings wrapped up last December.

Even so, the Sept. 25 status report from UWO’s legal representation said the student could file an amended legal complaint, making the current motion to dismiss “moot.”

The case stems from a March 16, 2019 off-campus party sponsored by the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, after which the lawsuit’s plaintiff — who is referred to in court documents as John Doe — allegedly sexually assaulted a sorority member. UWO held non-academic student misconduct hearings on Sept. 26 and Oct. 15, 2019 “to hear the university’s case against John Doe,” court papers say. The hearing examiner found Doe “responsible for non-academic misconduct” on Oct. 28, 2019.

According to court documents,

Chancellor Andrew Leavitt sustained the findings and sanction of suspending Doe with no-contact with the university for two years on Dec. 11, 2019.

Doe’s Sept. 11, 2019 lawsuit aimed to cast doubt over the allegations and poke holes in the university’s administrative process, claiming it violated his 14th Amendment right to due process and equal protection.

Court papers alleged that the investigation into the potential sexual assault was unconstitutional because Doe’s lawyer, Peter Culp, was forced to cross examine the woman via notecards and was barred from bringing witnesses into the student nonacademic misconduct hearing.

In various court filings, Culp argues the investigation was biased from the beginning because Joann “Buzz” Bares wore multiple hats after filing the initial Title IX complaint, serving as an investigator and witness in the formal hearing on the complaint.

Doe was further denied due process, Culp states, because he was denied access to the investigator’s report, which impeded his ability to prepare a defense to the allegations of sexual assault.

Meanwhile, the university’s legal counsel — composed of state Attorney General Josh Kaul as well as

Assistant Attorney Generals Anne Bensky and Gesina Seiler Carson — argued last year that Doe’s due process claim was invalid because he has not properly pled a loss of property nor exhausted procedures already provided by the state.

A property interest is paramount in a due process case because the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says that the state can’t deprive someone of life, liberty or property without due process.

In previous court filings, Culp argues that Doe facing suspension from all UW institutions for one year and from UWO for two years constitutes a loss of property.

However, in a Nov. 20 legal brief, the university’s legal counsel said Culp’s argument ignores state precedent by citing cases from other states and that case law dictates that a college education by itself is not a property interest.

The filing argues that Doe has not been constitutionally deprived of anything and that he is trying to avoid the “inconvenience of having to go through the administrative process.”

Additionally, court papers say Doe did not appeal Leavitt’s Dec. 11, 2019 decision to the UW System Board of Regents, which could further complicate his due process claims.

Census deadline approaching



By Amber Brockman
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Olivia lived in Horizon Village until the dorms closed. Jack lived off campus, but didn’t want to live alone when UW Oshkosh went to all online classes, so he, too, moved back home. With a father who is immunocompromised, Ethan decided to stay in his Oshkosh apartment to finish the semester.

It’s no wonder why people, and college students in particular, are confused about where they should count as home in the 2020 U.S. census.

Students who normally live in on-campus housing will still be counted in the 2020 census through their university, even if they are temporarily living somewhere else due to the coronavirus pandemic, according to a U.S. Census Bureau press release.

Foreign students living and attending college in the United States should also be counted at the on-

or off-campus residence where they live or sleep most of the time, even if they traveled home due to COVID-19.

In general, students should be counted where they live and sleep most of the time, even if they are temporarily staying somewhere else due to the pandemic.

If you live in student housing, your college will count you. If you live off campus, you should respond for the off-campus address and include any roommates or other people living there, but only one person should respond for each home.

If a student is counted both at home — where they would not normally be living — and at their college location, the Census Bureau has the ability to remove the duplicate entries.

“Responding to the 2020 census is easy, safe and important,” the Bureau said. “For the first time, you can choose to respond online, by phone or by mail.”

Respond to the census after you receive your invitation by going online at 2020census.gov or calling 844-330-2020.

According to the Bureau, “participation is essential to ensure that the state — and your community —

maintain representation in Congress and gets its share of federal spending.”

Responses to the 2020 census will shape decisions about how the \$675 billion of annual federal funds flow into communities each year for the next 10 years for critical services. Health care, emergency response, schools/education programs and roads/bridges are all impacted by the 2020 census.

The census also determines how the 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives will be apportioned throughout the country. For example, Wisconsin had nine House seats, but lost one following the 2000 census.

Currently, Wisconsin is ranked No. 2 at 55.2% self-response 2020 census completion, which is ahead of the national average, 48.6%. Oshkosh is ahead of the Wisconsin average at 58.3%.

“Everyone should be counted regardless of age, race, ethnic group, religion or citizenship,” the Bureau said. “It’s important to your community, county, state and country for everyone who lives here to stand up to be counted, because it shapes your future.”

Debate changes discussed

By Lexi Langendorf
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Although not yet finalized, the Commission on Presidential Debates is planning on cutting off candidates’ microphones if they break rules during future debates.

More than 70 million people tuned into the first presidential debate on Sept. 29, which was, overall, negatively received by Americans, The Atlantic reports.

Joe Biden resorted to name-calling as President Trump threw criticism at Biden’s son and judged Biden’s own academic endeavors. In fact, during the 98-minute debate, there was an interruption every minute, The Washington Post reports.

As a result, the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) stated that this debate “made clear that additional structure should be added to the format of the remaining debates to ensure a more orderly discussion of the issues.

“The CPD will be carefully considering the changes that it will adopt and will announce those measures shortly,” the organization announced. “The Commission is grateful to Chris Wallace for the professionalism and skill he brought to last night’s debate and intends to ensure that additional tools to maintain order are in place for the remaining debates.”

President Trump expressed frustration and opposition to the suggested changes. “Why would I allow the debate commission to change the rules for the second and third debate when I easily won last time?” Trump tweeted. “Try getting a new Anchor and a smarter Democrat candidate!”

Steve Cortes, senior adviser for the Trump Campaign, also placed blame upon Wallace, the moderator.

“He had to debate not just Joe Biden, but you as well. You were not a neutral moderator then,” Cortes argued.

Trump campaign communications director, Tim Murtaugh, quickly defended Trump, saying that the rule changes would be unfair.

“President Trump was the dominant force and now Joe Biden is trying to work the refs. They shouldn’t be moving the goalposts and changing the rules in the middle of the game,” Murtaugh said.

Biden and his campaign team, however, are supportive of the potential rule changes. “He’ll be focused on answering questions from the voters under whatever set of rules the Commission develops to try to contain Donald Trump’s behavior,” said Kate Bedingfield, Biden’s deputy campaign manager.

Democrats urged Biden not to participate in the last two debates, but the Biden campaign says he is not considering it.

Kamala Harris, Democratic vice president candidate, said Joe Biden would take “any opportunity that he can to speak directly to American families and speak about the issues, speak the truth and address the facts of where we are now, but also address the hopes and dreams of the American families and where we could be.”

The next presidential debate is in Miami on Oct. 15 and will be followed by the final debate in Nashville on Oct. 22.

Dems host virtual event, encouraging young voters

By Sophia Voight
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Former Texas Congressional Representative Beto O'Rourke emphasized the power of the youth vote during a virtual Wisconsin student voter registration rally on Tuesday.

"I really believe that Wisconsin [is] going to decide the outcome of this election and determine who the next president of the United States of America will be," O'Rourke said.

During the "What's at Stake" event hosted by Wisconsin 2020 Victory, O'Rourke said young people are the ones leading the change on important issues like climate change, police violence and voting rights.

"So often it's young people who are organizing, leading, speaking, compelling us to take action," he said.

O'Rourke said the country is facing some of the worst issues of our generation with the pandemic and economic depression, and it is crucial that people vote Donald Trump out of office.

"The consequence of failing



Courtesy of Wikimedia

Former Texas Congressional Representative Beto O'Rourke hosted a virtual event Tuesday, encouraging college students to register to vote. Biden has been critical of the Trump Administration's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

to do that is to lose not just an election, but I really think if we do not elect Joe Biden this year, we really stand the chance of losing our country," he said. O'Rourke said that voting yourself is important, but it is vital to make sure your friends and family are voting as well.

Judge denies injunction preventing prof. sanctions

By Sophia Voight
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A Winnebago County Court judge denied UW Oshkosh education professor Peter Meyerson a temporary injunction that would have prevented Provost John Koker from imposing sanctions against him regarding allegations of bullying students.

Meyerson is currently suing Koker and Chancellor Andrew Leavitt, claiming that they illegally imposed sanctions after improperly investigating a complaint against him.

In a complaint filed Sept. 14, Meyerson argues that the university wrongfully handled an investigation of a formal complaint made in February regarding Meyerson's alleged "hostile behavior toward students."

The complaint, made by Dean of Students Art Munin and Associate Dean of the College of Education and Human Services Eric Brunsell, states that Meyerson has issues with anger and uses intimidation in the classroom, "frequently targeting female students."

A document from Brunsell stated Meyerson's hostile behavior "took



Courtesy of Flickr

A Winnebago County Court judge denied UW Oshkosh education professor Peter Meyerson a temporary injunction.

place in multiple class sessions and was not isolated," and he also has a history of "aggressive behavior toward women in the department."

While the complaint was dismissed by Leavitt after investigators found no violation of faculty policy, Meyerson argues that Koker ignored the requirements of the dismissal by initiating disciplinary actions at the beginning of September.

According to the university's Faculty and Academic Staff Hand-

book, if a complaint is dismissed "the faculty member shall not be subjected to further jeopardy for the same alleged misconduct."

In a Sept. 8 letter, Koker informed Meyerson of his plan to have an individual monitor Meyerson's behavior in the classroom and at department meetings.

Meyerson argues that Koker's plan to impose these sanctions after Leavitt's dismissal of the formal complaint goes against the rules

outlined in the faculty handbook.

Koker said he realized that the complaint was dismissed but he remains concerned about Meyerson's behavior based on a history of student complaints, according to the Sept. 8 letter.

Meyerson asked the court to issue a temporary injunction to prevent Koker from imposing the sanctions until after the court decides if Leavitt and Koker had violated his rights established in the faculty handbook for improperly investigating the complaint.

However, a judge denied the temporary injunction at a motion hearing Monday, allowing Koker to move forward with his actions to monitor Meyerson and require him to complete a written self-evaluation of his teaching.

Circuit Court Judge Barbara Hart Key said just because the complaint was dismissed, it doesn't remove the university's right to observe a faculty member moving forward.

"If it's a classroom in which they can otherwise observe anyway ... I don't think there's anything [in the handbook] that says they can't do that," she said.

While the temporary injunction

"You must also move other people, help to register those who are in our lives and lay out the stakes of this election in terms that are clear and compelling," he said.

O'Rourke said the best way to mobilize people and combat voter suppression is to contact potential voters.

He said reaching out to voters through phone banking or talking in person to help them register is the most helpful way people can get others to vote.

O'Rourke said a lot of people are worried that young people won't get out and vote, but he believes that young people are actually the ones leading the change.

"These are dark days — a lot of suffering, a lot of struggle — but I'm optimistic and even hopeful because of [young voters]," he said.

You can register to vote online at myvote.wi.gov, in person or by mail through your municipal clerk's office. The deadline to register online or by mail is Oct. 14.

was denied, the court will continue to review Koker's sanctions as part of the normal proceedings of the lawsuit.

Meyerson's lawsuit requests the court to force Leavitt and Koker to abide by the rule established in the faculty handbook regarding complaints and disciplinary actions.

According to the faculty handbook, the chancellor is given 20 working days after starting a formal review of a complaint against staff or faculty to decide if the complaint should be prosecuted or dropped.

The lawsuit said Leavitt disregarded this rule by taking 134 working days to dismiss the complaint after beginning the formal investigation.

The university claimed the coronavirus pandemic pushed back the investigation and made it difficult to comply with the investigation timeline.

The suit also requests that the court bar the university from issuing disciplinary actions against Meyerson and delete the sanctions from his personnel record.

The parties will meet in court again Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. for oral arguments.

OSA discusses reforming diversity and inclusion

By Carter Uslabar
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The UW Oshkosh Student Association met Tuesday evening to discuss reforming the UW Oshkosh Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee, and voter registration deadlines and information.

The UWO Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee was formed in spring 2019 following racist and homophobic statements made by a UWO student, which was shared widely across social media and lead to an open forum to address inclusivity on campus.

Following the open forum,



OSA decided to form the Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee in hopes of fostering a more inclusive environment on campus.

The committee was started in fall 2019, but after COVID-19 caused UWO to send students

home last spring, the Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee was left without a student chairperson. All student organizations on campus may send a student representative to sit on the committee.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Support of Inclusive Excellence and Chief Diversity Officer and Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs & Dean of Students Art Munin will co-advise the committee, but the committee is still seeking a student to chair the committee.

Students interested in chairing the committee can contact the OSA at osa@uwosh.edu.

Voting

During National Voter Education Week, OSA and several other campus bodies have been pushing students to register to vote.

The general election is on Nov. 3: less than a month away.

The online and by-mail voter registration deadline is next Wednesday, Oct. 14. After that date has passed, voters have until Oct. 30 to register in person at their municipal clerk's office.

This year, students living on campus will be voting in person at Kolf Sports Center, in the lower level gym.

UWO Chancellor Andrew Leavitt and others have stressed

the importance of making a voting plan this year.

"Forming [a voting plan] is increasingly important during the pandemic," Leavitt wrote in an email Tuesday afternoon. "Should you be required to quarantine or isolate, voting would become challenging. We want you to be prepared."

"If, by chance, you get COVID and then you can't leave the isolation residence hall, or your apartment, you won't be able to vote," OSA co-adviser Jean Kwaterski said.

More voter information, such as what's on the ballot, where and how to vote and deadlines can be found at myvote.wi.gov.

Lacy: ‘Treatment was never going to be enough’

By **Jelissa Burns**
burnsj29@uwosh.edu



Pain and addiction

“When my first daughter was 2, I got addicted to opioids. I had never done them before, but then I broke a bone in my foot and



Lacy

I got a kidney infection in the same three-month span. I was prescribed Vicodin twice by my doctor, and by the time I was finished with my second prescription, I was addicted and I knew it.

“This was the good feeling I was searching for — the warm, fuzzy, safe feeling. I had this thing that was my best friend, my boyfriend, all that stuff that people say that it was. Slowly, I stopped caring about everything else. That progressed really fast. Within a year, I was doing handfuls of pain pills. It got very expensive. I was still working at the same job, and I don’t know how I kept that job. I kept that job for three years. And as soon as I got a promotion, that same month I ended up quitting.

“I was starting to get dope sick, and sometimes I couldn’t get my drugs, so I wasn’t going to get up and go to work. I couldn’t do that — I couldn’t take care of my kid — it was becoming a really scary thing. I would take any pain pill, or I would do Suboxone if I couldn’t find any pain pills. I had gotten into a relationship with this guy. He was a drug dealer, and he would sell crack, and he was

very controlling of me. He basically cut me off from everybody I would buy drugs from. He wanted to get my drugs for me all the time so I wouldn’t speak to other men. He didn’t want me out looking for drugs. So I was like, ‘OK, well then you’re gonna get my drugs for me.’ And he liked that role.

“I didn’t realize how much power he had over me until he was arrested and went to jail. I was left in a position where I couldn’t get my drugs. Mostly, I didn’t have any money. I just depended on him. I quit my job, I was living on unemployment, I wasn’t functioning very well in life. I couldn’t pay any of my bills, but drugs came first before everything.”

Life in recovery

“While I was in jail, I asked if I could go to Nova because a lot of people that I know that have been successful in recovery started there. They said yes but they also gave me Drug Court. Drug Court must have been exactly what I needed.

“Treatment was never going to be enough. I had been going to treatment for 15 years at that point. I did behavioral health three times from the time I was 14 to 16. I did outpatient. I did my first inpatient at Winnebago Mental Health for a dual diagnosis when I was 17. I’ve been institutionalized and have been in jail a bunch of times. I could regurgitate recovery talk, but I had never been taught how to live my life without drugs and alcohol, and I was the type of person that couldn’t do it without a ton of support and accountability, and that’s what Drug Court gave me. So looking back, that’s exactly what I needed and I’m glad it exists for people like me.

“Drug Court taught me recovery, but it also held me accountable, and for once the consequences started to matter to me. Because of all the work that I was doing, I was receiv-



Photos taken by UW Oshkosh alumnus Michael Cooney or provided by FIXED participants
Lacy appears in Winnebago County Drug Court before Circuit Court Judge Karen Seifert. She was addicted to opioids since her daughter was 2 years old.

ing so many gifts back into my life — relationships with my daughters, my parents, my family — once I started getting all of those I started caring about going back to prison. I started having a self-worth. Before, it never really bothered me because I didn’t care about myself or anybody else. I cared about my kids. It made me sad, but I never put anyone above drugs, so Drug Court changed everything for me. Now, I’ve just been in Drug Court for a couple years and living this way for so long, I don’t even look at it that way anymore. I’m so far away from that and I know it. I’m just doing it because I want to and I want to keep everything I have and I want to be able to give it to other people. The consequences aren’t what keep me sober now. I’ve had the support so long that this is just how I live my life. It’s important for addicts to make it a lifestyle.”

Lacy lives in Oshkosh and is a



Lacy lives in Oshkosh and is a young mother with three daughters. Lacy’s struggle with addiction began as a preteen, but she is now on the road to recovery.

young mother with three daughters. Lacy’s struggle with addiction began as a preteen, but she is now on the road to recovery. She works as a caregiver for adults with developmental disabilities. For more information about Nova Counseling Services, Inc., please visit novaos-hkosh.com.

The FIXED Storytelling Project was to run in the Advance-Titan last spring and conclude with an event in May, but it was canceled due to the pandemic. Instead, the Advance-Titan is running stories from the project throughout October, which is recognized as National Substance Abuse Prevention Month.

Gooden shares advice, experiences with domestic violence

By **Lexi Langendorf**
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Beverly Gooden, famous for the viral Twitter trend “#WhyIStayed,” met virtually with UW Oshkosh students last week Monday night to spread awareness of domestic violence.

The online session, where Gooden shared her personal experiences and advice, had a turnout of over 120 students.

“24 people suffer from domestic violence every minute,” Gooden said, “and I was one of them.”

After proposing to her in college, Gooden’s ex-husband began verbally and physically abusing her.

She endured events such as being hit, choked and even thrown out of a moving vehicle.

“I just wanted to be every love song I ever heard,” Gooden said. “So I kept going back to him.”

She tolerated the abuse, thinking her partner could change, until one final episode where she believed her ex-husband was going to kill her.

“I realized I wanted to live more



Courtesy of Bev Gooden
Bev Gooden hosted a virtual event last week in which she shared advice and experiences with domestic violence with students.

than I wanted to be married to him,” Gooden said.

After getting out of the relationship, Gooden created the Twitter trend #WhyIStayed to document her struggles with domestic abuse.

Within the first few days after she posted, over 200,000 people tweeted using her hashtag and she appeared on CNN just days later.

Gooden has since appeared

on many other news outlets, including the New York Times, Dr. Phil, Good Morning America, The Washington Post, TIME, NBC and more.

Gooden is now single, has decided against having children, and is proud to have gotten a hysterectomy. She is the founder of the Ella Mae Foundation, which supports “protection and superior

upbringing for children as well as self-actualization and equitable rights for women.”

Gooden has been working on a book, “Bolt Bags” that act as care packages for survivors and a bill that she hopes will become law. Her book will engage in concepts of individuality and making important life decisions.

During the virtual session, Gooden provided statistics regarding domestic violence. 57% of college students who report experiencing dating violence said it occurred in college.

In fact, most individuals experience some form of dating violence before the age of 25. Two in five gay or bisexual men and 50% of lesbian women will experience partner violence in their lifetime.

In an attempt to start resolving these situations, Gooden gave advice to UWO students.

She said dependence, fear and love are ultimately why abusive relationships are the hardest to escape.

To help, students should look for signs of abusive relationships, such as extreme jealousy, temper, manipulation and neglect of

friends and family. Gooden said by observing, being empathetic and speaking out, we can begin to fight against domestic violence.

Gooden added that it is important to avoid victim-blaming and statements such as “why didn’t she leave?”

Instead, Gooden states that the country should work towards empathizing with victims and asking “why did he do that to her?”

Lee Stovall, program adviser of diversity and inclusion programs at UWO, said that there are lots of resources on campus for anyone struggling with domestic violence.

“There is a hotline for domestic abuse,” Stovall said, “and plenty of resources here on campus to help students stay safe.”

The national domestic violence hotline is 1-800-799-7233, and UWO Health Promotion and Wellness offers a wide range of year-round services to support and educate survivors.

“I encourage people to speak up when they’re in danger,” Gooden said. “You never know if it could save your life.”

FIXED: Family motivates recovery

From page 1

try.”

After refusing for a while, he finally gave in. He started with alcohol, marijuana and cocaine, but eventually he said he tried “pretty much every drug that was out there.” It started out as “just a party thing,” but it slowly developed into a coping mechanism.

“I would use to hide the pain of my emotions or feelings that I didn’t understand, and then it became an addiction,” he said.

Myron’s addiction spiraled into a vicious cycle of using drugs, running out of money and committing crimes to get money for drugs. He’d get out of jail for a while, get a good job, get into a relationship and start using again because he didn’t understand how to deal with his emotions.

“That happened over and over for the last 30 years,” Myron said. “And this last time I was missing from home for two weeks, doing every drug that was out there and in jail with four different charges.”

The bender

In July 2017, Myron got in a fight with his fiancée, Emily, about how to discipline their children. After the argument, Myron took off; he needed a drink. He went to a local dive bar, and he ran into an old friend that he wasn’t supposed to be in contact with because they had committed crimes together in the past. But after a few drinks, he didn’t care. They went back to the friend’s home and Myron went back to using. He drained his bank account to pay for drugs, which led the pair to steal TVs for money. A few days passed and Myron knew he messed up. He called Emily, and she immediately asked, “What did you do now?”

He didn’t know what she was talking about. He knew that he hadn’t been to work in weeks, but Emily explained that he was on the news and there was a warrant out for his arrest. She told him that a police detective was parked outside, waiting for him to come home. At that point, he gave up.

Myron told himself, “I’m just gonna get high until I die.” He felt like his life was over because he was already on probation and now there was a warrant out for his arrest. A few days later, Myron and his friend went to a pawn shop to sell some tools they had stolen. The police showed up and arrested them both on theft of merchandise charges.

“I wasn’t even mad,” he said. “I was glad.”

When he was in jail, he caught wind that his probation could be revoked. He had heard about a program called Drug Court, and he inquired about how to join. He knew that his life needed some kind of structure if he was to change his ways.

“I knew then that I was tired and that I needed help; I never admitted it to anyone before,” Myron said. “This time, when I woke up in jail, I spoke to the Drug Court agents. That was the first time in my life that I admitted I needed help.”

To get accepted into the program, Myron was interviewed and his past criminal history was examined. It was determined that his crimes were a result of his substance abuse and he was admitted to the Winnebago County Drug Court on Aug. 10, 2017. He filled out paperwork and was released from jail to begin the first phase. He quickly found a sponsor and started going to treatment. One month into the program, he got a job at Mercury Marine as an assembler. He was cruising right along in the program when he hit his first hurdle.

Trusting the process

Seven months into the program, Myron thought all of his criminal charges were behind him, until he was recharged with one of the crimes from his final bender. The charge almost threw Myron off the path to recovery. At the time he thought, “Where do I go from here?” He went to Delfosse, his case manager, and told her he was concerned. She told him to “trust the process,” and he did. He spent three months under house arrest, but afterward, he was able to finally put the past behind him.

Months after house arrest, in March 2018, tragedy struck again. He was working at Mercury Marine when 2,500 lbs. of metal crashed down on top of him. He was flown to Milwaukee for emergency brain surgery, because the metal had slit his head wide open.

His neck was broken in two places. He broke 11 ribs and had a torn meniscus in both knees. He has screws in his neck and needed surgery in both knees. The accident also caused damage to the part of his brain that controls the nerves in his left arm. He’s still going to physical therapy.

“When I first got out of the hospital, I couldn’t zip up my jacket, put on my socks or tie my shoes,” Myron said. “A lot of the things that I took advantage of, I didn’t really think much of, so it made me appreciate life a lot more.”



For Myron, having to ask someone for help was a humbling experience. His young daughters have been like “little nurses,” helping him do things that he used to be able to do by himself.

“I used to always think I could do everything on my own,” Myron said. “But now I have to ask people to help me, and I’m OK with that.”

Life in recovery

Throughout the trials and tribulations Myron has faced since starting Drug Court, he continued to attend weekly Drug Court sessions, even when he wasn’t scheduled to attend.

“I’ve been coming to court every week since I first started, two years ago, because I like being here now,” he said. “I used to be afraid of courtrooms, but now I come to learn from others what to do and what not to do.”

The judges, district attorneys, police officers and sheriffs have become his friends. The Winnebago County Courthouse has become Myron’s happy place.

“Coming [to court] and listening to everyone get up and talk, you learn the positive things that someone else was doing to stay on the straight path,” he said. “It’s like a learning process each time that I come.”

Drug Court helped him find his voice. Growing up, Myron never shared his thoughts or feelings. Now, he shares his thoughts and feelings with anyone willing to listen. It’s also helped him take a step back and look at the bigger picture and enjoy the small moments with his children.

“To sit and play board games with



them, to sit and color with them, since finishing Drug Court because
FIXED photos Michael Cooney or provided by **FIXED** participants
Myron Batiste is now a devoted father and advocate for drug addicts upon completion of drug court.

watch movies with them; I wasn’t doing any of that,” Myron said. “And now that I’m doing that, it’s built a better relationship with us as far as them listening to me and listening to their mom.”

Drug Court has allowed Myron to become a more reliable partner. Before when he would disappear, his fiancée, Emily, didn’t know if he’d pick up the phone when she called or even call her back. But now, “he calls back shortly after to let me know what he’s doing,” Emily said. “If he’s out with buddies at night, I don’t have to worry about it because I know he’s going to come home.”

Myron, she says, has become a reliable partner and someone she can trust to pick the kids up from school. Since getting sober, he has returned to being the man whom Emily first fell in love with.

Myron feels more responsibility

it’s up to him to continue to stay sober and continue to be the father his children deserve.

“I’m grateful to be here every day because I can see the happiness in my kid’s faces and I can see the happiness with my family,” Myron said.

Finishing Drug Court isn’t the end of Myron’s story, as he plans to continue telling his story in hopes that it will inspire others to change their lives for the better.

“If you don’t stand for something positive, then negativity will always control you,” he said. “I’m willing to stand in recovery and share my story with people, and I’m not afraid to tell them about all of the mistakes I made and all the wrong things I did, because somebody needs to hear that in order to change their life.”

Editor’s note: All interviews took place in fall 2019.

UWO’s COVD cases down, county up

By Sophia Voight
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Gov. Tony Evers issued an emergency order Tuesday limiting public gatherings to combat the “deadly, uncontrolled and exponentially growing spike in cases of COVID-19” in Wisconsin.

Effective 8 a.m. Oct. 8, public gatherings will be limited to 25% of a room or building’s total capacity.

Wisconsin has 2,346 active cases as of Tuesday with the 18-24 age group having the most number of confirmed cases.

The Oshkosh-Neenah area is listed as the worst outbreak area in the nation, according to the New York Times as of Tuesday.

Winnebago County has a 14.9%

positivity rate for the past two weeks, with 70 new positive cases on Tuesday.

“The number of new cases continues to accelerate upwards and has exceeded the ability of testing and case investigation to control the spread of illness,” according to the Winnebago County Health Department or WCHD.

The Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh is currently performing over 750 COVID-19 tests a day, according to WCHD weekly COVID-19 data summary.

COVID-19 hospitalizations are also at the highest level to date in the Fox Valley region, the WCHD report says. Fox Valley area hospitals had 112 COVID-19 hospitalizations in September, according to WCHD, with hospitals pushing 90% capac-

ity.

WCHD warns that if the community doesn’t change its behavior soon, hospitals will be overwhelmed in the next several weeks.

COVID-19 cases at UWO have steadily trended downward in the past two weeks.

UWO reached its lowest positivity rate in four weeks at 2.2% on Oct. 5. UWO had 10 positive cases out of 459 on Monday, with 100 active cases on campus.

In a campus wide email on Oct. 2, Chancellor Andrew Leavitt said eliminating face-to-face dining, wearing a mask, physical distancing and washing hands helped control the spread of Covid-19 on campus.

Leavitt asked students to stay home unless for work, school or necessities to help stop the spread in

the community as well.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention plans to study UWO antigen COVID-19 testing throughout October. They will study how reliable antigen testing is to monitor spread of COVID-19 among UW Oshkosh students.

“If the CDC can validate the protocol we are following here at UW Oshkosh with scaled up use of the antigen test as part of our Titans Return Plan, we can serve as a model for surveilling students on other campuses,” Risk Manager Kimberly Langolf said.

WCHD recommends that people “just stay home” and avoid any unnecessary travel that puts you in contact with people you don’t live with.

The WCHD report said the virus

is spreading rapidly because many people don’t know they are infected and others are knowingly breaking quarantine and spreading it to people.

“Assume that every public place you are in has a risk of exposure to you,” the report stated.

UWO students and employees who have been exposed to the virus or are experiencing symptoms can get tested at Albee Hall by appointment through the MyPrevea app. Appointments are available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh is also running a regional COVID-19 testing site available to any Wisconsin resident above the age of 5.

Kenosha:



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield

A crowd of people protesting police brutality and systemic racism at an intersection of 56th Street in Kenosha, following Kenosha police shooting Jacob Blake seven times in the back.

An alumnus reflects on unrest

From Page 1

For a reason that Whitfield still isn't sure of, he decided to follow Rittenhouse as he made his way through the city.

At one point before the shootings, he saw Rittenhouse running down the street with an AR-15 style rifle toward Bert & Rudy's Auto Service Shop in Kenosha.

Whitfield turned to talk to someone near the auto shop, and then he heard gunshots ring out.

"We didn't know where the shots were coming from, so we hid in the bushes for about a minute or two," Whitfield recalled. "Then Rittenhouse emerged from the parking lot and was running down the street. And again, my instinct was to follow him. People were saying that he had shot somebody, so I followed him."

He followed Rittenhouse from the auto shop to an intersection, where Rittenhouse had fallen down and was confronted by two protesters.

"I was right up in it, but then when I heard the bullets, I ran out around into the bushes," Whitfield said. "I sought cover because I didn't know where these bullets were going to go."

When Whitfield came out from behind the bushes, what he saw

disturbed him.

"One of the men who tried to confront him, I guess the guy who was hitting him with a skateboard, was lying dead while someone was trying to resuscitate him," Whitfield said. "I felt like it was dangerous at that point, so I stopped following and [Rittenhouse] continued to go the opposite direction in the street."

Around that time, Whitfield saw a squad car with a police officer inside, so he approached and showed the officer a photo he had taken of Rittenhouse. The officer, however, appeared disinterested and "didn't want to talk" to Whitfield.

Whitfield said police told people that night that they had a suspect in custody to appease the protesters. That was a lie, however, as Rittenhouse was arrested the following day, according to ABC News.

"I was kind of bothered by that," Whitfield said of the police's initial response to the shootings.

In fact, the police response to the entire situation disappoints Whitfield, who said police took a very "hands-off" approach to dealing with the unrest, which is part of the reason the unrest escalated.

"You didn't need to have armed individuals there. Mr. Rittenhouse was from out of state, didn't have a license for that firearm and he's walking around the streets with a giant gun and his finger on the trigger," Whitfield said. "I'm still not sure why that's even acceptable."

While Whitfield was filled with a sense of fear and anxiety when he was on the ground in Kenosha, he said the need to document what was happening kept him going and helped him persevere through the chaos.

"The reason I went there was to go and get those images, so I just went out and tried to overcome that fear, which didn't last very long because instinct to get the images really took over," he said. "Part of what drives me as a photographer is the need to get substantial evidence of something that's taken place; it really doesn't matter what assignment that I'm out on."

Additionally, Whitfield has been disheartened by the media coverage of the unrest in Kenosha, as conservative media has aimed to paint Rittenhouse as a hero trying to defend local businesses.

"This guy was agitated and he was getting nervous," Whitfield

said. "He was trying to do good, but I think he might have felt threatened in that parking lot and made a mistake."

When he isn't taking photos of historic events, Whitfield works as a school teacher in Milwaukee's inner city, where he has seen systemic racism first-hand as an educator in one of America's most segregated cities.

"I've just been able to see the things that other people don't want to see in the inner city," he said. "A lot of these students are not getting the same kind of education that you would get anywhere else. It's lacking the structure due to the high turnover of teachers and a lack of credentialed teachers."

Ultimately, Whitfield believes more needs to be done to eliminate equity gaps that exist between low-income students and students from wealthy families.

"I've been in Milwaukee teaching for about 10 years, and I've seen class after class of students passed over," he said. "I think a lot of the racial tension that exists in the city is because we're sending uneducated, unskilled students out into the workforce to become adults."



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
17-year-old Kyle Rittenhouse went to Kenosha armed with an AR-15 style rifle, and allegedly shot three protesters, killing two.



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
A bystander tries to resuscitate an injured protester on Aug. 25 in Kenosha.



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
A car burns in Kenosha during a wave of unrest that swept the city in late August.



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
Smoke emanates around police in riot gear in Kenosha on Aug. 25.



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
A protester comforts another who's eyes had been irritated by tactics used by riot police.



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
Police in riot gear walk toward a group of protesters sitting in the street in Kenosha in late August.



Photo by Leviathan Whitfield
Smoke flows from a canister on the ground in Kenosha.

Opinion

Discussion posts: Is there a point?

By Owen Peterson
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The transition to mostly on-line classes has come with a wide variety of ups and downs, but I believe the lowest low has to be the increased reliance on Canvas discussion posts.

The newfound prominence of these discussion boards is a lackluster addition to the online learning experience because it fails to provide content or discussions that are actually beneficial.

In other words, not much learning goes on in the discussion boards.

But why does no learning go on? Whose fault is it? Is there a solution?

The main reason I believe that these discussion boards are rarely successful is because there is not much incentive to put effort into it.

The discussion posts are usually just factored into your overall grade in the “participation” section, which usually also includes attendance, so the posts do not carry very much weight.

This, combined with the fact that it is hard to get invested in online classes in general, makes it hard for students to see measly discussion posts as something that they should spend substantial time on.

This mentality then leads to low-effort and perfunctory posts made just to make sure that you don’t lose points, rendering the whole assignment uninformative.

Even worse, however, are the requirements to respond to classmates posts. This is the section that is even more meaningless, as most of the students respond with the likes of; “I agree with that point that you made! I also believe that...”

Forcing students to respond to already uninspired posts is no way to generate fruitful discussion.

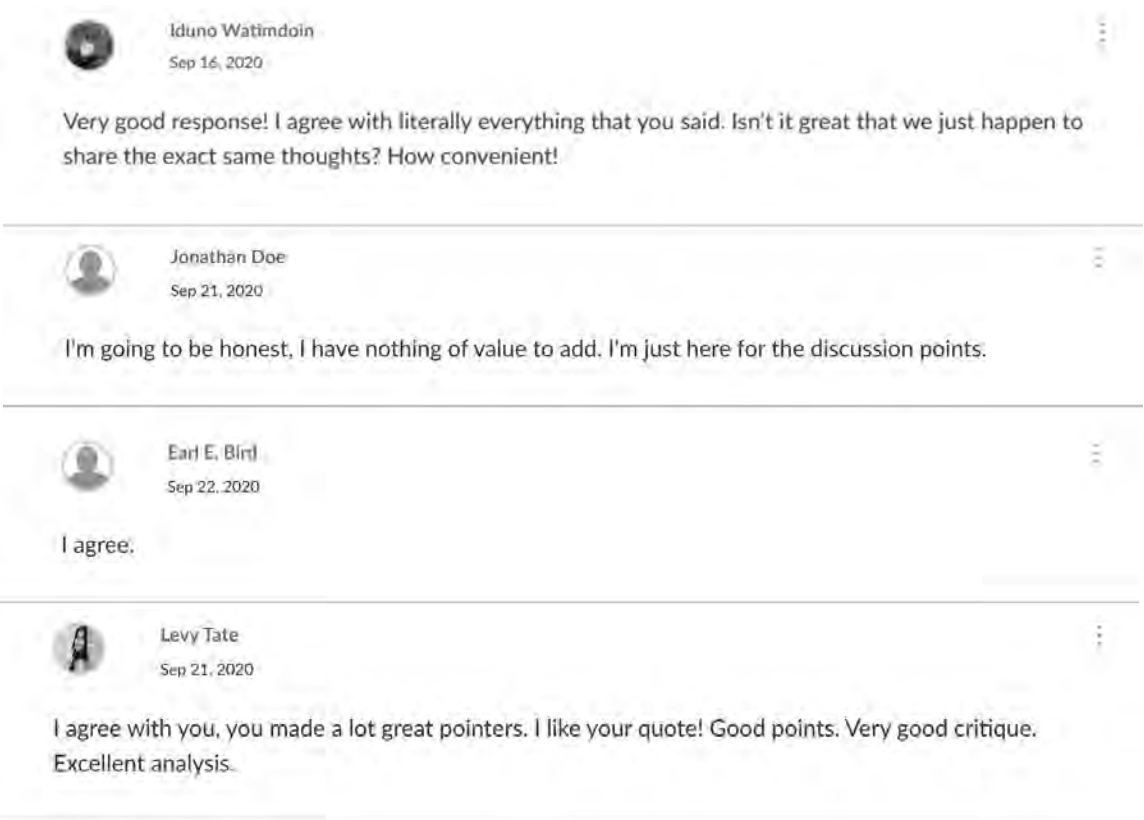
The main counterpoint to my argument here is that the discussions are only as beneficial and worthwhile as the students participating choose to make it. While this is true, I don’t see how the students are supposed to be invested in a task that almost begs to have low effort be put into it.

The fact that the posts are rarely graded on quality, accompanied with the sense that nobody actually cares about what you are writing, makes it hard for students to view a discussion post as a thing of relevance.

I do not believe that it is reasonable to expect discussion boards to be a legitimate learning tool in an online class.

Discussions can be absolutely great and genuinely aid students’ understanding of the material when done in an in-person class, but this is not replicable when every member of the class is separated by a screen.

Similar to how online lectures seem so much less engaging than in-person ones, online discussions fail to capture the impact of its counterpart. This is due to factors such as the



amount of distractions available to students and the overall feeling of disconnect that is present in an online learning environment.

That being said, I would also like to make it clear that this is not a failure on the part of the professors. They have probably enjoyed the circumstances of this semester just as little as the students have, and they are doing everything in their power to accommodate for these unfortunate circumstances.

In terms of suggestions on how to improve this, I will not pretend to have a perfect solution.

I would not be sad to see these discussion posts removed entirely, but I still believe that discussion in general should be part of a class.

This may not be the most popular opinion, but I believe that it would serve the class better to hold discussions instead of relying on discussion boards. While the mention of having to talk in front of/to a class sends shivers down the spines of many, including my own, it might just be a superior alternative.

Whereas productive conversation rarely sprouts from discussion boards, live discussions

at least have the propensity to be useful.

A live discussion would be an improvement because the live setting would encourage students to actually share meaningful thoughts in the moment due to the fact that you know people are actually listening and paying attention to what you are saying and that you can get immediate, unforced feedback.

Live discussions would most likely be more useful because they are more emulative of real class discussions, which are usually successful.

Letters to the Editor

Freedom over safety

By Mikenzi Thao
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Inserting political views where political views are not needed. On Jan. 22, 2020, the U.S had confirmed its first COVID-19 case, leaving many to face struggles no one would’ve ever seen coming. In protection of its people, the Government call was made for all businesses to be on lockdown, causing many employers to go into financial crisis, college students to leave campus and worry on how our K-12 students would continue on. Though this matter caused great fallout, it indeed was a time of fighting side by side.

Although there was hope that citizens would come together, going into lockdown only added fire into the ongoing argument of what freedom in our country means, causing yet again another divide of America. Rules and regulations were disregarded, raising the positive COVID-19 cases. All over social media, you see appalling encounters with those who re-

fuse to wear a mask, in defense that it takes away constitutional rights. That now, wearing a mask or not wearing a mask, no longer is about safety but politics. Though medical professionals have shared their findings of the dangers COVID-19 has, their work has been thrown aside. Despite the truth behind this virus, many continue to believe Politicians and our President, a platform where false information is released. Such as President Trump’s racist statement in referring to the coronavirus as the “Chinese Virus” or “Kung Flu”.

With the scare that this outbreak has caused, talking about politics isn’t how this matter should be taken into hands. Instead, citizens of the U.S. should realize that this is not about taking their rights away but getting life back to how it was before the coronavirus had hit. It is about coming together and caring for one’s safety rather than mourning over the deaths of our loved ones.

Mental illness among millennials

By Ally Stribbling
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As a fellow college student, it has been brought to my attention that there is an increasing decline with student’s mental health. Mental illness is defined as a wide variety of conditions that disrupt mood, thinking and behavior. Each individual illness brings diverse suffering affecting a range of people. Mental illness includes, but is not limited to, depression, anxiety, eating disorders, ADHD, etc. With that being said, the National Alliance on Mental Illness claims in 2019, nearly 50% of college students within the United States felt as if their

mental health was at a decline. Additionally, the same organization stated 40% do not seek help for their mental problems.

This leads me to claim that universities fail to acknowledge and educate students on proper care for oneself. College campuses need to act in care and normalize receiving guidance when hope is lost. Without students fulfilling their self-actualization, they will have a difficult time achieving school standards, which is ultimately a poor reflection on the university.

Speaking on behalf of the student body, universities should fund coping mechanisms, group therapy, and accommodations in order to help their students

reach their expectations.

The importance to help the communities’ mental health on campus is critical. Resources such as suicide hotlines, meditation and recreational therapy need to be taken seriously by students, counselors and professors. Colleges must promptly provide resources for their students in order to obtain the level of success they desire. For example, by offering resources, kids will feel secure at the university, bringing attraction to campus and allowing more opportunities for all to grow. If the universities claim to care for their students, their words do not align with their actions.

Letter Guidelines

The Advance-Titan welcomes and reads all letters. Timely, well-written, provocative opinions on topics of interest at UW Oshkosh are given first preference.

All letters are subject to editing; not all letters can be published. Letters exceeding 300 words may be edited at the discretion of the Advance-Titan staff. Name, position, address and daytime phone number are required, although only name and email will be published along with the article.

The Advance-Titan does not publish anonymous or open letters and letters printed elsewhere.

If your letter is chosen for publication, we may attempt to contact you for verification via email or phone. To submit your letter, email atitan@uwosh.edu.

‘The Outpost:’ a modern war film with meaning

By Nolan Fullington
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“The Outpost” is a modern war film directed by Rod Lurie with a script from the writers who brought us “Patriots Day,” “The Finest Hours,” “Fighter” and a slew of “Air Bud” movies. So quite the odd filmography.

A small unit of U.S. soldiers are alone at the remote Combat Outpost Keating, located deep in Afghanistan, battling an overwhelming force of Taliban fighters in a coordinated attack. The goal: survive.

This is a true story from 2009 that became known as “the bloodiest American battle of the Afghanistan War,” and this group of American soldiers became the most decorated men of that time.

This film was released in early July, but I was reluctant to watch it because I have a huge problem with war films set in the modern day. When a studio sets out to make a modern war film nowadays, they usually reach out to the military to get access to military-grade equipment like tanks, jeeps and other weaponry.

However, the military does not graciously do so without strings attached. They must first approve the script, meaning that the majority of the time, war films set in the modern day are essentially propaganda to recruit Americans to the military by making war look “badass.”

Films like “12 Strong,” the “Transformers” films, the works of Roland Emmerich and even “Captain Marvel” to a certain extent, are guilty of building-up modern war-

fare in that sense, but not to the point of exploitation.

So when those films came out, I experienced plenty of trailers and advertisements from the military as a partnered campaign with the film to increase recruitment.

I loathe modern war films that pretend that war still isn’t awful, which is why I happened to love “The Outpost.” It reminds us, even with the advancements of technology today, that war is still horrifying and taking human life, and watching those around you die is awful to experience.

What caught me off guard about “The Outpost” initially was the lack of story or plotting. But as the film progresses, you find that the entire film is essentially on a countdown, but one you can’t see: the Taliban are coming and you never know when.

And what I found so impactful was how abrupt the attacks were. The film takes what audiences know about scene construction, structure and pacing, and says, “What if during the scene of character interaction, it’s cut off right in the middle with an attack in the dead of night.”

Usually I am a stickler for structure in film, but in something recent like “1917,” the film is trying to make the audience another character and providing them with this stressful and paranoid experience where you never know what’s going to happen next.

What really helps with that idea was having absolutely no protagonist. The closest we have to one shockingly departs not even halfway through the film. That abrupt

exit is a way of telling the audience that nobody is safe here.

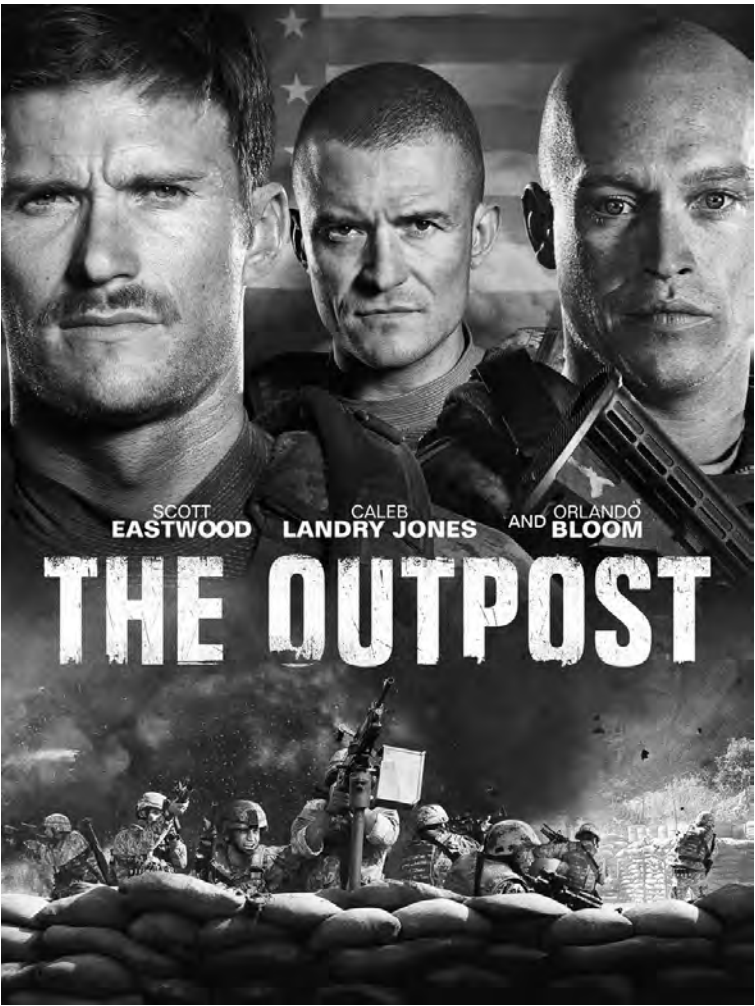
There are a handful of characters you do get to know, but none stick out as much as the lead until, perhaps, the very end. The last name of one of the actors does give away his significance in the film, but some of those characters do end up dying because this is a true story — not a Hollywood manifestation.

One other aspect about the characters that I found was terrifically handled was that they don’t feel like movie characters. So often in war films, you get to know them by odd traits — like one has weird glasses, another tells jokes or one takes the photos, another is afraid of combat. Those elements are there in this film, but so subdued to where I felt like I was watching a documentary, which can be attributed to great direction.

This film also doesn’t trade the emotional trauma of these characters for “badass” action scenes that makes America look “awesome.” In fact, the final scene of this film is one of the soldiers crying in therapy because he did everything he could to save a fellow soldier, but he died while being worked on by the medical unit. When in another film, that soldier would save his friend and the friend would live on and make for a sappy ending.

“The Outpost” just takes all of those familiar elements and twists them into such a pessimistic ideology.

If you’ve read my reviews consistently, you’d also know that I hate movies that have the entire final act be one long action scene. “The Outpost” is two hours and literally



the last forty-five minutes is a battle and not one second of it lets you go; you’re biting your nails on the edge of your seat the entire time.

So this director needs a trophy or some kind of recognition for making one of the longest and tense “action” scenes of the last several years.

One detail I did find distracting, though, was every time a new character appears on screen a lower third graphic pops up to state their name.

I get what the film is doing by trying to highlight as many soldiers as they can, but the placement of the names felt awkward at times.

This film came out in the middle of summer and nobody really talked about it because of the pandemic, but this film deserves some kind of recognition, because I don’t remember the last modern war film I saw that was this good.

‘Enola Holmes’ mooches off Sherlock Holmes legacy

By Lexi Wojcik-Kretchmer
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“Enola Holmes,” Netflix’s newest original movie, had a good message, but it could’ve been done differently.

The movie follows a 16-year-old girl who happens to be the sister of the famous Sherlock Holmes. When her mother goes missing, her brothers Sherlock and Mycroft come home to see what they can do. But when they don’t give Enola the answers that she’s looking for, she sets off to solve it herself.

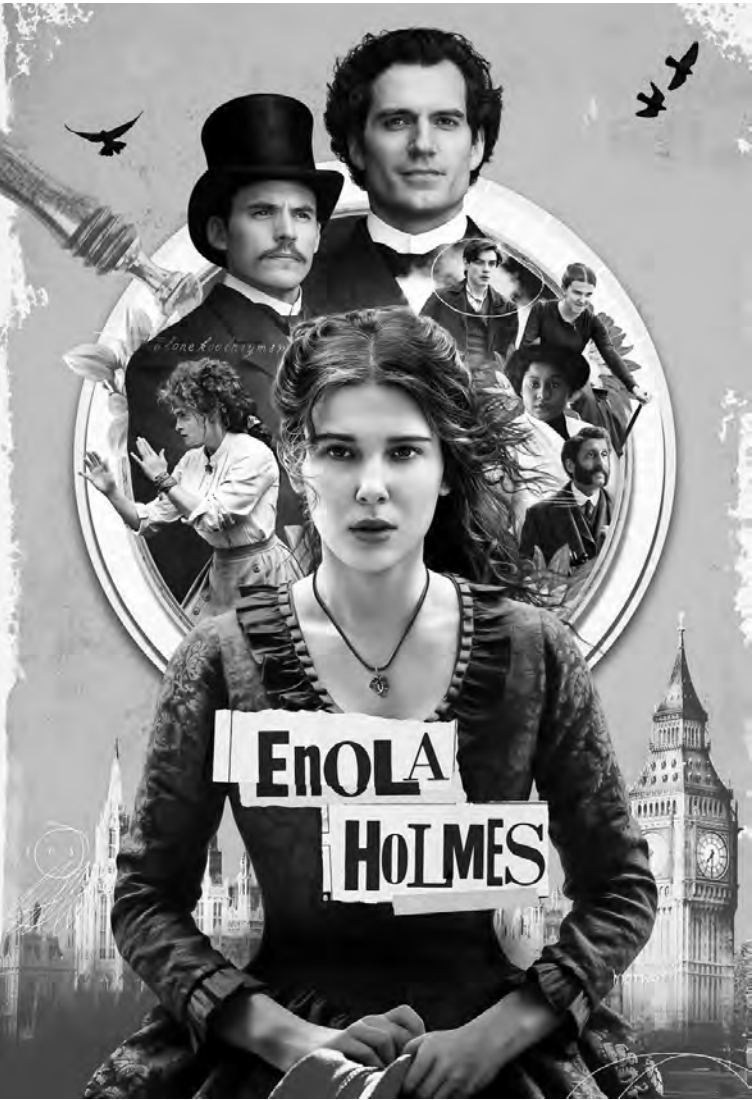
Of course, she finds a boy along the way, who she thinks is a waste of her time, but ends up caring for him while uncovering the true mystery around him.

The plot itself is interesting, and there are some unexpected twists and turns, but I don’t think that it needed to be based off of Sherlock Holmes. There are so many ways that the author of the book series, Nancy Springer, and the director, Harry Bradbeer, could’ve made it more original.

Using the Holmes name seems to be a way to get the audience to buy in that this will be a good story. I mean that’s why I watched it - I thought it might be like “Sherlock.”

The writers and director could’ve made the story during the time of Sherlock Holmes and a girl who maybe wants to be like him. They could’ve also just made it a story about a girl with a weird mother, whose normal brothers come home to help when their 16 year-old sister is left alone to fend for herself.

There are plenty of other possibilities with this film.



However, I will give credit and be lenient on the fact that this is based on a book in a series so there could be a deeper reason for relating it to Sherlock Holmes. In the movie, though, I didn’t see it other than to get you to watch the movie in the first place and then keep watching to see if Sherlock Holmes does his

thing.

Another issue I had with this movie is the random characters that pop up, like a random self defense instructor and a detective that truly doesn’t do much.

Clearly I’m not the only one who had problems with this movie, because according to CinemaBlend.

com there is a lawsuit claiming copyright and trademark issues from the last ten original “Sherlock Holmes” stories. The stories are owned by Conan Doyle, the author, who’s estate is suing.

Now that I’ve ripped on the movie, I do want to give credit where credit is due.

First, the name Enola is an interesting name to begin with because when you spell it backwards, it spells “alone,” and that has meaning all in itself (which would probably be easier to understand in the novels). It leads well into the idea of the mysteries of her mother, and how Enola solves some of her own mysteries. Despite this being a clever idea, Enola brings it up about every 10 minutes, which does get a bit annoying.

Speaking of Enola, Millie Bobby Brown did a bitching job (get it, “Stranger Things” reference) at playing Enola. She broke that fourth wall in a way that was compelling for viewers to want to see and made you more engaged because she was talking to you.

The other actors all did a great job of basically ignoring her while she broke it, never acknowledging it in the slightest.

The casting director, Jina Jay, made another exceptional choice by choosing Helen Bonham Carter to play the mother.

Bonham Carter kept her reputation of playing strange characters who the audience is just trying to understand. Because of this reputation she already has, it’s easy to believe that she would just leave her daughter to try and, well, I won’t say so I don’t spoil it.

The other main actors, Henry Cavill (Sherlock) and Sam Claflin (Mycroft), played their roles well as the two brothers, being mysterious and angry about everything, respectively.

Without these big-name actors, the movie wouldn’t have been able to keep our attention because Brown, Bonham Carter, Cavill and Claflin all bring a presence to their movies that makes the audience want to see what they will do next.

We also have the actor who plays Enola’s love interest, Louis Partridge, as an up-and-coming young actor who I’m sure we will see in many more young adult films. For “Enola Holmes” being Partridge’s first major role, he did an exceptional job, and I’m sure we will see him in many different young adult films.

Beyond the acting, other components such as costumes, set design and lighting did do a great job of portraying the time period (1880-1914) accurately. Downtown London takes all of these well-done elements and puts them together, making a bustling and chaotic town with proper people and the feel of the late 1880s.

The film also has a great and powerful message that we get through Enola’s journey. It is a story of female empowerment and finding oneself, especially putting yourself apart from family.

This message and the end of the movie calls for a sequel, so keep an eye out! Hopefully next time we get a more cohesive and interesting plot, but Brown and her colleagues will continue to play Enola Holmes and those around her well, no matter the plot.

Arts & Entertainment

Five things to do instead of actively killing your brain

By Carter Uslabar
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Disillusioned with life? Sorry, we don't have the answers. But we do have a list of five affordable activities that will leave you feeling less hollow than another weekend of Wisconsining.

Visit the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend
A drive of roughly an hour will deliver you to this location, currently featuring 50 years of Wisconsin comic art, and a surreal installation of insects, as well as features such as Frank Lloyd Wright chairs and other installations. A year-long student membership runs just \$15. Turn it into a day-trip by exploring quaint downtown West Bend.

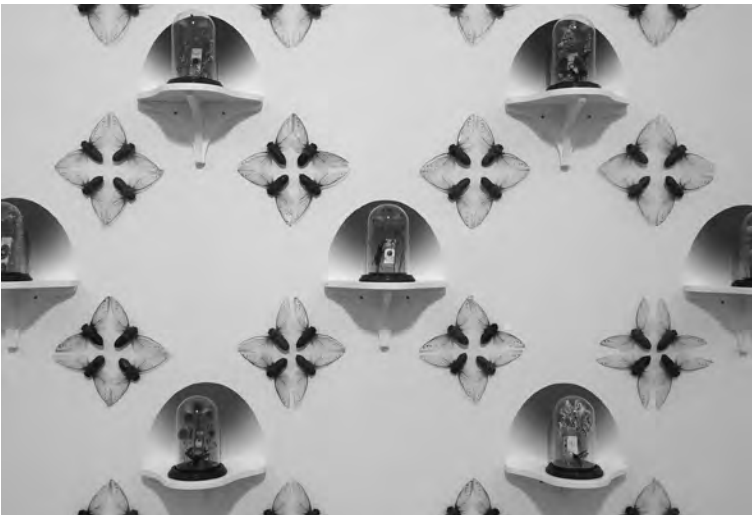
Take a hike at High Cliff State Park
Take advantage of what's to be a beautiful weekend to catch the last dying breaths of fall's orgy of colors at scenic High Cliff. A series of trails and hidden pathways afford an incredible immersion in nature and stunning views of limestone outcroppings, Lake Winnebago and the surrounding area.

Visit local museums in Oshkosh
The Paine Art Center and Gardens and the Oshkosh Public Museum are two excellent buildings, featuring historical artifacts, artworks and inspired gardens. Both destinations are within walking distance of campus (take Algoma Ave. and see all the historical houses en route). Reservations must be made for a visit to the Paine, but admission has been re-

duced to \$4.50 until the end of the month.

Read a book
There is a library on campus, and thousands of books available for free online. Read about what you love or what you're curious about. Don't feel bad for skimming, not finishing or disliking a book, but read something. Read what you love until you love what you read.

Visit an orchard
What better way to enjoy the outdoors than to stroll through an orchard with friends or family? Don't listen to those who rail against this type of activity as being insipid and "basic." It's nice. It's fun. It's beautiful. Who cares if it's basic? Indulge yourself.



TOP: Dried insects create a surreal landscape at the Museum of Wisconsin Art. BOTTOM: High Cliff State Park boasts views of the surrounding area.



Caarter Uslabar / Advance-Titan

Words of wisdumb

By Pub Crawl Paul
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The name's Paul. Pub Crawl Paul. No relation to Angel Dust — at least not directly. Never mind, don't ask. What am I doing this weekend? Manically chugging wheat-flavored, inhibition-reducing La Croix from a perplexingly early hour. Why do you ask? Oh, there's a pandemic? Well, let me tell you about a video I saw on Facebook...
Want to stay at school? Of course I do, but you know we're gonna get sent home anyway, right? That's why you've got to live it up and party while we still can. Circular thinking? Do I look like a geometrist to you? Ha! Of course I don't value education, learning or have any intention of embodying ideals of lifelong learning; that's why I'm actively destroying my already crippled mind. It's funny; I'll be more toasted than a wed-

ding reception, but you'll be LIT — Living in Terror.
A mask? No, I don't need a mask. I'm young; I won't get sick. My liquor is 100-proof; my immune system is COVID-proof. That's not how it works? Are you sure? You know, I took a biology class my freshman year. Maybe it was chemistry. I don't know, but I'm taking it again this year. What were we talking about?
Can't you let the mask thing go? It's hard to breathe with it on. Yes, it's hard to breathe when I'm wearing a mask and I climb a flight of stairs. Do you seriously mean to suggest my shortness of breath atop a single flight of stairs is a symptom of my unhealthy diet — which I plan to indulge in this weekend with wild abandon and hedonistic gluttony? No, I don't believe it. Cardiovascular fitness? No, it's this damn veil-like piece of fabric — this Freedom Muz-

zle® — over my nose.
Says who? Scientists? Doctors? Oh please, you know they're just a bunch of pawns on Bill Gates' payroll. Oh yeah? Well, we'll see who's laughing when they microchip your Commie-ass. COVID is clearly nothing more than left-wing conspiracy to further the globalist's plan for a world government. Helicopters circling overhead? Oh. I thought you were being serious. Well, if you're going to play along with the Lamestream Media's narrative, wave goodbye to your freedom. That's why we've got to drink this weekend — to protect our freedom.
Yes, I insist on Crawling this weekend. A bratty child? You're the one suggesting I don't do something just because you're unable to. Oh, you can come? Why not? Moral obligation? What the hell's that?

Music in the newsroom

Cory / Sports

Locked Out of Heaven
Bruno Mars
2012



Joe / News

Stayin' Alive
Bee Gees
1977



Heidi / Copy Desk

The Chicken Wing Beat
Ricky Desktop
2020



Owen / Opinion

I Can Change
LCD Soundsystem
2010



Sophia / News

Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered
Ella Fitzgerald
1956



Sports

Students have numerous hiking options near campus



Courtesy of Wikimedia

This picture was taken along a segment of the Wiouwash State Trail in Oshkosh, near the Fox River on the UW Oshkosh campus. The trail stretches a total of 41 miles from start to finish.

By Cory Sparks
sparkc21@uwosh.edu

It’s officially fall, and while the UW Oshkosh campus won’t have football, women’s soccer, women’s tennis or many other sports for students to gather for outdoors, that doesn’t mean that everyone has to be a hermit crab as the most frigid times of the year approach.

Hiking and biking trails are rather prevalent throughout the state of Wisconsin, and there happens to be a decent variety of routes in and around the Winnebago County area.

The Mascoutin Valley State Trail gives someone who wants to go out and be active a little taste of everything in terms of how it can be navigated and what may be seen on an adventure.

This trail can be accessed from the east side coming from Oshkosh when driving Highway 41 south toward Fond du Lac, or it can be accessed from the west side if one takes State Highway 44 into Ripon.

The 21-mile route that travels from Berlin to Ripon and from Fond du Lac to Rosendale has a path consisting of limestone, grass and gravel. This trail is classified as one that is more suitable for off-road bikes with

thicker tires that can gain more traction in gritty areas.

This trail is open to be used in a variety of ways. One can travel on foot, bike or even horseback. The part of the trail going through Green Lake County is the only part that does not permit horseback riding.

When the harsh winter inevitably crashes into the state of Wisconsin, the trail can still be used for snowmobiling. Cross country skiing is also possible, but according to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources the trail is not routinely groomed for skiing.

The Wiouwash State Trail provides a little more consistency in terms of the substance

of the terrain, but it is rather lengthy in its entirety.

This 41-mile route can be accessed by taking County Highway M to Lake View Avenue until one is just south of Hortonville.

The trail is entirely composed of limestone, and it is also deemed suitable for traveling on foot, bike or on horse. Pets are also allowed on this trail, but they are required to be on a leash stretching to no longer than eight feet at all times. Pets must also be picked up after.

The route is divided into a northern and southern portion, and the hope is that soon the trail will be constructed as a long, contin-

uous one. Once this unifying construction is completed, the trail could run from Aniwa in Shawano County all the way to downtown Oshkosh.

The Eisenbahn State Trail is a happy medium between Mascoutin Valley and Wiouwash in terms of length, and it consists of a couple of different substances.

The 25-mile trail is off of State Highway 45, and it travels through Eden.

On this route, 20 miles are made of gravel, and the other five miles of the trail are made up of asphalt.

This trail is open for travel on foot, bike and in-line skating in the fall. Once winter arrives, snowmobiling is permitted from Lighthouse Lane to the Washington/Fond du Lac County line, and from the Fond du Lac County line to Eden. Snowmobiling is not allowed in the portion of the trail that travels through West Bend.

Winter ATV use is allowed on this trail between Dec. 15 and March 15, but the ground must be frozen, and the temperature must be at or less than 28 degrees Fahrenheit.

The Mascoutin Valley, Wiouwash and Eisenbahn State Trails all reside under the policies of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, or WDNR, so any vehicles parking on those properties must have an annual vehicle admission sticker.

An annual fee for a sticker is \$28 for those who have Wisconsin license plates, and they have a reduced annual fee (now through Dec. 31) of \$15.50. For non-Wisconsin plates, the regular annual fee is \$38 with a reduced annual rate of \$20.50.

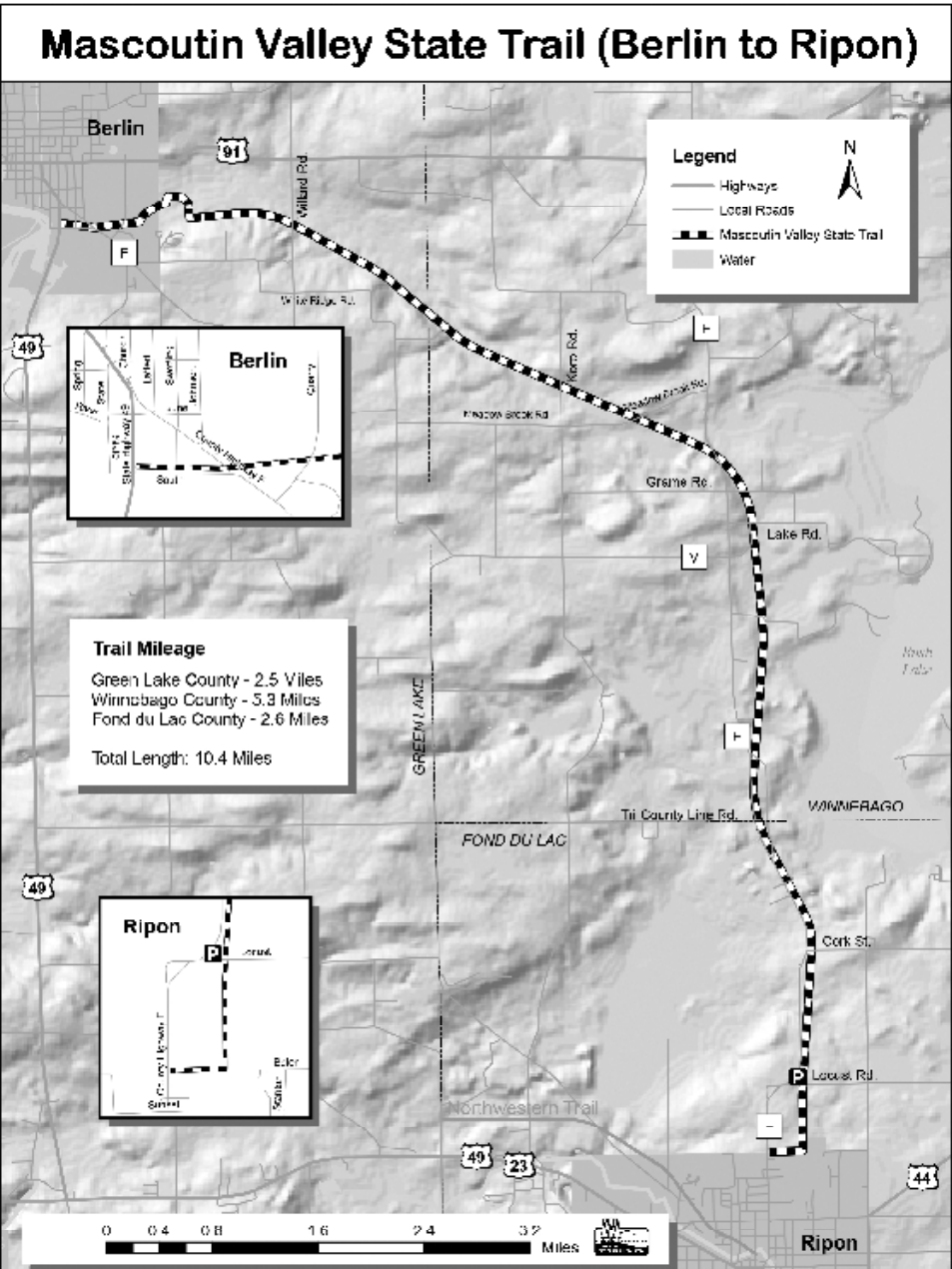
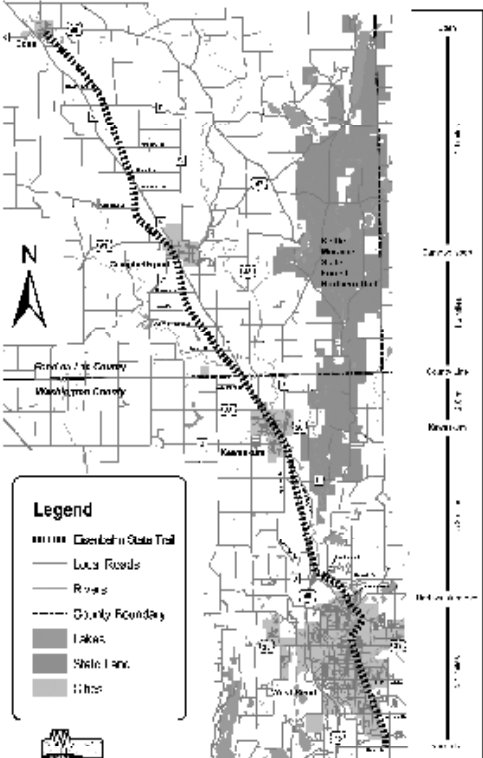
The WDNR also states that all three of these trails are open from 6 a.m.-11p.m. year-round, but hunting is not allowed at any time of the year.

With snowmobiling, the WDNR makes it clear that when inclement weather strikes, different parts of each trail will be closed on a county-by-county basis.

In terms of proximity from the campus, using Reeve Memorial Union as a reference point, Mascoutin Valley is located 18.6 miles away, Wiouwash is 10.6 miles away and Eisenbahn is 44.5 miles away.

With the correct preparation through the attention to trail rules, trail navigation with a few friends can present a variety of opportunities to pass the time. While students await the return of spectator-filled sports and a full-capacity-operating gym on campus, the alternative to go exploring on a nearby trail is a year-round way to stay active.

Eisenbahn State Trail



Courtesy of the Wisconsin Department of National Resources

The Mascoutin Valley State Trail (right) travels from Rosenberg to Ripon. The Eisenbahn State Trail crosses directly over the Fond du Lac County and Washington County border.

You can register
to vote now
using your
campus address.

You can vote early.

You can vote by mail.

You can vote
on Election Day.

Go to voteamerica.com/students

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