

Fall, ugly 'vampire' seen at Wisconsin cemetery

MINERAL POINT, WIS. (AP) — Police have been swamped with reports of "vampires" jumping out of the shadows and scaring people this week in Mineral Point.

"It all started on Monday night when police officer Jon Pepper encountered a strange looking person in the cemetery," Lt. William Trott said.

Pepper was routinely shining his light through Graceland Cemetery when he saw "a huge person with a white-painted face" wearing a dark cape, according to his official report.

Pepper, who chased the figure until it disappeared among the grave-stones, later described it as about 6-foot-3 and ugly.

Trott blamed the subsequent rash of vampires on pranksters who heard of Pepper's encounter in the cemetery.

"We will probably have vampires around here for the next two weeks now that they think they can get away with it and scare a few people," Trott said.

Trott said the scene shifted to the downtown area Tuesday night.

Trott said police have not been eager to go back to the cemetery.

"I even offered to pay Jon [Pepper] overtime to stake the place out for his vampire, but he wouldn't bite," Trott said.

Mark A Hall

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