

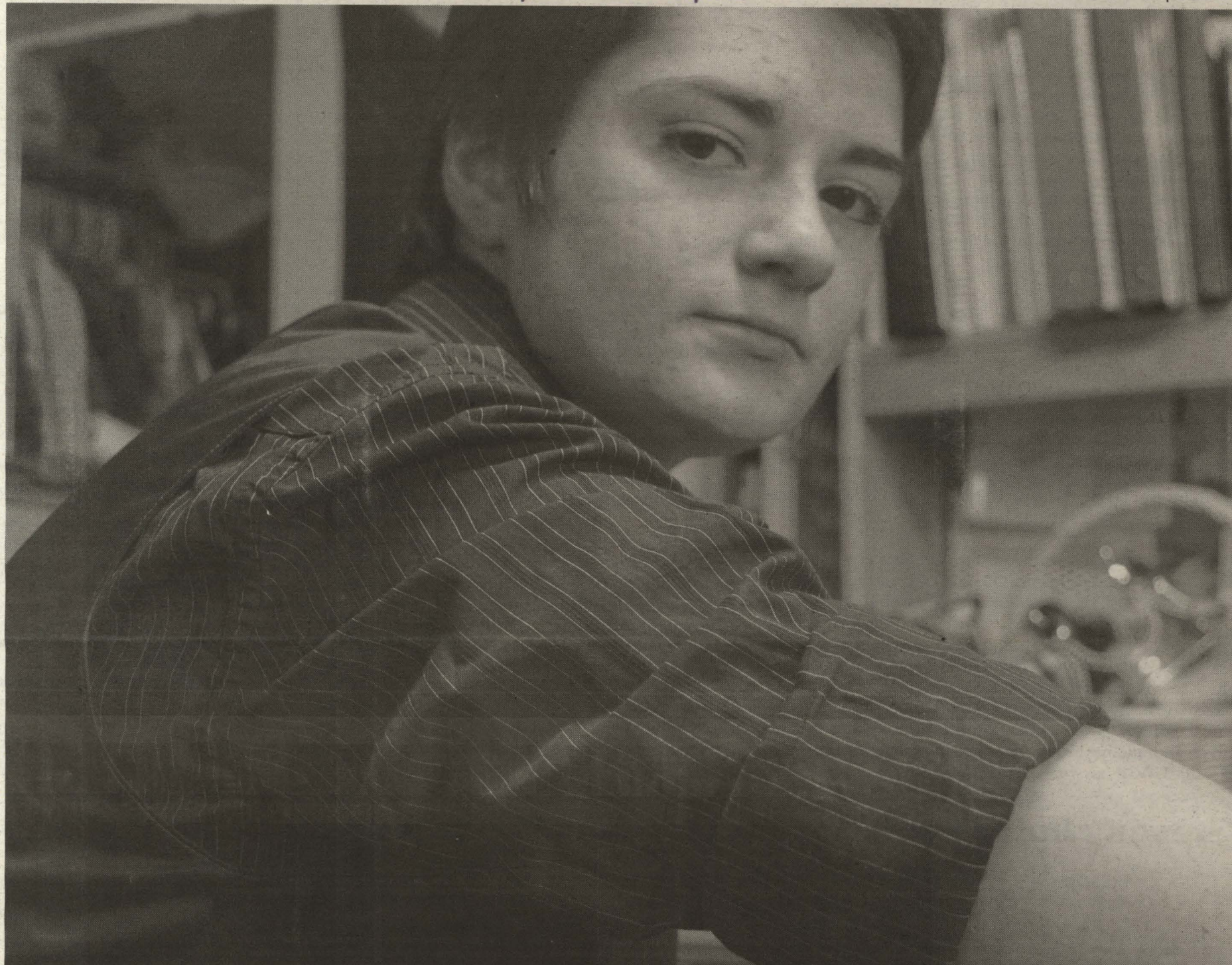
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University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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News

Young and Powerful

An interview with UWSP graduate and Wisconsin Rapids Mayor Zach Vruwink

MICHAEL WILSON

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In our last issue, The Pointer ran an article about young people seeking social change, noting how different paths—from music and art to academia to political office and journalism—play a role in this endeavor.

“Running for office is the least effective way to make change. Getting together with other people and demonstrating is one of the most. So is educating people about how our society really works,” said Matt Rothschild, editor of The Progressive, in an interview with The Pointer.

This week, we were able to get an interview with the new mayor of Wisconsin Rapids, Zach Vruwink.

At age 15, Vruwink founded his own business (ZAXX Technology Specialists) in 2003. He then studied Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, and graduated only two years ago. As of last week, he is also the youngest mayor in Wisconsin Rapids history.

MW: Why did you run for office?

ZV: When former Mayor Mary Jo Carson decided not to seek reelection, many people suggested I run for the office. I was hesitant to make the leap initially since I was a recent (2010) UWSP graduate who felt I

could live anywhere in the world. After forming an exploratory committee and strongly considering my options, I decided to seek the office.

MW: Have you planned to hold public office for a while?

ZV: I had always dreamed of holding political office. I chose to pursue a degree in Political Science to gain a better understanding of our political system to complement my real world business experience. My dream to be a public servant and role model for young people was fulfilled by being elected as the youngest mayor in Wisconsin Rapids history.

MW: When you set off your candidacy, what was your political and electoral strategy?

ZV: My political strategy was to reach the far corners of the political spectrum and age groups. I formed a diverse, strong kitchen cabinet that became very active throughout. When I formally announced, I stated it would be different from any local political campaign ever experienced. We utilized online and offline communication strategies through social media, newspaper, radio and direct literature drops. We had a significant group of volunteers who put in many hours the final 2 months. Overall, the all-in, aggressive campaign paid off

through a record turnout (nearly 50 percent and garnering nearly 70 percent of the vote against 4 opponents).

MW: Did your years as a student help you in organizing politically (experience, network, etc.)?

ZV: Yes, I participated in Student Government where I learned how to run meetings, organize students and create legislation. I was also involved with other student groups that were active in organizing students.

MW: Do you have any state or national politics aspirations?

ZV: I wish I could get a dollar every time I am asked that question. I will continue to serve the City of Wisconsin Rapids as long as I am making an impact. Life is all about seizing opportunities. I am a very opportunistic person and wouldn't deny an opportunity to serve!

MW: Is there anything you would like to add?

ZV: I am a proud Pointer! I feel that my time at UWSP was a tremendously wise investment. Through study abroad, student involvement and of course, academics, I wouldn't be where I am today. I look forward to working with UWSP in the future!

Stevens Point Hosts Forum for Recall Candidates

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It isn't often that Stevens Point plays host to a major gubernatorial campaign event in April, but the previous 16 months since Governor Scott Walker's inauguration have been anything but normal for the state of Wisconsin.

Both State Senator Kathlene Vinehout and Secretary of State Doug La Follette agreed that Governor Walker's policies were failing Wisconsin, and that it is necessary to replace him as soon as possible.

Around 70 concerned citizens gathered at the Econolodge in Stevens Point Thursday night to hear firsthand how two gubernatorial candidates would govern if they were elected in the recall election being held in June.

“We need a governor who can hit the ground running, who knows where the bones are buried,” said Vinehout, a former dairy farmer and health administration professor.

Vinehout has been serving in the state senate since 2007 and proposed an alternative budget to the one signed into law last year.

“Walker has been very short sighted,” said La Follette, a founding

member of Earth Day.

La Follette, who has been serving as the Secretary of State since 1983, highlighted his ability to be elected to statewide office by both Republicans and Democrats.

“The cuts to education have been a disaster,” La Follette said, especially to the technical college system. “Many men and women want to attend but can't go because of cuts. There are jobs waiting for them [once they graduate].”

Vinehout said she was very concerned about the deep cuts to education “across the board” and that Wisconsin is likely going to see more of their effects in the coming school year.

When asked about The Pointer Compact, the differential tuition plan UWSP was planning to implement for the 2012 academic year, Vinehout said she was in favor of the bill that would have lifted the moratorium on new differential tuition programs at UW System schools.

Vinehout said, it “would have leveled the playing field” between UWSP and those schools that already have implemented differential tuition.

Both Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and former Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk declined the

invitation to the forum sponsored by the Portage County Democratic Party and Portage County United Wisconsin.

Also in attendance were both Lieutenant Governor candidates, Mahlon Mitchell and Ira Robbins.

Mitchell is the current president of the Professional Firefighters of Wisconsin and has been an outspoken critic of both Walker and current Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch since the protests over the budget repair bill last year.

“Walker and Kleefisch are taking away our opportunity and promise,” Mitchell said. “It's embarrassing for the state of Wisconsin.”

Robbins, a former police detective and private investigator, says he doesn't consider himself either a Democrat or Republican and is running to get the corruption caused by campaign contributions out of government. Robbins is self-financing his campaign and is not accepting any contributions.

A poll released last week, conducted by Public Policy Polling for Daily Kos, showed Barrett leading the other candidates at 38 percent. Falk was in second with 24 percent while La Follette and Vinehout each polled at nine and six percent, respectively.

THE POINTER

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Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.

Introduction to Composting

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What is Compost?

Composting is the intentional decomposition of organic materials. So, compost is decomposed organic materials. It is often dark brown and smells of sweet summer. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, yard trimmings and food waste make up 27 percent of the US municipal solid waste stream. Of this only 2.8 percent of the food waste were composted in 2010. For the most part, the food waste collection and separation costs are the barriers to widespread food waste composting.

What can be composted at home?

Materials such as vegetable scraps, coffee and tea grounds and filters, yard scraps (not black walnut or rhubarb parts), non-glossy paper and cardboard, cotton products, hair and, yes, fingernails (avoid chemicals) can all be composted.

What cannot be composted at home?

Materials which should be avoided in home compost piles include: weed and disease infested materials, meat and dairy products, fatty, greasy, oily, salty items, pet waste, coal or charcoal, and items with toxic chemicals such as pesticides, paint, plastics or glues.

How composting works

Through nature's majestic and amazing rejuvenating processes, organisms that cannot be seen by the unaided eye perform an invaluable service by recycling organic matter and nutrients for ours, and the Earth's, benefit. These microorganisms, and there are more than would be sensible to count, will colonize an actively managed compost pile and go through three main stages which we will call stages 1, 2 and 3.

During stage 1 is where microorganisms begin to decompose the readily available and easily decomposable organic matter. Similar to having an afternoon snack, the first items to go are the most delicious and easiest to access. After a while the heat generated by the activity of the Stage 1 microorganisms creates conditions for Stage 2 microorganisms. This is usually at about 110-120 degrees F. Stage 2 microorganisms take over and generate even more heat, up to 155 degrees F! This is where weed seeds and pathogens can be killed or neutralized. After air (oxygen), moisture or the right organic materials become limiting, the temperature will begin to decrease. Once below about 120

degrees F, the Stage 1 microorganisms will again take over in Stage 3.

In Stage 3 the temperature will continue to decrease to ambient (outside) levels. Once at ambient levels the pile of organic materials can be called compost. However, like calling a 13-year-old boy a man because he is sexually mature, the compost at this stage is not mature. In a bonus fourth stage, the maturation stage, the compost is left to mature for a period of time (usually a month to a year or two). After the compost has time to mature it will be similar to really light, fluffy, awesome potting mix in touch, smell and texture.

How to compost: backyard batch compost

The following compost process is for batch composting, where fresh organic materials are added to the pile initially, but not thereafter.

In general fresh organic materials like vegetable scraps and fresh, still green leaves and grass clippings are called "Green" materials. Dry, and often brown grass clippings, leaves, hay, woodchips and non-glossy paper are called "Brown" materials.

Organic materials should be as small as possible within reason. Sawdust is too small and whole sheets of newspaper are too big. The average size of brown materials should be about the size of your toes if possible.

In at least a 3 cubic foot pile alternate layers of two to four parts brown materials to one part green materials, wetting the materials to the consistency of a wrung-out sponge as you pile (getting enough materials to make a pile of this size may require careful sourcing and collaboration with friends, neighbors, relatives and local businesses). Always end on a brown layer to act like a blanket over the pile.

As a general rule, the composting process will go faster the more frequently the pile is mixed. Always mix, or turn, the outside of the pile to the inside and keep the pile as moist as a wrung-out sponge. I like to turn my pile once a week for about three weeks after making it. Then I turn the pile every other week for about another month or so. At this point I screen the pile through a one-half inch screen and pile whatever makes it through to screen to continue to the maturation stage, Stage 4, somewhere out of the way. There it sits for a month or two, or until I need compost in the garden. Whatever was left on the screen goes into the next pile I build as a brown material or is used as mulch.

Compost piles like this, where organic material is added all at once and turned regularly, are called "hot,"



Photos by Samantha Feld
Vegetable scraps, coffee and tea, yard scraps, non-glossy paper and cardboard, and cotton products can all be composted.

or actively managed piles since they get hot. Piles where organic wastes are piled and left to rot are often called "cold" piles and usually take one to two years to fully decompose. Hot piles can take as short as a few weeks to about six months to fully decompose under normal conditions and proper management.

There are many, many ways to compost and if one way does not work as you would like it to, experiment until you find the right method for you.

How to tell compost is finished

When you cannot tell what anything in the pile is anymore and it all looks like good soil.

When number 1 is true and the pile smells like sweet, sweet soil.

If not satisfied by the fulfillment of numbers one and two, place a small scoop of compost into a plastic bag and seal it; if it doesn't burn your nostril hairs after a day and it still smells sweet, the compost is finished.

Of course every compost is different so use your judgment and if in doubt, contact someone who may know. For this reason, it is good to keep records of what goes into the compost pile and how often the pile is managed and any out-of-the-ordinary occurrences such as a really dry pile, a very stinky pile or an excessively wet pile.

What to do with compost

When finished, it can be nice to screen the compost through a one-half inch screen to get a fine product that you will be proud of and can be easily handled.

Use in the garden or landscape plantings

- Incorporate/mix into the soil to improve soil quality

- Top dress (carefully place on top of soil and around plants about 1/4 - 1 inch thick) plants

Use on the lawn

- Spread across the lawn and rake to settle the compost through the grass and onto the soil.

Use in potting mix

- 1 part compost to 1 part coco coir or peat and 1/2 - 1 part perlite or sand is a great all-purpose potting mix. Adjust the perlite or sand component for more or less drainage.

HINT: To kill weed seeds, place compost in a white bucket with a good lid or plastic bag. Wet the compost to the consistency of a wrung-out sponge. Place the bucket in the sun and roll/mix the bucket every day for a week or two, or until satisfied. The weed seeds should germinate and then be cooked in the sun's heat.

news

Suites @201 Could Be Co-Ed Next Spring



Photo by Samantha Feld

The Suites @201 could become co-ed next spring.

ANDY DAVIS

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On April 2 the Policies and Facilities Committee of the campus Residence Hall Association (RHA) drew up a proposal for desegregating the individual Suites at 201 Reserve St, meaning that men and women could potentially live together in the same suite. On April 17 the proposal passed the RHA General Assembly with 13 votes in favor, one against and one abstaining. It was then resolved that this proposal be forwarded to Chancellor Bernie Patterson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Al Thompson and Director of Residential Living Joe Totman.

President of the RHA Andrew Minten, one of the authors of the proposal, said that this legislation was written right around the time the Student Government Association was formulating legislation to implement gender-neutral bathrooms. Minten is fairly confident this proposal will be approved. "When they built the

building, this was the original intention," he said.

In the proposal, it is argued that upperclassmen already occupy the Suites and that one should assume "a higher level of maturity from such individuals." It also asserts that "sexuality and gender are now greatly understood to be on a sliding scale and ... maintenance of polarizing policies (is) no longer practical in application."

Minten says the reason the Suites were built was to compete with off-campus housing and to keep students on campus. He claims that in order to make the Suites as accommodating and as similar to off-campus housing as possible, students should be given the option to live with whomever they choose.

The opinions of students currently living in the residence halls were influential to the passage of this proposal. Delegates of the RHA asked residents from their respective halls to share their thoughts about

desegregating the Suites. These delegates spent about a week talking to students, and when the proposal was presented to the General RHA Assembly the delegates voted in favor of the students whom they represent.

Sophomore Katie Wendler, a resident of Neale Hall, says that she is in favor of the proposition and feels confident that it will be accepted. "I don't see why it wouldn't be," she said. Wendler is currently in the process of moving into an apartment off campus and says that by desegregating the individual suites, the university would be more likely to attract more students and therefore fill up more rooms. "The building is probably only about 60 percent full," Wendler said. "There are so many empty rooms."

At this time students are already signing up to live in the Suites for the fall 2012 semester. If this proposal is passed this semester, it would not be implemented until the spring of 2013.

[Protective Services Report]

April 15 to April 21

April 15

1:14 a.m.: The Stevens Point Police Department was let into Neale Hall.

1:39 a.m.: A bike rack by the CCC was dragged onto the sidewalk.

12:05 p.m.: A student reported their driver-side mirror was ripped off their car in Lot P.

8:25 p.m.: The Stevens Point Police Department called to be let into a room in Neale Hall.

April 17

1:06 p.m.: A citation was issued to a student at Baldwin Hall.

1:13 p.m.: A citation was issued to a student at May Roach Hall for underage drinking.

1:23 p.m.: A citation was issued to a student at Thomson Hall.

2:29 p.m.: The smell of marijuana around Knutzen Hall was reported.

3:00 p.m.: A citation was issued to a student at Pray-Sims Hall for underage drinking.

3:09 p.m.: Two citations were issued to students at Neale Hall for underage drinking.

April 18

12:11 a.m. – Baldwin Hall staff called about vomit in the second floor restroom.

9:09 a.m. – A faculty member called stating they had found a suspicious backpack between the door and dumpster by Lot D.

6:59 p.m. – An individual reported an aggressive dog brought into the CAC by a graduate student.

April 19

2:02 p.m. – Someone from the Science Building called about a person skateboarding inside the building after repeated attempts to have him stop.

10:08 p.m. – Someone reported a suspicious person wearing a "hoodie" by the vending machines of the CCC.

April 20

2:05 a.m. – Made a welfare check on an intoxicated student on the south side of the Science Building.

9:43 p.m. – A call was received about someone digging in the trash outside Steiner Hall.

April 21

6:31 a.m. – A call from the National Guard about a student who lives in Pray-Sims Hall and was supposed to report for drill that morning.

11:19 p.m. – A citation was issued to a student at Neale Hall for underage drinking.

Letter to the Editor

GREGOR WALZ

As a Boston native, I'm disappointed in Will Rossmiller's half-hearted reporting (or research?) for "Happy 100th, Fenway". For starters, the Bill Buckner blunder in the 1986 World Series happened at Shea Stadium, not Fenway Park (hence the walk-off win for the Mets). While the "Curse of the Bambino" was a fun talking point for (most) baseball media and fans, "The Curse of the Bambino" didn't truly come into fruition until its namesake was published in 1990 by Dan Shaughnessy (who, by the way, is despised by most Boston sports fans). In short, "The Curse" was one sports writer's fable to make a few bucks.

Fenway Park was not the only home to "one of the greatest comebacks in baseball history." The Sox won Game 6 (Schilling's sock) and Game 7 (Damon's grand slam) of the 2004 ALCS at Yankee Stadium. Rossmiller may have been better suited to highlight Dave Roberts' steal during the series, so as to better fit the theme of Fenway's greatest moments.

Rossmiller may have also wanted to note how close Fenway came to being demolished in favor of a new park/stadium in the late 1990s/early 2000s. Incredible support from the public saved Fenway Park. Instead, Fenway got a makeover with Green Monster seats and a deck in right field (among other additions).

Lastly, the 1999 All-Star game

at Fenway Park was just incredible. One of my all-time favorite baseball moments was when Ted Williams was introduced during pre-game ceremonies. The Splendid Splinter was chauffeured around the field in a cart. He received a standing ovation that seemed to never end. When he arrived to the pitcher's mound, every all-star player that night crowded around Williams, hoping to just shake hands with the greatest hitter to ever play the game.

Although I've never heard anyone call it "Fenway Stadium," I agree with Rossmiller that all baseball fans should make it a point to take in a game at Fenway Park.

Sports

Tough Test Ahead For Pointers

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The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point baseball team has been on a hot streak of late, winning nine straight games. But the Pointers have a tough test in front of them, as they now have six conference games away from home.

The Pointers started their winning streak way back on April 11th, when they beat UW-Oshkosh in the second game of a double header.

Stevens Point then accomplished an impressive feat, sweeping UW-Superior in a four-game series over two days.

Point's next opponent was Edgewood College, who the Pointers outscored 25-9 in a two game set. Then this past weekend Point won both games of a double-header against Ripon College.

"Our team chemistry and our willingness to buy into the team's goals have been a key to our success. We play hard together and put trust in one another," said Point closer Ryan Iverson.

Stevens Point has been impressive, but they now come to a very challenging part of their schedule. Point will play two games at UW-Oshkosh, and then travel to rival UW-Whitewater.

Whitewater has compiled a record of 18-11 and are 8-6 in the conference, good enough for third place behind Stevens Point and UW-Lacrosse in

the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

But just because the Pointers are ahead of the Warhawks doesn't mean that a four-game series will be easy. All four games will be at Whitewater, and the two always play each other close.

"They are certainly one of our biggest rivals," said Point head coach Pat Bloom. "Every game we have with them is an all-out battle."

"Whitewater always fields a tough team. Every year they are going to give us good competition and this year is no different," Iverson said. "I feel that if we play to our capabilities, it's going to be a great weekend to be a Pointer."

Not only will Whitewater pose a challenge, but the always-present four-game set in two days is a challenge for any team in the WIAC.

"36 innings in 48 hours is tough," Bloom said. "The mental fatigue is just as much taxing as the physical fatigue."

The Warhawks have had a couple of players that have stood out this year, including freshman first baseman Marty Herum, and senior pitcher Kyle Stewart.

Herum has burst onto the WIAC scene, hitting .400 and leading the Warhawks in hits and RBI's. Herum is in the top three in almost every offensive category for Whitewater.

Stewart has started eight games for UW-Whitewater this season, winning seven. The big right-hander has



Photo by Caleb Williams

The University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point baseball team is in the midst of a nine-game winning streak.

an ERA of 2.50 in 50 and 1/3 innings pitched, including 54 strikeouts.

Whitewater has players they lean on, but for UWSP it has really been a team effort in all aspects of the game.

The Pointers have nine players that are hitting above .300 this season, as well as six players with 22 RBIs or more.

The Pointer pitching staff has also been effective by committee. Seven different pitchers have gotten starts for Stevens Point, and five of them have contributed 25 innings or more.

Even with the balanced attack, coach Bloom knows that there is a lot of room for improvement for this team to reach its full potential.

"We have a young team; sometimes you run into points where the mental and physical points of the game aren't connecting," Bloom said.

But when the Pointers are clicking on the mound, at the plate and in the field, look out. "If we string together some good pitching, and some clutch hitting, I think that we can beat anybody," Bloom said.

"From day one, our team has had our eye on making it to the World Series. We have very talented players and if we play our game. It doesn't matter who the opponent is, we will have a good shot at beating them," Iverson said.

The Pursuit of Perfection

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Merriam and Webster define perfect as, "being entirely without fault or defect."

Very few things fall under this definition, in fact it's probably one of the most difficult adjectives to assign. But White Sox starter Phil Humber needed only 96 pitches to earn it.

Saturday Humber became the 21st pitcher in Major League Baseball history to achieve what is regarded as one of the most difficult acts in all of sports.

The first perfect game in MLB history was thrown June 12, 1880 by John Lee Richmond of the Worcester Ruby Legs of Worcester, Massachusetts. The second was thrown just five days later by John Ward of the Providence Grays. At 20 years and 105 days Ward is the youngest pitcher to ever throw a perfect game.

Those two games, however,

aren't looked at with the same reverence since they came before the modern rules of the game were adopted. Richmond and Ward threw their perfect games underhanded, from 45-feet away.

The first perfect game to be thrown from 60-feet, 6-inches was by pitching deity and Hall of Famer Cy Young.

The first, and only, perfect game ever thrown in the postseason was by Don Larsen of the Yankees in Game 5 of the 1956 World Series.

Dennis Martinez became the only player born outside the United States to throw a perfect game when he did it in 1991 for the Montreal Expos.

Since the turn of the century there have been five perfect games thrown including two by future surefire hall of famers; Randy Johnson and Roy Halladay.

Humber's was probably the unlikeliest of the recent perfect games.

After being drafted third overall by the Mets in 2004, Humber's pro-

fessional career was put on ice when he received Tommy John surgery the next year. Humber's first win the majors didn't come until 2010 with the Royals.

The White Sox claimed Humber off of waivers from the A's last year. His 9-9 record and 3.75 ERA in his first full season with a big club was good enough to merit a spot on the team this year.

In his first start this season Humber threw 115 pitches with seven strikeouts and three walks in a no-decision against Baltimore. A decent line for a pitcher with just 29 starts and 11 wins since being drafted in 2004, but certainly not numbers that would make you think his next game would be perfect.

But that's the greatest thing about a perfect game; everything has to be perfect.

He has to have the right catcher, he has to have teammates that are going to have his back and make plays, and he has to catch the opposing team off

their game. Maybe most importantly he needs an umpire behind the plate that has the ideal zone for where he's pitching that night.

A perfect game isn't a pitcher going out and mowing down a lineup. A perfect game is the culmination of hundreds of different factors all going your way in that game. It's the most difficult thing in baseball because there's only so much you can control.

If the temperature changes then the ball flies different. If a cloud moves then the sun gets in an outfielder's eyes. If the batter puts a bigger wad of Red Man in he gets a better look at the ball and breaks up the entire thing.

It's a perfect game because everything in that instant is literally perfect in every aspect of the game.

Some people don't think perfection equals beauty, but for Phil Humber things couldn't be more beautiful.

2012 NFL Mock Draft

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The first round of the 2012 NFL Draft will be held tonight, and with the draft becoming more and more popular every year, here is a mock draft of the first round. Check back in next week's issue of The Pointer to get analysis of the players selected from the NFC North Division teams. Enjoy!

Indianapolis Colts: Andrew Luck, QB, Stanford: This pick has been in the making ever since the Colts found out that Peyton Manning was out for the season last year. Luck is a no-brainer, and will be an excellent NFL player.

Washington Redskins: Robert Griffin III, QB, Baylor: The Redskins didn't trade up for nothing; they are going after their franchise quarterback. One thing is for sure; these two quarterbacks will be compared for a long time.

Minnesota Vikings: Matt Kalil, OT, USC: This pick is as much of a no-brainer as the first two picks. The Vikings need a franchise left tackle, and that's what Kalil is. It's possible the Vikings might take Morris Claiborne or Justin Blackmon, but that doesn't make sense.

Cleveland Browns: Trent Richardson, RB, Alabama: Not many running backs like Richardson come around very often. The Browns need a new running back after the departure of Peyton Hillis. Sounds like a perfect match.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers: Morris Claiborne, CB, LSU: With Tampa's top corners Aqib Talib likely spending some time in jail and Ronde Barber being 37-years-old, the Buccaneers get a huge playmaker in Claiborne, who can shut down one half of the field.

St. Louis Rams: Justin Blackmon, WR, Oklahoma St: The Rams have needed a big play receiver ever since Torry Holt's glory days ended. With Blackmon, they get a player that could develop into an elite receiver in the NFL. Sam Bradford will be happy.

Jacksonville Jaguars: Melvin Ingram, DE, South Carolina: The versatile Ingram will slot in perfectly for the Jaguars as a pass rushing defensive end, which the Jags desperately need. It's also very possible that the Jaguars could trade out of this pick.

Miami Dolphins: Ryan Tannehill, QB, Texas A&M: The Dolphins get, who they believe, is their quarterback of the future. If they are afraid another team wants him, don't be surprised to see them trade up.

Carolina Panthers: Stephon Gilmore, CB, South Carolina: Gilmore has been shooting up draft boards and really fits a need for the Panthers. Carolina gave up 28 passing touchdowns, and their cornerbacks only accounted for four interceptions.

Buffalo Bills: Riley Reiff, OT, Iowa: The Bills shore up the blind side for Ryan Fitzpatrick. Not a flashy pick, but a very good value pick for what the Bills need.

Kansas City Chiefs: David DeCastro, G, Stanford: It's rare to see a guard this high in the draft, but DeCastro is not your regular offensive lineman. He will step in and play either guard position for the Chiefs, and will be a rock for them for years to come.

Seattle Seahawks: Luke Kuechly, ILB, Boston College: The Seahawks lost starting middle linebacker David Hawthorne to the Saints this offseason, and Kuechly will fit perfectly in his absence.

Arizona Cardinals: Michael Floyd, WR, Notre Dame: The Cardinals finally get a passing threat to pair with Larry Fitzgerald. Kevin Kolb will also be pleased to have more options to throw to.

Dallas Cowboys: Mark Barron, SS, Alabama: The Cowboys secondary is a mess, but Barron can help them out right away at the safety position. He has been a big riser of late, and could possibly go higher.

Philadelphia Eagles: Fletcher Cox, DT, Mississippi State: Cox will be a dynamic player up the middle for any defense, and will be a big help to Philly's run defense. This is a steal for the Eagles, as Cox could go in the top 10.

New York Jets: Courtney Upshaw, OLB, Alabama: Upshaw will fit well in a rush linebacker position for the Jets, who really need a player to get after the quarterback.

Cincinnati Bengals: Dre Kirkpatrick, CB, Alabama: Even with possession of marijuana charges against Kirkpatrick, the Bengals cannot let this dynamic player slip past them. Kirkpatrick is an athletic freak, and will be a good corner in the NFL.

San Diego Chargers: Whitney Mercilus, OLB, Illinois: Mercilus is the best pass rushing outside linebacker left on the board for the Chargers, who have needed one for a very long time.

Chicago Bears: Quinton Coples, DE/DT, North Carolina: Coples could fall a long way, but the Bears will be very happy to stop the fall. Coples, paired with Julius Peppers, will haunt the dreams of NFC North quarterbacks.

Tennessee Titans: Dontari Poe, DT, Memphis: The Titans have spent some time shoring up their defensive line this offseason, but cannot pass on Poe, who is possibly one of the most athletic defensive tackles ever.

Cincinnati Bengals: Cordy Glenn, G, Georgia: With their second pick, the Bengals attempt to improve their offensive line. In Glenn, the Bengals get a player that can play both guard positions, and right tackle.

Cleveland Browns: Kendall Wright, WR, Baylor: With their second pick, Cleveland gets a fun new toy for quarterback Colt McCoy to



Photo courtesy of thisisbandit.com
Stanford QB Andrew Luck has already been guaranteed to be the first pick in this year's NFL Draft.



Photo courtesy of cleveland.com
Baylor QB Robert Griffin III is expected to be drafted by the Washington Redskins, who are hoping for their next franchise quarterback.

throw to. This pick fits a need, and Wright is one of the best remaining players on the board.

Detroit Lions: Janoris Jenkins, CB, North Alabama: The Lions add to their bad guy image by drafting Jenkins, who had to transfer from Florida for off-field issues. Minus these, Jenkins is a top 15 talent.

Pittsburgh Steelers: Dont'a Hightower, ILB, Alabama: The Steelers add their next great linebacker, Hightower, who will be a beast up the middle for this defense. Hightower fits perfectly into one of the Steeler's 3-4 inside linebacker position.

Denver Broncos: Michael Brockers, DT, LSU: The Broncos don't have anyone for the middle of their defensive line, and Brockers can come in and make a difference.

Houston Texans: Jonathon Martin, OT, Stanford: The Texans need some help on the offensive line, and Martin is one of the best players available. Martin can come in now and start at right tackle.

New England Patriots: Nick Perry, OLB, USC: The Patriots passed on another USC outside linebacker a couple of years ago - Clay Matthews.

They won't make the mistake again, and fill one of their big needs.

Green Bay Packers: Shea McClellin, OLB, Boise State: You may be asking, who? But McClellin has been skyrocketing up a lot of team's lists, and will help the Packers find a pass rusher across from Clay Matthews.

Baltimore Ravens: Peter Konz, C, Wisconsin: The Ravens will soon need a replacement for current center Matt Birk, and find that in Konz. He may not start right away, but the Ravens have the luxury to wait.

San Francisco 49ers: Stephen Hill, WR, Georgia Tech: Alex Smith will be happy with this selection, as the 49ers get a play-making wide out that can really stretch the field.

New England Patriots: Harrison Smith, SS, Notre Dame: The Patriots will continue to improve the second-worst defense in the league by adding the second-best safety in the draft with Smith.

New York Giants: Coby Fleener, TE, Stanford: The defending Super Bowl champs add the best tight end in the draft, and bring in another offensive weapon for Eli Manning.

Pointlife

A Taste of Something Local

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Food brings people together. It brings out conversation, makes friendships, builds relationships and creates bonds.

In little more than 50 years, we have turned our backs on this important cultural pastime. We seek convenience foods manufactured as cheaply and efficiently as possible. This not only hurts our health, but negatively impacts our environment as well.

The only way to reverse this is to return to a simpler time— a time when we not only understood how our food was grown, but when many took the time to grow it themselves.

The Central Rivers Farmshed is working to rebuild that connection between our food and us as they expand the local food economy and strengthen our community's relationship with regional landscape.

The Farmshed is a network of people, businesses, organizations and productive lands which strives to provide opportunities for participation, education, cooperation and action to support a local food economy in Central Wisconsin.

Layne Cozzolino, the Interim Executive Director for the Central Rivers Farmshed, came to Stevens Point as a graduate student and took on an internship through the Farmshed's Beginning Farmer Course at Whitefeather Organics and began working at Café Espresso.

"The internship was the best

possible thing for this city girl," Cozzolino said. "I knew how to cook, but growing was an entirely new thing for me. I lived in a tipi, learned a ton from a great local farmer and became more in touch with the struggles of those going against the norm in commodity style agriculture and in return trying to build a new food system."

Cozzolino predicts that this time of overabundance and cheaply manufactured food will not last forever.

"It's important to set ourselves and future generations up for success. I believe that taking a deep look at the food system is a huge step in creating resilient communities who care for themselves and each other," Cozzolino said.

The Farmshed works hard to ensure that local foods are easily found with easy access, whether you are looking to dine out or find local ingredients to create your own masterpiece.

For all you chefs, the downtown market is a great place to find local foods all year round. If you have a pair of wheels, the Country Store in Plover, Family Natural Foods in Wisconsin Rapids, and Downtown Grocery and The Planted Seed in Wausau also sell local foods.

For those a little more challenged in the kitchen who are looking for someone else to do the cooking, Café Espresso at Emy J's, the Main Grain Bakery and Zest all incorporate local, organic and seasonal ingredients.

Jacob Marchant, the Manager



Photo by Samantha Feld
The SACS campus garden is one of many locations in the area that is working to bring more local food to the community.

and Co-Owner of Zest, finds it important to use local foods and to support local and small businesses.

"I know how hard it is to be a small business so it's nice to support. The only two reasons we don't use 100 percent local foods is because of the cost, and it's really hard to find enough fresh produce in the winter," Marchant said.

"We rotate using local foods. We mostly have local fruits and berries because we get them during the summer and freeze them to use during the winter. We also get local chicken that we use in our lunch menu," Marchant said.

After using the word "local" 14 times now, hopefully the word is rolling around in your temporal lobe enough to get you questioning its true meaning. However, the term local is hard to define.

"Local shouldn't have an exact mileage rate, but should rather be built based on relationships that place resilience, fairness and value on the food we eat and how it is produced," Cozzolino said.

The Farmshed has an annual publication called "The Central Wisconsin Farm Fresh Atlas" that spans 11 counties and lists farms throughout Central Wisconsin. The Farm Fresh Atlas is a great resource to help anyone source local foods. It lists farms throughout Central Wisconsin and what each of them offers, along with markets, grocers, restaurants and many other businesses that support local farmers.

To learn more about the local farmers that feed you, the 2012 version of the Farm Fresh Atlas was recently released and can be found in various places around the town, including the Stevens Point Co-Op.

Observations from a Pointer in Ireland

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Nearly four months ago, I was at home celebrating the holidays with my family. I only had two weeks with my friends and family before I would fly out to live in the England for the next five months of my life; however, I spent most of that time fretting about what to pack and making sure I wouldn't go over weight limits. On the fourth of January, I set out with two suitcases and a backpack on an eight hour flight over to Dublin which would connect to fly me over to Manchester which is only a half hour drive from Liverpool, my current homestead. Upon arriving in Liverpool, I didn't know what to expect. I hadn't done my research on the city so I was dumbfounded by the size of it.

Once I was dropped off in my room, no more than two minutes later I had a knock on my door. Little did I know, there was a city tour planned for the new Americans who were just arriving and our "tour guide" was at my door. I dropped my baggage and headed downstairs to

meet two other girls who I have now become very close to. I live on the creative campus which is about five miles away from the main campus in one direction and five miles in the other direction from the main set of dorms where almost all of the international students live. On creative campus, there are five Americans and we all hang out a lot together. We go to lunch together every day and we explore town together. We all also have our own British friends who are very welcoming of us all. In my flat (a.k.a. apartment) there are seven rooms total. Brian, another international student from St. Norbert College in Wisconsin, is my neighbor and the other five are all true Brits. I think I can talk for both of us when I say that they have taught us a lot about the British way and that they have learned a lot from us.

Liverpool is an interesting city. It has its own accent, its own TV show and is famous for many things. The people that were born and raised in Liverpool have what is called a Scouse accent. Most of the students on campus are from other cities, but when you come across a true Scouser

you will know. They have the hardest accent to understand and it takes a lot of getting used to. Liverpool is home of the Scouse stew. I have not had it yet but my neighbor has and he said it was actually really good. They have their own knock-off TV show called Desperate Scouse Wives. I cracked up when I heard that the first time but it's a real show. They also have Geordie Shore which is a remake of Jersey shore with some fine individuals from the city of Newcastle.

We were all easily picked out as Americans when we first arrived because we were new. After adjusting what we wear a bit, we can now blend in a little bit more as long as we don't open our mouths. The second we utter one word, our covers have been blown. In this country, everyone knows we are from America because of the way we talk. They don't ask us where we are from but rather where in America we are from. Some of them know where Wisconsin is or have heard of it but the vast majority have no idea what a "Wisconsin" is.

Some of the first things that I learned when I got here are what a "quid" is and what "tea" actually

is. A quid is slang for a pound. The currency is Great British pounds and the smallest note they make is the "fiver" or the five pound note. A single pound is a coin so there are a lot more purchases made with coins rather than notes. We don't want to say bills here because bills apparently mean your underwear so they refer to them as notes. The way that we would say five dollars versus five bucks is the same as them saying five pounds versus five quid. On the second night here with all of my flatmates, one of them asked us Americans if we wanted to go for tea. There was a pizza party planned on the main campus to meet all of the international students so we told him we would go get tea with him after we got back. After eating our fill of pizza and making it back to creative campus, we walked down to a pub/restaurant which I wasn't expecting. I was thinking we would go to a tea shop or coffee house but I soon learned that tea means dinner. He was asking us to go to dinner with him but we had no idea. Now we know.

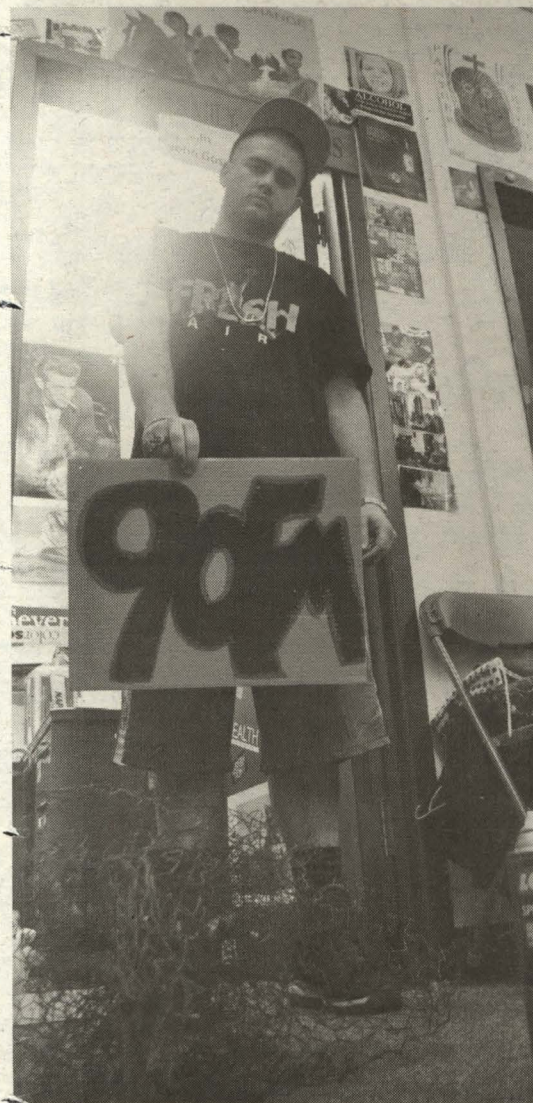


Photo by Dana Scheffen
goFM staff member Charlie Brown preps materials for the Trivia Parade.

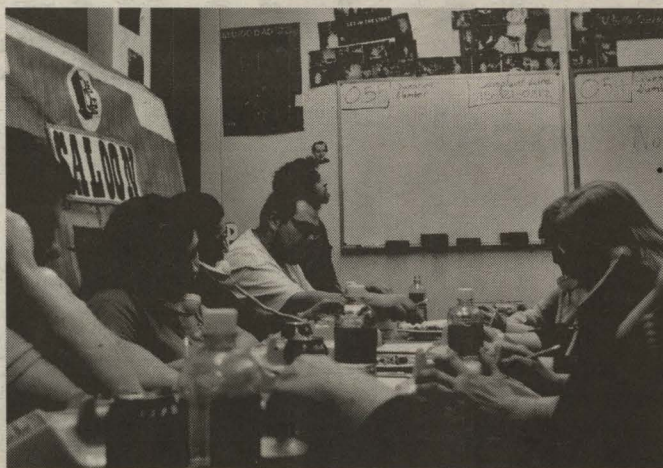


Photo by Dana Scheffen
Volunteers answer phones for Trivia, often combating fatigue.



Photo by Dana Scheffen
goFM staff members (from left) Taylor Christian, Jesse Hinze and Andy Quaschnick on the station's Trivia float.



Photo by Dana Scheffen
Trivia Parade onlookers wait for the float winner to be announced.

TRIVIA: RECAP

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Trivia Grit was indeed a success. With 385 teams participating in the 54-hour ordeal that is WWSP Trivia, the 43rd Annual contest could not have been better.

In first place this year was "Festivus for the Rest of Us" with 10,690 points. "Dad's Computers" took home the second place trophy

with 9,525 points. Rounding out the top three teams was "Network: Two-Fisted Trivia" with 9,175 points.

90FM staff were crazy busy, but overall had a good time as well. "We had a few moments, such as phone shifts, where people couldn't make it and we had to scramble a bit," said Dana Scheffen, a 90FM staff member. "That and staying awake were the hardest parts."

Searching for answers proved to be one of the toughest challenges for

Rachel Reichert, who just completed her third year of Trivia with her team The Federalists. "The hardest part of the whole thing was simply searching the correct phrases to find the answer before time runs out," she said.

Even after long difficult nights of Trivia, most involved can't wait for next year. "It's just so much fun to be working toward a goal with good friends," said Reichert. "And the community in general is just wonderful."

Beer Bottles and Broken Promises

EMMITT WILLIAMS
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COMMENTARY

It is apparent at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point that alcohol consumption has and continues to affect its students. However, it is the college's effort and ability to provide services to students that measures their triumph. Outside providing these services, there is a lot of talk about "drinking in moderation" and if that is even possible.

After speaking with Emily Anderson, a senior arts management major and a member of the executive board for the Student Government Association Office, it was evident that this idea of "drinking in moderation" could be possible and that people have their own unique perspectives about drinking. Anderson tells me about how a beer after a long day's work hits the spot.

"I like to go home and have a beer after work ... but I don't have like six," quietly laughed Anderson.

Anderson says that when people come to college they should construct mental lists about why they are there. She says we are students first, to

graduate, meet new people and have fun, but this list should not be a home to the idea of getting drunk.

After conversing with Anderson, it was evident that not only does she drink responsibly, but she's also 21, which gives her the legal right to enjoy that privilege.

There are students on campus who are under age but still drink moderately and some irresponsibly. Some think that this is because of the environment as well as the fact that times have changed.

An administrator spoke to me about his experience here at UWSP in the '80s. He

said when he attended as a student beer was served at the food services, but the age limit back then was 18. He mentioned how students have the tendency to binge drink rather than drink sociably. He also believed that this issue of drinking may only be a part of the problem. He explained this in an analogy:

If you went into a room and asked students to raise their hands if they find it hard to find alcohol, you would get a good amount of hands raised. However, if you went in the

same room and asked them to raise their hand if it's hard to get pot, there would be fewer hands.

After speaking with Dale Christensen, the Substance Abuse Counselor on campus, it was clearer why and how alcohol consumption directly affects students on campus.

"I think there is a big relationship between the amount of alcohol consumed and the academic performance," Christensen said.

Christensen sometimes attempts

"Binge drinking is a very important issue."

which they do not drink for three weeks.

"Students will come back even after a week and say... 'I did not realize how interesting that professor was ... I stop drinking and he gets more interesting ... I can't figure this out,'" Christensen said.

Although these stories may be worth a handful of giggles, there is seriousness in these students' experiences. What they have discovered is the relationship between alcohol and how it directly affects academics. It is

not strange that when the amount of alcohol consumption increases, grade point averages decreases. It is a theory that is more often true than not.

Christensen began to explain the relation between binge drinking and academic apathy.

"There are students though they are graduating from this campus, they're not able to get in the career they wanted ... so basically thirty months of misusing alcohol off and on destroys or eliminates the possibility of a thirty year career," Christensen said.

Binge drinking is a very important issue. A lot of college students struggle with it. Some can drink sociably and others have become addicted. However, only about six percent of people are dependent on it. This proves it is a selective addiction and drinking in moderation can be attained. Most students just have a hard time controlling their intake. This is why the counseling services in Delzell Hall exists. Dale Christensen would love to talk and help you with any substance abuse issues you may or might have.

An Activist's Journey Made Public



Photos by Samantha Feld

Tony Doubek created his blog *Boxers and Binders*: an FTM story as a platform to share his story, as well as empower others.

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For Tony Doubek, a sophomore political science major at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, the past three months have been the most empowering of his life.

"It has been the craziest three months of my life ... but it's been the most freeing," Doubek said as we sat down with him for a cup of coffee on the rainiest day of the month.

Through the 'Gay Straight Alliance Facebook page, we discovered Doubek's blog telling his life as a transgender student. As soon as we sat down with Doubek it was evident that this blog was more than just his story, but a platform to empower others.

Doubek created the blog, "not because I want to be popular, but I want to reach those kids stuck in that moment of complete self-loathing ... they need to know they are not alone."

Doubek came out as transgender this past February after attending a conference in which he called himself Tony instead of his given name.

"And that's exactly what I needed," Doubek said. On the name tag they asked what pronoun he wanted to use "and I finally decided on 'he'."

Doubek is a spiritual person and the thought of being transgender terrified him.

"To me, altering your body was so wrong ... but I knew what I was but it wasn't acceptable to me," Doubek said. Doubek admits that was transphobic and even had panic attacks over the transition.

After a conversation with another transgender friend, a flip switched. His friend asked him, if it was socially acceptable and affordable, would you be transgender?

"And I said yes...within a millisecond I said yes," Doubek said. "I realized who I was and I couldn't fight it anymore."

Doubek's family has been supportive through his transition.

"My mom struggles with losing

her only daughter but I'll give her this, she hasn't kicked me out and never fails to tell me that she loves me," Doubek said.

Many people ask Doubek how to deal with parents who may not be as understanding. In response, Doubek said, "Meet them where they are at and slowly take them where they want to be taken and where you need them ... they're transitioning too ... everyone's always in transition."

At the same conference that Doubek first identified as Tony, he also emerged as an activist. Doubek noticed the divide when two groups were arguing what to call gay marriage.

"I don't give a sh** what you call it ... these arguments are what's stopping us from actually getting things done," Doubek said.

After coming back from the conference he saw "The Normal Heart" put on by the UWSP Theatre and Dance Department.

"I realized how badly I wanted to be an activist," Doubek said, and

soon changed his major to political science.

Doubek wants what he calls the "Universal Rights" movement to unify to encompass all human rights. Doubek finds it ironic that in a land of free people "I am actually a second class citizen."

In the future Doubek wants to continue his activist work without forgetting the power of art.

"I will be an activist and I will work hard, but I will never ever leave my art," Doubek said, who is a former music major.

A passionate activist, Doubek's journey continues as his blog currently hits 28,000 views and is growing by the day.

"When I was little I had two things: I wished on the evening star to be a boy and I prayed to God that my life would be worth something ... be careful what you wish for because it'll become true."

Doubek's blog may found at <http://boxersandbinders.blogspot.com/>

Expensive \$60 Console Games Coming to an End

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It's no secret that students like videos games; pass though any dorm room in the United States and there will be at least a few Call of Duty battles or Sheppard epics waging war against the stars. But it's also no secret that college students aren't the fiscally wealthiest demographic. This is causing a major problem for game developers.

And it isn't just college students that aren't forking over the average \$60 for the new installment of favorite franchises. The NPD Group, an organization that specializes in consumer market research, reports that the sales of physical game copies dropped 8 percent last year.

That number may not seem like much, but it equates to a \$2 billion drop. In 2010 the gaming industry brought in \$18.6 billion, in 2011 that

number plummeted down to \$16.6 billion and continues to fall.

While game sales have been on the slide, the PS3 and XBOX 360 console sales went up 9 percent.

"Overall industry results are not entirely surprising given that we are on the back end of the current console lifecycle, combined with the continued digital evolution of gaming," Anita Frazier, industry analyst for The NPD Group, told Plugged-In. "Core gamers continue to be engaged and spend on established franchises across both the digital and physical format using multiple devices for different gaming occasions."

According to a report by the NPD Group, the cause for this drop in core blockbuster game sales is the emergence of free-to-play web based, tablet, and smart phone downloadable games such as the smash hit 'Angry Birds,' which is available for one dollar.

As the smart phone and tablet technology increase in quality, so does the downloadable game sales which has recently given gamers who don't want to spend the \$60 on a new hard copy game a new enjoyable alternative.

"People are having fun playing more affordable games," said respected game critic and blogger Rich Greenhill. "The choice and product quality at the bottom end of the pricing scale -- anything under \$15 or so -- has grown tremendously in a relatively short period of time. Games like Draw Something, Angry Birds, and Infinity Blade aren't only played by 'casual' gamers."

"Psychologically, \$60 just sounds expensive; this isn't anecdotal, it's common sense," Greenhill said. "Unless you're financially independent, \$60 outright repels a vast slice of the entertainment consumer populace that the games industry

desperately needs to convert to grow and survive."

So what does this mean for gamers? Both casual and hardcore alike can expect to see some changes in the coming years in the way games are sold. Downloadable games are one example of a viable future for game makers, downloading a product reduces the manufacturing costs for the industry which then allows them to sell for cheaper.

"It's not just Facebook and smartphones that threaten to steal that audience, the consoles themselves have thriving online stores in Xbox Live Arcade and PlayStation Network, offering gaming alternatives with high production value and more relaxed pricing," Greenhill said.

The days of high priced console games are being forced by the consumers to come to an end. The trend of dropping sales can't continue and game makers know it.

comics of the week

POIN-TAN by Randy Shaw

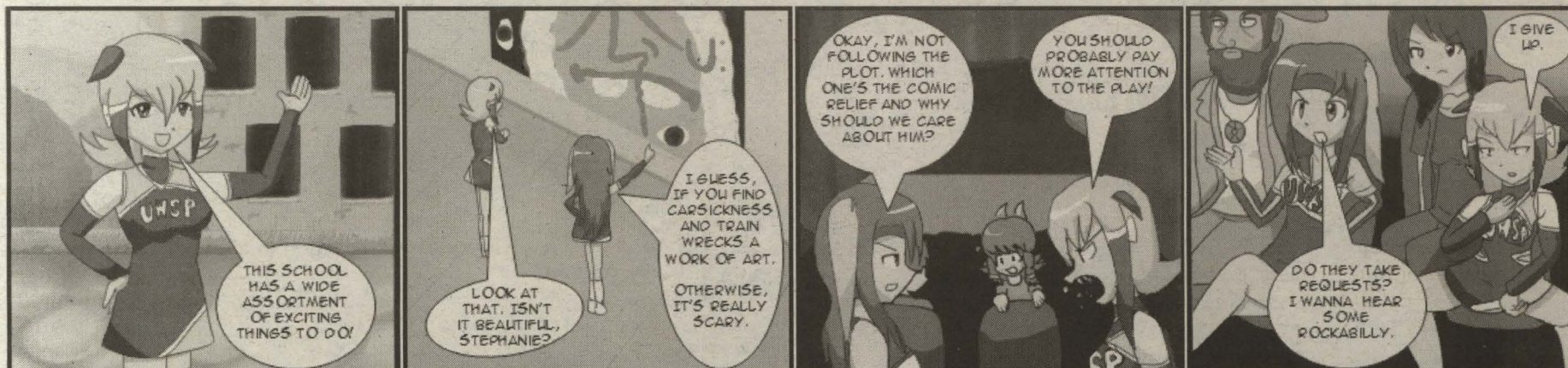


photo of the week



Photo by Amanda Hays

classifieds

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Protective Services has had several keys turned into our campus lost and found. Please feel free to stop by our office in the lower level of the George Stein Building or call us at 346-3456 to identify your lost keys.

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Opinion

An Alternative take on 'The Crisis of Civilization' by John Zerzan

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I was disappointed to find a hostile letter in last issue's opinion section from a student who attended philosopher John Zerzan's talk, "The Crisis of Civilization."

I have to admit, it was a pretty dense lecture that could have been tailored better to students not familiar with social and environmental problems or anthropological terminology. Also, I can understand that the philosophy Zerzan espouses might be unsettling- even aggravating- for some of the people who heard him speak. Especially for middle class, college students (many of whom were probably only in attendance for extra-credit opportunities) that may have never considered the magnitude of well-hidden, structural violence necessary in order to make many of the cheap and convenient luxuries (McChickens, gasoline, electronic gadgets, etc.) possible for their consumption. But what upset me enough to write this was that much of the opinion letter was riddled with

emotionally charged rhetoric, and read more like a passive-aggressive "revenge piece" to defame a person, rather than a critical review of the lecture's content.

Many of the questions that were present in the letter (to my knowledge, only one was asked by the writer of the "review" during the actual lecture) could have been answered if he would have just stayed for the whole thing. Zerzan defined primitivism as being a society not practicing domestication (agriculture and the division of labor) and he explained Green Anarchy as being a way of life not characterized by controlling/ dominating people and nature. He differentiated between a tool (which is a technological object) and technology (the systems of technological processes, objects, and developers of objects, knowledge, users, and the worldview responsible for them). For Zerzan, modern technology and industrial innovation will never solve

the environmental and social problems we face, simply because it is the cause of our environmental and social problems. Zerzan thinks that the only way out of this mess is to transition towards a more decentralized, land-based way of life and hunter-gatherer band societies offer inspiration for what this future way could potentially look like. If anyone had

"It was a pretty dense lecture..."

any problems with what he talked about, instead of interrupting (this is a public lecture remember, not a class lesson) they could have waited until the Q&A. Plenty of insightful questions to the lecture's contents were answered and many folks stuck around even after the conclusion of the event to chat with Zerzan about his ideas.

As far as "the majority of the audience" leaving in disgust and the inflammatory question of Zerzan's "intoxication": this is downright defamatory slander, written in a vengeful tone by someone who was probably angry to find that a lecture

with more than 230 people in attendance cannot be paused to accommodate the needs of an individual person who "just wasn't getting it". This is what social psychologists call a confirmation bias: the tendency of people to selectively remember information in a biased way that confirms their beliefs or opinions. From the very back of the theater I could see that more than half (which qualifies as a majority) of the audience stayed until the Q&A. Additionally, every single Zerzan book and pamphlet that was brought to the event (more than fifty) were taken by people that were seemingly satisfied. The amount of individuals- those who were so interested that they purchased books and took pamphlets- dwarfs the amount of people asking the question of his intoxication by a factor of more than fifteen. But to be fair, the reviewer did leave more than an hour early, so how would he know?

25 Reasons to Throw Your T.V. Out the Window

BRIAN LUEDTKE
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1. It would be ridiculously fun!
2. You would learn how to repair a window (and quickly, before the landlord notices)
3. You would have an average of two and a half hours more free time in the day.
4. After a few weeks of no TV the first time you watched TV again it would seem amazing and you could really notice how fast technology is improving.
5. The amount of time spent being brainwashed by corporate media might increase your ability to think for yourself (whether you realize it or not)
6. It would decrease your viewing of 3,000 plus advertisements per day to just over 1,000.
7. You could decide how to live your life instead of being told how to live.
8. That's a lower electricity bill (assuming you throw the TV out of the window when not heating or cooling the room).
9. That's a less noticeable ass-crave in the couch!
10. More time spent learning a new skill, or on a hobby, or conversing with other sentient beings, or playing with a pet, or gardening, or exercising, or dancing, or cooking, or

cleaning... well maybe not cleaning... making a mess! Or reading, or educating yourself.

11. More time spent actually living - touching, seeing, smelling, you know, tasting the real world for yourself.
12. A chance to do some interior decorating to replace that space that held that electronic god with all the chairs pointed at it.
13. You will feel like a raging caveman symbolically rejecting the evils of modern society.
14. By destroying a TV, which then needs to be cleaned up and recycled properly, and having two and a half more hours per day to do other stuff like volunteer or have a hobby, you will help end the great recession by stimulating the economy.
15. Depending on the size and shape of the TV, finding an appropriate window could be difficult, causing the brain to be exercised.
16. Once you throw your TV through the window you can act as a consultant to your friends on how to best eject their television from their living quarters. Then you can lend a hand and teach them how to fix a broken window properly.
17. Once the TV is no longer the focal point of the room new features may be discovered, such as board games, more windows or long forgotten toys like the unicycle or pogo stick.

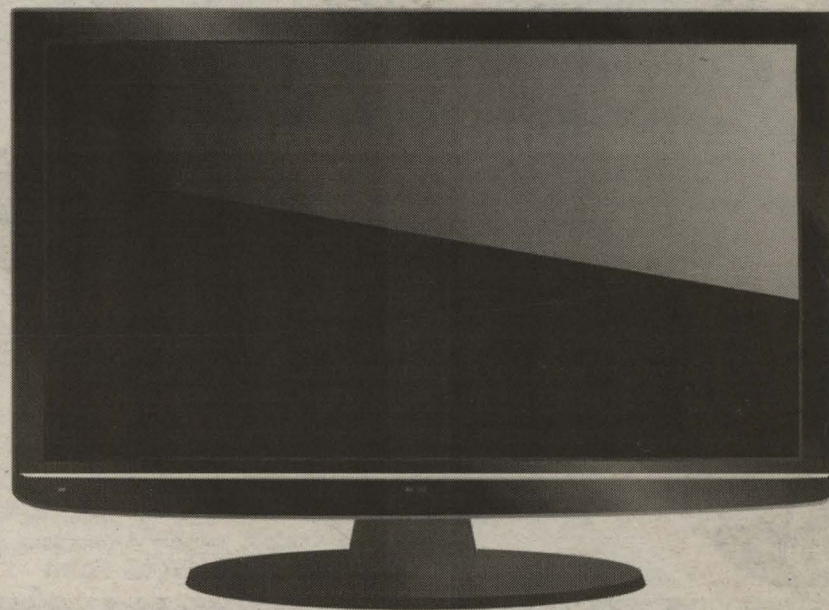


Photo courtesy of Ambrozio on stock.xchng

18. The rubble on your lawn will keep bikers and squatters off of it while providing habitat for beneficial insects.
19. The simple act could catalyze a series of events which could change your life forever.
20. You will have room for another home project - book shelves.
21. Because you have a laptop and that's enough.
22. It will be a good story for your grandchildren (Of course you will have to explain what 2D images and

- television were.).
23. Now you can have crazy-fun circus acts in the living room stress free.
24. It would make a really cool youtube video (especially if you dressed up in a gorilla costume!).
25. Since you are planning to do it anyway, you could wait for the perfect situation and prank a friend or foe or two by screaming profanities then hurling the TV through the nearest window in a "fit of rage."

Eco-Fair Spreads Awareness

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Amid the shouts of booth vendors and chaos of lunchtime in the Dreyfus University Center, the Eco Fair was taking place in all its glory.

Used as an educational tool, the Eco Fair brought to light environmental issues that the average person may not be aware of. As a part of the Natural Resources 478 class, "Environmental Issues and Action," students highlighted different aspects of environmental awareness, such as compost.

"It's a good way to get the issues out and raise awareness to incorporate compost in everyone's day-to-day life and choose more sustainable practices," said Tessa Trzebiatowski, a student in NR 478.

The issues' awareness extended to more than just classes as student organizations brought their own information to the mix. One in particular was Students for Sustainable Communities (SSC) advertising their organization as a whole and Earth Day, which took place on April 21.

"The best thing about this Eco Fair is that it showcases how many options for preservation we have at UWSP, and it introduces us as a green campus," said Katie Goplerud, a member of SSC.

SSC is responsible for promoting education and understanding

of issues regarding a sustainable environment and involving the local community, as well as the regional and national planning arena.

Another student organization that was promoting a national issue at the Eco Fair was Save the Frogs, the first university chapter in America that is petitioning to ban the federal use and production of atrazine. This drug has already been banned in European countries because it threatens 33 percent of amphibians, approximately 213 species heading rapidly towards extinction. The traces of atrazine in European soils gave the Save the Frogs members the motivation they needed to keep the petition going.

"We have over 250 signatures just at this school and I have about 200 more to send out. Amphibians continue to be overlooked in environmental conservation and increasing faster than anything else. That's why it's vital to educate people on amphibian decline and why conservation is important," said Jordan Winkenbach, the secretary for the Save the Frogs organization.

Amphibians are used in a wide variety, such as studies to produce antibiotics, cancer research and learning more about how eco-change affects the environment.

To promote community change, the Raptor Education Group from Antigo, WI, had their booth set up



Photo by Samantha Feld
The Eco Fair showcased options for environmental preservation and groups such as Students for Sustainable Communities were in attendance.

to educate students on the rehabilitation center for orphaned birds and safety procedures to help save injured birds. As wildlife educators, they take the birds that wouldn't be able to survive back into the environment and instead use them as education birds.

"These birds are not given names because they are not pets. You actually have to get a state/federal permit to have an education bird. Becoming an education bird is a rare case because 60 percent of the birds found are released back into the wild," said Karissa Mohr, a wildlife educator and UWSP alum.

Along with information, the wildlife educators brought along

education birds - a Saw-Whet owl who lost its' eye and experienced brain damage from a car accident, and a Warbol Falconer who can't hunt because of weak feet. These birds showed students first hand what rehabilitation is all about.

This goes to show that educational fairs and events can offer insight into deeper issues that affect the student body and even the world as a whole. Look for the Eco Fair next year to learn about more ways to get involved in environmental protection or at the involvement fair next fall.

MY SEMESTER ABROAD UWSP International Programs

Rachael Obermeier
London, England-December 2010
Britain Semester (2008) & London Internship (2010)

ENGLAND

"My first semester abroad gave me the travel bug and I am happy to say I have never gotten rid of it! The chance to see and travel Europe for four months was amazing. My eyes were opened to experiences from a completely different point of view. We not only learned about historical situations in class, we were able to walk to the site of these occurrences immediately after and have the scene come alive in a whole new way. Living in the International Students House gave me the chance to meet students from all over the world. I made friends that will last a lifetime and I look forward to visiting them in their home countries in the future. The costs of studying abroad were small in exchange for the number of opportunities I received in England. I know I will always have a second home waiting for me overseas."



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MY SEMESTER ABROAD UWSP International Programs

Brandon Mercer
Tatra Mountains - Zakopane, Poland - 2010
Szeged, Hungary (Spring 2009) and Krakow, Poland (Fall 2010)

POLAND

"Before studying abroad I never had a passport and never had been out of the country. After studying abroad I have visited 11 different countries and have made countless friendships that will last a lifetime. Not only do you get to experience cultures first-hand but you get to see things you learn about in history class, and other things that you could only dream of. The things I have experienced while studying abroad have made a major impact in my life and will stay with me forever and are something that everyone should get the chance to experience."



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MY SEMESTER ABROAD UWSP International Programs

Randa Meyer
Finisterre, Spain - April 2010
Semester in Spain - Valladolid (2010)

SPAIN

"My semester in Spain was not only incredible because of what I experienced, but because it helped me grow and define the person that I am today. For being a Spanish student who has struggled and lacked confidence in my speaking skills, my professors in Valla helped me understand and appreciate the language, history and culture of Spain and my language improved immensely! Backpacking the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain for two weeks was definitely an experience that pushed not only my physical body, but also my emotional and spiritual being; it was a great adventure! International Programs at UWSP helped make my experience memorable, as it has done for hundreds of students before and after me. If you have ever had even the slightest inkling of traveling the world, studying abroad will be an experience that you will never forget nor regret!"



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MY SEMESTER ABROAD UWSP International Programs

Zachary Hudson
Fern Garden, Blarney Castle Grounds, Blarney
Semester in Ireland - University of Limerick (2011)

IRELAND

"The first week abroad was difficult; I had trouble sleeping and was not comfortable in my new surroundings. Luckily the entire country is a large welcoming wagon. My favorite part was being the foreign student. Just like in the US, when you meet a foreign individual you want to ask them questions about them and where they came from. It is no different in Ireland. Unlike some other European countries where you might get a dirty look for being American, Ireland welcomes you with open arms. Similar with all other programs, the experience opens your eyes to the world and makes you a better person all around, but that is insignificant to the feeling of confidence and independence you gain. You may think you are an independent person already, but until you immerse yourself into another culture, travel to countries where English is not widely spoken and are able to make it back home safe and sound, you are not truly independent."



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