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The WSC Foundation has been busy on several fronts with Williston State College. Our Board is excited to see our Ag Program up and going again with our new Ag instructor, Jessalyn Bachler. The Foundation has Ag scholarships available.

The Board has also been investing in the new Academic Achievement Award Scholarship program, which targets a larger service area encompassing the schools we have a dual credit relationship with and students with solid GPAs and/or ACT scores.

Personally, I have been raising funds for Frontier Hall’s bond debt reduction. I am very thankful for the people and businesses that have contributed. We are over halfway to a $2,000,000-plus campaign with private donors and matching dollars from the Foundation.

I have also been working with David Njøs on artwork to exhibit artwork celebrating the history of our region on campus.

We have the Sitting Bull statue, reflecting our Native American History, and last fall we revealed the “Clark’s Table” by Mr. Njøs displaying the history of Lewis and Clark in our region. Our goal is to complete historical monuments that recognize veterans, homesteaders, the ranching and cattle industry, and the oil industry.

On a more personal note, I would like to congratulate Deanette Piesik on a remarkable career at WSC. Deanette was the CEO of TrainND and oversaw its growth from basically nothing to a multi-million dollar training program. The WSC Foundation wishes her the best in her future endeavors.

Till next time – GO TETONS!!

Terry Olson
Executive Director
WSC Foundation
Miller joins Williston Chamber board

Dr. John Miller, President of Williston State College, was elected to the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting of Membership in January 2018.

Dr. Miller and two others were nominated in September, presented to the Board, and were later voted on by ballot in November.

“Dr. Miller has an experienced background serving on half a dozen boards before moving to Williston and has a vision that aligns with the Chamber on bringing together groups to market Williston and maximize collaboration,” stated Janna Lutz, former President of the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce. “In his position at the College, he is in a place to help the younger generation begin to get involved in the community and along with the Chamber, help develop future leaders.”

Bondy Named to NDWHEN Board

Kaylyn Bondy, WSC’s Vice President for Student Affairs, was named to the North Dakota Women in Higher Education Network (NDWHEN) board in February 2018.

“It is an honor to be invited to serve as a part of the board,” stated Bondy. “It is a pleasure to serve alongside instrumental women educators specific to higher education in North Dakota. I look forward to enhancing facets of my career as well as encouraging other women to aspire to leadership roles.”

NDWHEN has two main programs to help with its mission: The Next Step Mentorship Program and the annual NDWHEN conference in November.

“The Mentorship programs pairs aspiring women leaders with women mentors in higher education,” explained Bondy. “Its goal is to increase the number of women who hold a leadership position in higher education.”

Membership in NDWHEN is open to anyone with a commitment to advancing women’s leadership in North Dakota higher education.

Art instructor named artist-in-residence

Williston State College Art instructor Lino Azevedo was recently chosen by the North Dakota Museum of Art, located in Grand Forks, as their Artist in Residence for June 2018.

Azevedo will live in the McCanna House, a retreat home, for two weeks during the summer. The art produced during that time will then be part of his exhibition at the museum.

Azevedo says that he still has a long way to go on the project, but he is excited to get to work this summer.

Azevedo was also picked by the North Dakota’s Artist Gallery Association for a series of solo art exhibitions to take place around the state from 2019 through 2020.

Azevedo aims to feature 25 different pieces in his show, titled “Lobotomy.”

A commentary on our culture’s lack of “critical thinking and civil discourse,” “Lobotomy” will tour cities around North Dakota throughout 2019 and into 2020.
More than 240 students graduated from Williston State College on May 11.

WSC’s 57th Commencement took place in the Thomas Witt Leach Center (The Well), where state Representative Gary Sukut spoke to over 150 graduates.

Arren Romeril and Daria Ferguson were the student speakers, and Crystal Hotchkiss, NDUS CTS Student Records Business Analyst gave the campus address.

Of the 242 students anticipating graduation, nearly 20 percent received either the Williams or Regional County Scholarships.

For the 2017–2018 academic year, 411 degrees were awarded: 242 Associates in Arts or Associates in Science, 78 Associates of Applied Sciences, 52 Certificates, and 39 Certificates of Completion.

To conclude the day, 18 students graduating from the WSC Nursing Program attended the annual Pinning Ceremony, where the students received their ceremonial pin, they recited the Florence Nightingale Pledge, and learned about the history and significance behind the pinning ceremony.

In addition to students, two faculty members were honored at Commencement. Amanda Davis, Assistant Professor of Math & Science and Dr. Kyle Norris, Assistant Professor of Music were both recognized for Tenure.

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**DID YOU MISS IT?**

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WSC’s 2018 Commencement ceremony was livestreamed on YouTube. The video is available now to watch at: youtube.com/WillistonState
Dean's List
3.5 to 3.79 GPA

Minday Ackerman
Joan E. Akonure
Jenna Lee Albert
Jerrica Rose Albert
Amy M. Allen
Emily Alton
Taylor E. Bailey
Ethan C. Beck
Racael Marie Beuning
Cody Allen Bloms
Seth David Burg
Ryan Burris
Elia Renee Bylsma
Carmen Renee Carter
Kirk A. Cartwright
Delaney Lynn Clark
Carly L. Collings
Marice Kristianna Coughlin
Tracy Nicole Crisp
Aaron P. Dazell
Tayla Marie Dean
Tony K. Degenstein
Kody Dana Dayton
Gracia R. Eder
Keaten Lynn El
Josie Auna Falcon
Lindsay Falcon
Jordan Kathleen Farmer
Kaliee M. Ferguson
Taylor A. Fischer
Matthew Folstad
Anissa Eyelene Frazier
Dayne M. Fredland
Amanda Carol Gooding
Joshua A. Grindeland
Niamoye Haidara
Carter Craig Harris
Cheyenne Phoenix Harrison
David G. Hayden Jr.
Alec Holloway
Boston Kenneth Horob
Charles Allen Irming
Gracie L. Jorgenson
Nathan K. Jorgenson
Macy K. Kirkaldie
Rene T. Kitaho
Tamra Lyn Knudson
Jordan Kulczyk
Rachel Christine Kunkel
Patrick T. Laney
Fallon M. Larsen
Austin B. Luther
Mandi J. Martin
Katie Lynn Matlock
Cole Joseph McGorman
Raven M. Mobley
Mansuru Mohammed
Kasnedra Latrice Montz
Joseph J. Nasers
Amber Nicole Marie Newman
Leonard Lane O'Neill
Gage P. Peterson
Torian Peterson
Kristina M. Phillips
Lucille Anne Proffitt
Megan Joy Reese
Amanda B. Renicker
Jonathan N. Rockstad
Cathy L. Rogers
Jason B. Rojas
Constance S. Rollins
Kataryna C. Ross
Sarah Marie Salgado
Michael D. Sandoval Jr.
Luke Anthony Santasiere
Christine B. Schabet
Mckenzie A. Schroeder
Christian M. Strecker
Kirsten Ann Strickland
Elisabeth Tchinaba
Halsten Daly Thompson
Delia N. Tredwell
Nadja Uskokovic
Liliana Van Pelt
Michael Ty Melbourne Vandall
Deanna Michelle Vasquez
Matthew T. Winkle
Anna E. Zuniga

President's List
3.8-4.0 GPA

Linda Lynnette Alton
Hryhorij Battaglia
Braden O. Bendfeld
Kayla Rae Bloomquist
Lacey Kimberlynn Borden
Stephanie L. Brackey
Samantha Leeann Byers
Anthony Joseph Campbell
LeeAnn Renee Clark
Benjamin J. Crawford
Jared B. Croop
Courtney D. Crowe
Abigailay M. Deubner
Sena Dossou -Gouchola
Alexa Benai Engelbrecht
Scott Leroy Erlandsen
Daria Faith Ferguson
Melinda Fischer
Christopher Miguel Flores
Queen Elizabeth Fugah
Sierra Elizabeth Garmann
Allison Gayle Grote
Anthony D. Haase
Mackenzie Marie Hanson
Justen Michael Herz
Jennifer E. Householder
Kalfyn F. Huckaby
Jenna Michelle Hunter
Rhiannon Renae Jones
Brandon Leonard John Kayter
Jessica Dawn Knudson
Brittany Marie Langager
Jeremy A. Larson
Kate Long
Katelyn Leigh Luther
Haley R. Mollet
Kaitlyn E. Mollet
Cami Lei Morgan
Chandler Scott Neumann
Michelle Anne Patriarca
Bradley R. Peterson
Liberty James R. Peterson
Alexia Pitman
Joey L. Pittenger
Dylan R. Rabbe
Bethany R. Redekopp
Maria E. Romain
Arren E. Romeril
Crystal Ann Schaubel
Shali M. Sheridan
MaLesha C. Siegel
Tucker Stewart Smith
Jacob E. Smithberg
Richele Snyder
Megan M. Suhr
Triten Steve Teske
Cade Torola
Abraham Torres
Brian O. Udland
Emily Marie Vigness
Chantel D. Wilcoxon
Christopher D. Wiley
Andrea Rena Wood
“Meet everyone you can.” That’s Katie Kringen’s advice for new college students. Kringen (’05) was recently awarded Williston’s Women-owned Business Award for 2018, and she credits much of her success to the people she met while attending Williston State.

“I loved the people,” recalls Kringen. “I met my best friend at Williston State. Loved the professors; everyone was down to earth. It wasn’t too big for me, it wasn’t too small. It was perfect.”

College isn’t just about the coursework. It’s a time of exploration and personal growth. Meeting other people, learning from them, encountering new ideas and cultures, communicating with peers and professors: these are all key to a successful, well-rounded college experience.

While the hard skills we learn in order to pursue a specific career are undeniably important, soft skills (or “people” skills) such as interpersonal communication, creativity, empathy, collaboration, leadership, flexibility, and organization are essential to a lifetime of success. It’s right there in the WSC motto, “Where the people make the difference.”

Kringen continues to exemplify this motto, from her experience at WSC to the success she is currently enjoying with her business, Chatter Pediatric Therapy (www.chattertherapy.com).

Kringen started Chatter in 2015 in an office in Mondak Sports, which her husband Josh owns and manages.

“It started just with me doing therapy,” Kringen explains. “I didn’t like working alone, and I wanted more of a team approach, versus just me having to make diagnoses and decisions based only on my perspective.”

Less than three years later, Chatter boasts a staff of twelve and has expanded to services such as Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, Mental Health Counseling, Child Psychology, and Nutrition Counseling.

“Chatter has far exceeded my dream of what I could do,” notes Kringen. “The best part of Chatter is having all these therapists working under one roof. Their talents are incredible. And when you get a bunch of highly educated and intelligent therapists together, the results are amazing. I’m really happy.”

Kringen also credits her advisor Betty CAMPUS [NEWS]

BY JENNY WOLF

Still chattering away

in 2003 and was recruited to WSC by Candy Heller to play volleyball.

“I really thought Williston was on the other side of the state,” Kringen says. “I came up to Williston and didn’t know anyone, and when I left [to continue her studies at Minot State University], I felt like I knew everyone.”

While at WSC, Kringen took her own advice and met everyone she could. She worked in the bookstore with long-time WSC bookstore manager Andrea Heller. “They had just started the coffee bar, so I was like the first barista,” Kringen recalls. “So that was fun.” She also worked with Terry Olson, cleaning locker rooms and jerseys, and with Donn Skadeland, when Diamond Resources was in the basement of a bank.

Kringen hopes students will also take advantage of all the resources available to them, from instructors to the facilities. She still feels a special connection to The Well, and not just from her time on the volleyball team.

“My first year for volleyball was supposed to be in The Well, but they didn’t finish in time, so we played in the old gym (now Donn Skadeland Gymnasium),” Kringen explains. “But I used to go in there, set up the net, and just play volleyball by myself. I’d go to every basketball game. I’d go for walks with my girlfriends, lift weights, watch basketball practice…I spent a lot of time in The Well.”

Kringen didn’t know it at the time, but her future husband, Josh, was in the Well on those days too. “The Well was built by Kringen Construction, so Josh was hammering away down in The Well when I was playing volleyball.”

Looking back on her time at WSC, Kringen recalls the individualized attention.

“Every instructor knew your name, every cook knew your name, and I just loved that,” she notes. “Neil Westergaard’s classes were my favorite because they were hard, and I loved to learn. As hard it was, it was really rewarding to learn anatomy and physiology, and those classes played a big role in what I do now.”

Kringen is a North Dakota native and grew up on Lake Metigoshe. She graduated from Bottineau High School
Anderson with a smooth transition to Minot State. “Betty did such a good job making sure all of the classes I was going to take were set; there were no surprises when I got there. It was just a super-easy transition.”

“The people that I met at Williston State are still part of my life today,” adds Kringen. “Williston State gave me that stepping stone just to know people in this town. I’m really grateful for those first two years, just to meet people.”

Kringen went on to Minot State University, where she met and married her college sweetheart, Josh, and they moved back to Williston in 2015. She and Josh also make time for the lake where Kringen grew up. They and their three children (Cruz, 6, Piper, 4, and Harlow, 10 months) still go to Lake Metigoshe every weekend.

“It’s a three-and-a-half-hour drive, almost four,” Kringen explains. “We leave every Friday night after Josh gets off work, and come back Sunday, about ten at night. In the winters, we love going to sporting events, just in town, hockey games; that’s kind of what we do.”

Kringen also credits the people in the community with her successes at Chatter. “From the start, we had very good support. And now that we’re a little bit bigger, and people know what Chatter is, we have the support of the community, the doctors, and everyone.”

As to the future, Kringen sees more opportunities ahead. “You know, Chatter’s just like a baby,” she notes. “It’s still young. And I have some more ideas. We’ve got a lot more work to do!”
PIESIK ENDS 19-YEAR CAREER @ TRAINND

BY JENNY WOLF

Deanette Piesik was part of the initial team that started the workforce training division (TrainND) at Williston State College (WSC) and for the past 19 years has held the Executive Director position. Piesik is resigning on June 30.

Prior to TrainND, Piesik worked as the Workforce Training Manager for WSC, and at Community Action and Development as the Region I Traffic Safety Coordinator. Piesik has a Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from UND, and a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration from Dickinson State University.

When Piesik joined TrainND in 1999, there were only two other two staff member, Melissa Meyer and Stephanie Stevens. At that time, the office was located in the Crighton building on campus with WSC’s nursing program. Piesik’s first role was in sales and meeting with various companies in the northwest area. Piesik was promoted to Executive Director the next year.

As Piesik transitions out of TrainND, she leaves behind a legacy. TrainND now has two buildings, sits on a nine-acre training field, has 15 full-time and 7 part-time employees, and has over 7 million dollars in equipment donated from local companies.

“The staff make this the best place to work. We celebrate together, we are an extended family. The accomplishments of TrainND are not mine, but are a group effort, this is something I will never forget. I cherish all of the staff that I have had the opportunity to work with and lead,” said Piesik.

In 1998, four TrainND workforce training centers were strategically established at Williston State College, Lake Region State College, North Dakota State College of Science, and Bismarck State College to meet the industry-specific needs in each region of the state.

TrainND is a division of WSC and has an advisory board that meets quarterly. “I view the advisory board as my boss. Their advice over the years is why TrainND has the facilities and the many successes. I have been fortunate to work with the many great company leaders that served on the board.”

Creating their own space was the first step in developing a first-class oilfield training center. Piesik is quick to give credit to others on the successes of TrainND as the project has had so many partners throughout the years.

In 2005, Garvin Stevens, Executive Director for the WSC Foundation, assisted in purchasing the current nine-acre training site at 415 22nd Ave NE. Tom Rolfstad, Williston Economic Development Director, helped present the idea for the city to donate the land. And Representative Francis Wald was instrumental in proposing and supporting general funds to the development of the site.

In 2006, WSC received a Department of Commerce Centers of Excellence Grant to build the Petroleum Safety and Technology Center. This building on the training site allowed students easy access to the equipment, and the TrainND staff split between the new building and the office in the Crighton building. Service rig and CDL classes and hands-on well site training classes were now held onsite, and other classes were held in the Crighton building.

Then in 2014, the Workforce Training Centre opened and became the flagship building on the training site. With this expansion, all the TrainND staff were together. No longer split between the training site and WSC campus, one location streamlined the classes for businesses, students, staff, and trainers.

“I have enjoyed working with all of the businesses that have confidence in our training programs. Over the years we have trained more individuals then I can keep track of. It is interesting to see how training has evolved from entry-level safety training to technical and skills training.” Piesik stated.

In an average year, TrainND works with 260 businesses. At the height of the boom 450 companies participated in one year. From year to year 86% of the businesses are repeat customers.

“Deanette’s leadership at TrainND will be missed. She listened to the industry, while maintaining her vision and strategic plan for the division. Her work with industry leaders has resulted in a world class oil and gas training facility,” stated TrainND Advisory Board President, Tim Schmidt.

Over the years TrainND has responded to changing industry needs as it will do again as Pam Rasmussen takes over as Regional Director for Technical Programs and Training at TrainND starting July 1.

Piesik is looking forward to focusing her energies on her family (including 3 grandchildren); her business, Style Uncorked; her duties as City Commissioner, and her golf game.
Josh Foust ’04 (Williston) is a Financial Representative for Northwestern Mutual in Williston. Recently, he was awarded the Jack F. Huss Award, as the New Representative of the Year for the Minnkota Network. Josh and his wife, Brittany, are proud parents to daughter Piper.

Andy Hoffelt ’16 (Williston) is currently employed as an Electrical Design Engineer at Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services (AE2S) in Fargo where he is heavily involved in the firm’s expansion into the Williston Basin. He and his wife, Jessica, currently reside in West Fargo. They have two children—Abram, age 3 and Jovi, 1 year.

Mark Kinnebrew ’99 (Minot) is a Certified I’m Possible Skill Enhancement Trainer in Bismarck. His trainings help develop basketball skills for players of all ages with the program’s revolutionary training concepts (www.iptnorthdakota.com). The program has grown to the point where he will be opening a second location in Bismarck. Mark and his wife, Jessica (Fischer) ’99 are both former Teton basketball players and recently helped bolster the Teton Women’s Basketball Team when their daughter Mariya recently committed to join next year’s team. Besides Mariya, Mark and Jessica have three other children, Ashton (15), Bergen (13), and Gibson (9).

Meghan Taunton ’17 (Williston) is majoring in Geological Engineering and Economics at the University of North Dakota. Last fall, she interned with the U.S. Department of Energy and spent time at the Department’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colorado. While there, she studied and presented findings in her research of “Increasing efficiency in photovoltaic solar panels with passive cooling using dessicants.” Meghan was one of 14 students from around the country participating in the internship and the only one from North Dakota. This summer, she will intern with another research organization, EERC, in Grand Forks.

20 under 40 WSC alumni
Taylor Olson, La Lynda Blotsky, Katie Kringen, Gabe Gratz, Victoria Arneson, and Jonathon Greiner.
This year, WSC started a new program, Agricultural Business and Industry.

The program’s objective is to prepare students for a career in the variety of fields associated with Agriculture Business and Industry. Combining agriculture and business coursework, students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to work in an agriculture-specific field, agriculture support field, or a related field associated with agriculture business and finance.

Jessalyn Bachler is the college’s Agriculture Business instructor. Bachler, who started in January 2018, is a native of Almont, N.D., and has a B.S. in Agricultural Science - Ranch Management Option from Dickinson State University and she is finishing her M.S. in Animal and Range Sciences from North Dakota State University.

“I wanted to come back to teach eventually, either in western North Dakota or eastern Montana,” Bachler said. “Preferably a small college. And actually, Dr. John Miller had contacted me about the position.”

The idea for the program came from the President’s Advisory Council (PAC), a group established in 2016 and made up of 11 community members that advises the College on what the community would like from WSC.

The PAC saw a need for the agriculture program to return so that local students interested in the field could utilize the WSC Foundation’s Williams County Graduate (WCG) and Regional County Scholarships.

Dr. Miller, WSC’s President, Terry Olson, WSC Foundation’s Executive Director, and Kaylyn Bondy, WSC’s Vice President for Student Affairs, met with a group of area businessmen from agriculture lending, farm implement dealers, and local farmers to establish a framework for the new program.

“Our previous program was centered around general agriculture, but now it’s more focused,” explained Dr. Miller. “We will have an Associates in Applied Science degree in Agriculture Business and Industry. Because we met with local advisors, this program should reflect the way agriculture is currently supported in our area.”

The program is geared towards farmers, ranchers, implement dealers, Ag lenders, co-ops, grain elevator operators, or anyone interested in agriculture.

“Our hope is to provide younger generations of farmers, ranchers, and Ag businessmen and women an education locally so they can remain in the area and are able to enhance local family businesses and communities,” stated Dr. Miller. “A major focus of the WSC Foundation scholarships is to give back to the communities served by WSC, and bringing agriculture back is a perfect program to help our local communities.”

IN THE FIELD:
In April, Bachler's animal and soil science classes joined students from Dickinson State University, Miles Community College, and Dawson Community College at Fort Keogh, a 55,000 acre USDA-Agricultural Research Service rangeland beef cattle research facility in Miles City.

Students spent the day in the field listening to scientists talk about recent animal, range, and soil research. They toured range land and grass land fields, a cattle feedlot, and inspected cannulated animals that have a hole in their rumen-stomach, for research purposes.
Joseph Mathews recently completed a spring internship in Senator John Hoeven’s office in Washington D.C.

Born and raised in Texas, Mathews relocated to North Dakota in 2014. Mathews has been interested in the governmental process since he was young so, when he heard about the internship in Associate Professor Richard Stenberg’s Government class, his interest was piqued.

“I knew if I landed the position, it would really help me in the long run, and also give me a good feel for government,” says Mathews.

Eric Moen, Intern Coordinator and Director of Constituent Services (Williston native and WSC alum) details what types of tasks interns work on. “Our interns fill a variety of roles. Answering phones, working in our front office, giving tours of the Capitol complex, helping constituents, and working on research projects are a few regular duties. Aside from the work experience, [Washington D.C. interns] really get a glimpse into the inner workings of Congress. They’ll understand the role of a member office in the wider picture of Congressional activity. Every time period in the program is different, based on the current Senate agenda, but interns learn a great deal about Senate policy, politics, and procedures.”

Mathews says that being selected for the internship in January 2018 was a dream come true. Living in Washington D.C. turned out to be a very memorable experience for him. He enjoyed working in the heart of the Capitol building, “watching and witnessing political movements unfold in front of him,” not through the TV screen, but in real life. “Bumping into protestors, dodging camera men and interactions with Paul Ryan, Ted Cruz, ND State Legislator Kim Koppelman and Mark Zuckerberg had suddenly become the norm.”

He valued the experience seeing how Hoeven’s office really puts the people first. Looking back, Mathews says that he excelled in “being a voice for the people” by documenting and conveying concerns to the Senator.

Mathews also has an eye on what’s next for him. When asked what he plans to do after graduating from WSC, he reveals plans to move back to Texas and continue his schooling there to pursue a career in law or politics.

When asked for any advice for those interested in Hoeven’s internship, Moen mentions that a genuine interest in U.S. history and government would be a major asset. He also emphasizes the value of strong verbal and written communication abilities to help in interactions with constituents. Moen says that interns learn about public policy, politics, and procedures that accompany legislation moving through Congress.

Stenberg notes that Mathews became WSC’s second student to participate in this internship, and expressed that he can think of no better way to learn about the governing process than this experience. “I am so excited for Joseph. The experiences and friendships he made in Washington D.C. will impact him for the rest of his life.”

Mathews emphasizes his thanks to Stenberg for his involvement in connecting him with this opportunity. “This was a fast-paced, intense environment with some of the most powerful governing officials in the country and to be in their presence and have this experience, I’ll forever be grateful that it all started at WSC with Professor Stenberg.”
1. Blacklight volleyball in April
2. Alexander High School visits WSC
3. WSC faculty and staff participate in AQIP Pathway Strategy Forum in Illinois
4. Senator Heidi Heitkamp visits WSC
5. WSC promotes Denim Day
6. WSC Ag instructor Jessalyn Bachler organizes a farm-to-table dinner
7. Students enjoy ice cream in the Livdahl Lounge
8. WSC Student Senators attend the State ND Student Senate meeting
9. Service Dogs for America brings furry visitors to campus during finals week
10. Students create May Day baskets
11. Governor Burgum and Lt. Governor Dayton visit WSC
12. Hypnotist Chris Jones entertains students in April
13. WSC staff walk in the Band Day parade
14. WSC staff participate in Governor Burgum’s Walk at Work day in June

Students prepare for the upcoming
year at a registration event. 16. WSC Director for Financial Aid, Heather Fink, is featured on the Bank of North Dakota’s weekly livestream. 17. Trenton students job-shadow WSC Faculty and Staff. 18. Students give back at Banquet West. 19. WSC Art Instructor Lino Azevedo and students discuss art at the student art show at the James. 20. Students host the WSC table at the Home and Garden show. 21. Bowling night at the Strike Zone. 22. Students show off their prizes from the Easter Egg hunt. 23. Students perform at open mic night in the Livdahl Lounge. 24. WSC’s spring concert at the James. 25. Odell Bizzell performs during Diversity Week. 26. WSC participates in Walk a Mile in her shoes in April. 27. WSC students Kate Long and Brandon Kayter are named to the All-North Dakota Academic Team. 28. WSC’s Anthony Campbell gives blood.
Beginning Fall 2018, graduates from Western North Dakota, Eastern Montana, Southern Saskatchewan, or Southern Manitoba, Canada who have either passed six credits of Early Entry (dual credit) through WSC, have a cumulative high school GPA of a 2.75+, or an ACT score of 20+ (SAT equivalent) may be eligible to receive the WSC Foundation’s new Academic Achievement Award (AAA).

The award, which mimics the Williams and Regional County Scholarships but expands past the nine current counties, will cover between 12–16 credits of tuition and fees for any eligible 2018 graduates from Western North Dakota or Eastern Montana and $1,500 per semester for eligible Southern Saskatchewan and Southern Manitoba students who plan to attend WSC this fall.

“The AAA scholarship program will create opportunities for students previously enrolled at Williston State College as Early Entry high school students,” WSC President, Dr. John Miller, stated. “As these high school graduates begin their formal college education, it is a natural fit to encourage them to choose WSC based on their previous enrollment and familiarity with the College.”

WSC saw a large increase in spring numbers because of Early Entry students. In addition to the new academic award, WSC announced this spring that the cost of housing on campus was going down.

WSC has reduced its double occupancy rates for Frontier Hall to $2,000 per semester and also provides housing scholarships.

Scholarships are dependent on funding and are subject to change.

To support this or any other scholarship please contact the WSCF at 701.572.9275.
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Williston State College and the Williston ARC played host to many young students and volunteers for the 18th Annual Marketplace For Kids in April.

Marketplace For Kids is a local event where students of all ages come to get a head-start on building skills for the future. The event is organized by the statewide Marketplace organization, and a local Marketplace Advisory Leadership Team.

Debbie Richter, co-chair of Marketplace For Kids, said she was grateful for WSC’s help. “We are so appreciative of WSC and the Williston Parks District for the use of buildings, instructors, and facilities staff — we couldn’t do it without them!” she said.

A wide variety of classes and programs allowed kids to experiment and develop innovative ideas, while also pursuing personal and professional development.

Four classes were taught by WSC instructors/staff:

- “Graphic Design: Create A Logo and Business Card” with Jenny Wolf, WSC Director For Creative Services
- “DNA From Strawberries” with Susan Zimmerman, WSC Biology Professor
- “Send Secret Messages Using Mathematics” with Amanda Davis, WSC Assistant Professor of Mathematics
- “Introduction To Massage Therapy” with Wendy McGinley, WSC Program Coordinator

Other classes included:

- “Kickboxing For Kids” with Madeline Myrlonn, from Combat Fitness
- “Biotechnology and Agriculture” with Leroy Nelson, from the Nelson Academy of Agricultural Sciences Online
- “Small Business Success” with Rachel Richter Lordemann, from the Williston Area Chamber of Commerce
- “Lessons About Your Money” with Joy Sparks, from the North Dakota Jumpstart Coalition
- “Entrepreneurship For Kids” with Barbara Peterson, from Williston Economic Development

Wayne Kutzer, a former Director of the North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education, is a supporter of this annual event. “The future of North Dakota’s economy — and the future of our nation’s economy — lies in the entrepreneurial spirit of our children. Marketplace For Kids encourages your students or children to develop their own ideas, share their creativity, and present them to an audience of all ages,” explained Kutzer.

In addition to those from WSC, volunteers from Williston High School (WHS) organizations like the Honor Society, Future Farmers of America (FFA), and the WHS Leadership Class were present. Community members and volunteers were also on hand, helping make the event a success.

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**IN THE MARKET**

**BY CHRIS DAVIS**
Four Williston State College projects were awarded a total of $12,000 from the STAR Fund, an initiative from the Williston City Commission to help finance local business and community improvement initiatives.

WSC staff members Amanda Piesik, Caitlin Pallai, Shanna Curiin, Karissa Kjos, and Jenny Wolf all worked on programs that received grants.

Amanda Piesik, the Learning Coordinator in WSC’s Adult Education Center, asked for a grant to set up ELL (English Language Learner) and GED classes in Watford City. Piesik was awarded $5,000 to help fund teachers for those classes. Piesik details the program’s impressive attendance growth, in both McKenzie and Williams Counties. “Last year, we ended with six students from McKenzie County, and it’s doubled this year!” She also mentions the importance of having a location in Watford City. “[They] struggle to complete the program due to lack of funds to drive to Williston for class.”

Caitlin Pallai, Executive Assistant to the VP for Academic Affairs, developed a Leadership Williston project that aims to introduce more public art to Williston. With the help of Clean Slate Group, Pallai plans to wrap traffic signal cabinets in vibrant anti-graffiti wraps that showcase local artwork. “This is a great eye-catching way to introduce more art and color to a city on surfaces you don’t usually notice,” explained Pallai.

Shanna Curiin, TrainND’s Finance Manager, created the Women In Leadership (WiL) Expo, a now-annual conference put on through association with WSC’s TrainND program. Now in its fifth year, the event aims to encourage and assist women in pursuing their personal and professional goals.

Curiin expresses her elation at receiving funding for the project. “We typically are booking speakers much later in the planning process, as we don’t know our sponsorship involvement. The funds have allowed us the opportunity to recruit local and statewide speakers, and start marketing the Expo much earlier than usual.” She adds that her goal is to increase attendance this year.

“The [expo] is a great workplace development and continuing education event for our female leaders. It provides engaging speakers, interactive workshops, and thoughtful discussions. Attendees have the opportunity to connect, learn new skills and knowledge, share experiences and inspire each other to achieve. We thank the City for the funding and look forward to this year’s event.” The WiLExpo is scheduled to take place at TrainND on Oct. 4.

Karissa Kjos, Student Life Coordinator at WSC, and Jenny Wolf, Director for Creative Services, both received funding to contribute to booking a speaker for the College. “We like bringing in community speakers every semester, so we applied for money to help bring one in that is more well-known,” Kjos explains. “We will now be able to reach out to larger acts that our communities can connect to and learn from.”

BY CHRIS DAVIS

TOP: CURLIN, PALLAI, AND PIESIK.
BOTTOM: WOLF AND KJOS.
To our fans, I cannot thank you enough for your dedication and unwavering support. Your devotion and commitment have been integral in Williston State College Athletics’ program reaching national recognition. Our program has been growing for 30 years and we look to the next 30.

This year, I had the pleasure of meeting one of the most enjoyable and successful classes of graduating Tetons. Some of these talented student athletes include: Michael Vandall (local walk-on turned into a two-year starter for Teton Basketball), Chris Hille (one of the most outgoing and successful individuals in Teton Hockey history), Katie Nice (Williston’s own All-Conference and All-Region) and Matt Zaleski (two-year student worker for athletics, came back from broken jaw to lead baseball team to Conference Championship). This year was an amazing ride as these students set the standard for future Tetons to grow and improve.

We made a big commitment to re-engaging with the community. From growing our Elementary School Nights, inviting local youth pep bands to perform with the Teton Band, to community service, it has been an honor to connect to you, the strength of the Tetons.

This year will include many Teton-related events that we hope you can attend.

The MonDak Preseason Basketball will return this November and will be hosted in New Town. We would love to have you there!

In addition, the Booster Club and Alumni Association will host the hall of Hall of Fame ceremony in November. All Teton fans are invited! With any luck, we may be hosting postseason tournaments again and we will need your support to pack the house.

Again, thank you Teton Fan for your support. We will see you soon! Go Tetons!

Dan Artamenko
Athletic Director
dan.artamenko@willistonstate.edu
www.wsctetons.com | 701.774.4546
This spring, Teton hockey pulled together to help the families of a Canadian team devastated by a bus accident.

When Brandon Kayter heard the news of the devastating Humboldt Broncos bus accident, he knew he needed to get involved. The Humboldt Broncos team was headed to a hockey playoff game in Nipawan, Saskatchewan when their bus was struck by a semi-truck. 15 people died and 14 injured.

Together with teammate and fellow Canadian Arren Romeril, Kayter enlisted the help of Student Life Coordinator Karissa Kjos and Program Coordinator Maren Furuseth to organize a fundraiser for the victims and families. After a week of social media posts, emails, radio ads, and old fashioned word of mouth, the team was hoping for a good turn-out to their pancake and sausage dinner. “We were shooting for around 300 people,” Kayter explained.

They hit that number on the head, but were amazed by the generosity of those in attendance. Kayter went on to say, “We hoped to get at least $3000.00, but ended up with a lot more.” A lot more equaled $6,691.25; which totals to over $8,000 in Canadian dollars.

In addition to the check, Kayter and Romeril mailed a Teton flag – signed by dinner goers – to the Humboldt Broncos president.
VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

The upcoming season is exciting for many reasons. **Miles City Community College, a new team, will join the MonDak Conference. This will shake up the schedule and post season.**

Moving forward, the post season will be one tournament determined by conference rankings. Several new recruits will also open up offensive options for the Tetons.

Utilizing the new Canadian scholarship opportunities, WSC Volleyball will have eight international athletes next year. All have been coached well and are skilled players. Three setters on the team next year will help the Tetons run a 6–2 offense and provide more strength at the net. While next year’s team will be young, Coach Christensen is confident in offensive depth and the newly recruited hitters’ versatility.

Key players to watch out for are returners Constence Rollins and Ella Bylsma. From Colstrip, Montana, Rollins received All–Conference and All–Region titles last fall. Bylsma, from Regina, Saskatchewan, will be a strong force, having recovered from a limiting injury. Some incoming freshman to watch include: Samantha Mollenbeck from Muenster, Saskatchewan, a left handed setter who can also swing; Allison Jones from Brandon, Manitoba, a quick and athletic middle blocker; defensive specialist Alexa Nepinak from Brandon, Manitoba; and hitter Haylee Barta from Carlyle, Saskatchewan.

CASINO NIGHT 2018

The 2018 Casino Night, hosted by the Williston State College Athletic Department, continues to grow. Since its inception in 2009, **Casino Night has grown in attendance from 225 people to well over 300.**

Casino Nights offers the Williston community an evening of gaming, socializing, and the chance to take home some big ticket items that are up for auction. Topping the list of high dollar auction items this year were a Carson Wentz autographed jersey, a Fighting Sioux outdoor fireplace, and an Electric guitar signed by The Eagles.

When it came to the silent auction, some guests used excellent bidding strategy. A few dollars made the difference in whether they walked away with baskets of Teton apparel, spa gift certificates, and golf memberships or were forced to walk away empty handed.

Those who didn’t find luck at the auctions found it in spades at the table games. Cheers from delighted guests could be heard all night after the dealer announced another, “Black Jack!” Rock, Paper, Scissors and War saw people of all gaming experience stacking chip after chip!

As the night continued, guests could turn their hard–earned chips into big time prizes.

Chips were exchanged for raffle tickets, with the ticket holder deciding which prize they would be entered for. Prizes included a Traeger grill, a shotgun and rifle package, an Ashley Furniture theater–style loveseat, and an entertainment package with a TV, Xbox, and sound bar.
Coach Kate Christensen joined us in the summer of 2015 as the Teton Volleyball coach. She initially took over the Athletic Coordinator role and was integral in the success of Casino Night and Ice Fishing. This summer she will complete her Master’s degree and will transition into a faculty role, while remaining the Teton Volleyball Coach.

**What are you looking forward to most in this upcoming Volleyball season?**
I look forward to the versatility of our team. We have 3 setters coming in that will allow us to run many options and the hitters we recruited can play different positions comfortably.

**What drove you to get into coaching?**
I missed being a part of the sport after I graduated college and wanted to get back and help athletes out.

**Tell us about a mentor or coach who is important in your life.**
Well it would probably be Shawn (Cote, Teton Baseball)! He has built such a successful program and I constantly am going to him for coaching advice. He has definitely been a mentor for me my last three seasons.

**What are some of the things you like to do in your free time?**
In my free time I am most likely outside doing something... hunting, fishing, hiking, playing with the dogs, or (more recently) golfing.

**What was your very first job?**
I worked for my dad who owned a radiator shop at the time. I removed, cleaned, and repaired radiators.

**What is your favorite restaurant or food?**
JL Beers cheeseburgers!

**What is your favorite professional sports team?**
Green Bay! GO PACK GO

**You have a big summer planned!! Tell us a bit about the big day!**
Shawn (Cote) and I will marry on June 29 in Red Lodge, Montana, at Rock Creek Resort. His mom lives over there in the mountains and it is an area that we both love and were we spend a lot of time.
Throughout the year, much is expected from our student-athletes. **Performing well in the classroom is pushed just as hard as making an impact on the playing surface.**

Volunteer work, fundraisers, club meetings and, adjusting to college life leave little time for much else. This is why, Athletic Director, Dan Artamenko saw the importance of having an evening dedicated only to our athletes. An event where they could be recognized by their coaches and peers for the hard work they have put in during their time at WSC.

While the athletes dug into a make-your-own-sundae bar, each coach honored his or her team and the players who made the season successful. Kate Christensen, Women’s Volleyball head coach, had a lot to celebrate with three of her players receiving both All-Conference and All-Region honors. Coaches also announced their team’s Most Valuable Player award. Award winners included: Brittnay Hawman– Volleyball, Andy Williams– Hockey, Taylor Kappel– Women’s Basketball, Darrell Riley – Men’s Basketball, Sarah Salgado– Softball, and Ethan Davis– Baseball.

Awards were also given to stand-out athletes in the form of the Freshman of the Year, Sophomore of the Year, Female Athlete of the Year, and Male Athlete of the Year. Fellow student athletes voted on these awards, adding extra significance to the wins.

### ELEMENrARY SCHOOL NIGHT

WSC’s Teton Basketball teams have created a tradition that is so unique that it was recognized at the National Conference of Two Year Athletic Colleges last year. The tradition, Elementary School Night, is as strong as ever. Every year, the Tetons invite local elementary schools to come cheer for the Tetons on a specific night.

The Teton players visit the schools on game day and hold a pep rally. Players help the little Teton fans prepare for that night. Every night has a theme such as construction, safari, or superheroes, and the students dress up for the occasion. During the game, the school is invited to perform at halftime, weather with a dancing routine or to play games on the court. The sponsors of the night really make this part super special.

The Teton Booster Club donates to every school that participates and then, at the end of the year, donates extra to the winning school. These are fun evenings that foster Teton pride, community involvement, and youth growth.

This year, Lewis and Clark Elementary School, with the support of Mountrail–Williams Electric Cooperative, was the winner of Elementary School Night. Close competition, Lewis and Clark edged out a win over Hagan Elementary and Western Cooperative Credit Union for the title! Lewis and Clark embraced a 90s theme and performed a drumming dance halftime. ■

**WSC’s Teton Basketball teams have created a tradition that is so unique that it was recognized at the National Conference of Two Year Athletic Colleges last year.**
Sophomore Brandon Kayter had a rare opportunity to represent Williston State College in the International Scholar Laureate Program in Australia in May.

Nominated by Maren Furuseth, WSC’s Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Advisor, to the All North Dakota Academic Team, Kayter’s name was then added to a pool of students for academic achievements and was selected by the ISLP.

In her eight years as an advisor for WSC’s honor society, Furuseth has never had a student selected for this honor.

“We will spend three days in Melbourne and four days in Sydney,” Kayter explained. “The program is centered on the marketing and advertising part of business, which I am super interested in. My dad is a car salesman and I have been helping him with his marketing for a bit and most recently have helped a local Relator with their social media and websites.”

Kayter graduated from WSC on May 11 with an AA and AAS in Business Management.

“Technically with my degrees from WSC, I could start right away in the workforce, but I want to get my Bachelor’s degree in either Business Administration or Marketing,” stated Kayter. “This trip will be so beneficial for my future career goals. I am honored to be considered.”

Between May 20 and May 27, Kayter and the other students met with a top Australian advertising agency and visited local universities for lectures and met with entrepreneur speakers.

Kayter received a scholarship and the WSC Foundation also donated $2,000 to help with the program’s costs.
What profession are you hoping to do?
I am hoping to be an editor.

What’s next for you after you finish at WSC?
I am planning on attending UND next fall for the next two years, (and possibly four if I decide to pursue a Masters).

What were you doing before you came to WSC?
I was home educated and living in Watford City. I was suddenly realizing that I was leaving my classmates that I practically grew up with and teachers that I had grown to be really close to with online classes I had taken. I was nervous about leaving what I was familiar with, but I ended up being very happy at WSC.

What has been your favorite activity at WSC outside of class?
Probably Cru, which is a Christian organization on campus that I have been a part of for my two years here. Everyone there has grown to be like family to me, we always find a way to have fun together.

What would you tell a prospective student who’s thinking about coming to WSC?
I would definitely recommend it. Everyone at this school is always willing to help you and go the extra mile when you need something. That is what I am going to miss the most about WSC.

If you could invite three people over for a dinner party (anyone, living or dead), who would you invite?
My grandpa that I never got the chance to meet, Jerry Fridenstine, George Washington, who I find so interesting to learn about, and the author of Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury.

Desert island top five: you can take a total of five movies/books/albums with you on a desert island. What are your choices?
I would take the film Interstellar, the book The Son of Neptune by Rick Riordan (a childhood favorite), the music album Black Bear by Andrew Belle, probably some sort of survival manual, and a journal for me to write in.
Who would play you in a movie about your life?
Katherine Heigl

What’s your most embarrassing moment?
My class was scheduled Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. I had my days mixed up and went to class on the wrong day. I didn’t realize I was in the wrong class till after it started. I was too embarrassed to leave so I sat through the whole lecture of a class I was not in.

What’s your favorite word?
Acetabulum— it’s the socket of the hipbone.

What would your superpower be?
The ability to time travel.

What profession are you hoping to do?
Mental health nursing, hopefully one day a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

What’s next for you after you finish at WSC?
Mayville State University Bachelor of Science Nursing Program and working part time as a RN on the medical surgical floor at the local hospital.

What were you doing before you came to WSC?
I was a stay-at-home mom and a part-time server.

What has been your favorite class at WSC?
Mental health nursing, I have such a passion for mental health and find it very interesting.

Who has been your favorite teacher at WSC?
Gail Raasakka, she was such an engaging instructor and always went above and beyond for her students.

What would you tell a prospective student who’s thinking about coming to WSC?
Jump in! I had such a great experience at WSC the staff was knowledgeable, caring, and helpful. The decision to attend WSC changed my life for the better. A big decision like attending college is scary, but it is so worth it.

What makes college easier today than it was 20 years ago?
Students today are much more tech savvy than they were 20 years ago. Now, students have access to information at our fingertips. Technology has made college so much easier.
Williston State Alumni,

We hope this issue of the Teton Thunder finds you doing well. Graduation was an exciting time for our college as we welcomed our newest alumni to the WSC Alumni Association. The Alumni Association hosted a very nice lunch after the ceremony which was well attended and will be an event we continue each year.

Our second Alumni Week will take place this fall, the week of Sept. 17–20. We are excited to announce a new Outstanding Alumni Awards Banquet on Sept. 17 to celebrate some of our amazing Alumni. The inaugural class of outstanding alumni will be honored for their accomplishments along with recognition of outstanding faculty and staff members from our history as a college. As part of this first-ever banquet, we are asking for help in gathering nominations for our outstanding alumni awards. If you know of outstanding alumni of our college and would like to nominate them for the award, consider filling out a form on our website: www.wscfoundation.com or send me an email at hunter.berg@willistonstate.edu.

Other events during Alumni Week will include a concert, a community BBQ, the Lucky Duck Races, and other fun events. Please keep your eye out for further announcements and details.

As always, thank you for the generous support of our college and our Alumni Association. Have a great summer.

Sincerely,

Hunter Berg
Director for Alumni Relations and Athletic Development
Williston State College Foundation

FOLLOW US @ FACEBOOK.COM/WSCFAA
2018–2019 will represent a milestone for WSC and Teton Athletics — it marks 15 years since opening the state of the art Health Science and Sports Complex, more commonly known as “The Well.” The facility is a key feature of the Williston community and the WSC Campus and has been busy hosting events of every kind since its opening.

Teton Athletics will commemorate the occasion as part of its opening home weekend of the 2018–2019 Men’s and Women’s Basketball Season, slated for Nov. 9 and 10.

“The Well” was named by long-time Teton Athletic Director Phil Rabon. Upon entering the newly constructed Health Science and Sports Complex, Rabon insisted the arena take on the name “The Well.” He had good reasons:

1. The gym is dug into the ground, as people entering the gym come in at the top level and walk down to the seating areas and down to the playing surface.
2. An oil well is a very common sighting in the Williston community so The Well at Williston State College is a natural correlation.

There is little argument that The Well has been anything other than a blessing to the campus and city. Built just ahead of the oil boom in Western North Dakota, the pricetag of $5.6 million seems like a true bargain and built just in the nick of time.

WSC will be honoring the first class of outstanding alumni at our inaugural Outstanding Alumni Awards Banquet this fall. Please nominate worthy alumni by July 15.

Complete nomination form at wscfoundation.com/nominate.

Hunter Berg, Alumni Association Director
hunter.berg@willistonstate.edu | 701.572.9275
TETON UPDATE

Eric Peterson, former WSC Head Men’s Basketball Coach and Director of Athletics, was recently named an assistant coach for Utah State men’s basketball.

Peterson spent 4 years under the University of South Dakota’s Head Coach Craig Smith prior to joining Utah State.

While at Williston State College, Peterson also served as an assistant coach under both Head Coaches Terry Olson and Hunter Berg.

Peterson and his wife, Lindsey, have a daughter, Flynn, and two sons, Isaiah and Briggs.

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Please contact us to learn more about ND HIF Assistance Program’s income criteria.

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FOCUS ON THE FUTURE
FUND YOUR PASSION FOR THE NEXT GENERATION WITH A GIFT TO WSC.

- Frontier Hall
  Naming opportunities for suites are available for $50,000 (1/3 have already been named). Donations to Frontier Hall will reduce the cost of living in the residence hall so students can have the full college experience with less financial burden.

- Art on Campus
  Future projects include monuments to: agriculture, oil, farming, and veterans.

- Endowments
  Agriculture, housing, or general fund endowments. Possible match from the ND Challenge Fund. Talk to your accountant to see if you are eligible for ND tax credits.

- Unrestricted
  WSCF board directs this money to where it’s needed most.

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:
701.572.9275
P.O. Box 1286 Williston, ND 58802-1286
kim@wscfoundation.com
WSC Foundation hosted its second annual gathering in Arizona on February 17 at at the Seville Golf and Country Club in AZ.

WSC Foundation’s Terry Olson and Hunter Berg; WSC’s President, Dr. John Miller; and Codi Austreim of the WHS Coyote Foundation joined event hosts, Ron and Kathy Seeley; Shirley & Lynn Leininger; Bonnie and Dennis Guenther; and Jan Skadeland for a evening of food, drinks, trivia, and gifts.

The event is for friends, alumni, and supporters of WSC, WHS, and the surrounding area.

“Our board feels connections like these are very important, explained Olson, A majority of them said we should do this every year. It will continue to grow especially now that we partner with the Coyote Foundation.”

“This event isn’t for fundraising,” explain Berg. “It is a great way for us to keep in touch with the folks who were such a huge part of our WSC community and success.”

For additional information, contact the WSC Foundation at 701.572.9275.

WSC Foundation Memorial Donations

The WSC Foundation is proud to accept donations for memorials.

If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one please call 572.9275.

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