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Brittney Griner breaks the NCAA record for total career blocks. Find out how she affects the court defensively

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Baylor accounting students land in the top five of a national accounting competition

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The place to go to know the places to go

Be a poet

The Union Board presents the Acoustic Cafe: Spoken Word at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Bill Daniel Student Center Den. This evening will be filled with poetry, spoken word and refreshments.

Change the world

Join the Academy for Leader Development in welcoming the founder of Shoot4Life Ministries and Ghana's national coordinator for Young Leaders International Vincent Asamoah to speak at 6 p.m. today in Powell Chapel in Truett Seminary. He will speak on how he started his basketball outreach and his leadership methodology.

Smash and dash

Local cemetery plagued by vandalism

By ROB BRADFIELD
CONSULTING EDITOR

Over the weekend, vandals in Oakwood Cemetery caused up to \$200,000 worth of damage to historic graves. The defaced monuments included those of former Texas Gov. Richard Coke and Madison Cooper, author of the best-selling novel "Sironia, Texas." According to police, the damage was done between 9 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Saturday.

"We think it was more than one suspect because of the amount of damage and the weight of the objects damaged," Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton of the Waco Police Department said.

The grave of Coke is a pillar topped by a statue of the governor in life. On either side were busts of the governor's sons, both of whom died relatively young.

Monday morning the busts still lay on the ground, their faces broken. A statue of St. Francis lay nearby, and back across the lawns to the gate were a scattering of cracked and broken headstones.

"The citizenry is angered," Swanton said,



TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Grave markers in the Oakwood Cemetery on La Salle Avenue were vandalized on Saturday.

commenting on the community reaction on the Waco PD website. "It's a sacred place and things like that aren't supposed to happen there."

David Evans, superintendent and executive secretary of the Oakwood Cemetery Association, said the vandalism was restricted to the older portion of the cemetery and some of the graves were more than 100 years old.

"The ones that can be repaired will be re-

SEE SMASH, page 6

Alumni honored in Hall of Fame

By KATE MCGUIRE
STAFF WRITER

Making a difference in the world is a small accomplishment for those honored at Baylor Alumni Association Hall of Fame.

Last week the Baylor Alumni Association held their third annual Hall of Fame ceremony, where they honored countless alumni for their impact on Baylor and the world around them.

Instead of giving out the awards separately, like the BAA has done in the past, they have held a Hall of Fame these last three years.

"We wanted one huge banquet and everyone was very receptive of that," said Judge Elizabeth Coker, BAA president.

Robert Griffin III was absent because he was recovering from his torn ACL injury but was given the Distinguished Baylor Black Alumni Award. The award is only three years old, and Griffin is the youngest recipient. The president of the Baylor Black Alumni Club, Marie Brown, presented the award, which was then received by his mother's friends.

"Robert always said, 'No pres-

sure, no diamonds.' He always kept focused, he was a very positive person. He knew that God was in control," said Alice Brown, friend of Griffin's mother.

"He exemplified hard work. He made an impact in every facet here. I've seen how his impact has grown so fast," Joannie Shedrick, friend of Griffin's mother, said.

The Distinguished Alumni Award, the most prestigious of all the awards, was given to James R. Daniel, '62, Jennifer Hilton Sampson, '92, and Nick Strimple, '69.

According to the BAA Hall of Fame program, this award recognizes those whose service in their careers merit honor and acclaim through their peers and colleagues.

Daniel, Vice Chairman of BancFirst Co., has worked on numerous projects for Baylor as well as in his own career with medical health care providers.

"Baylor will teach you more than how to make a living, it will teach you how to make a life," he said in his acceptance speech.

The second honoree was Sampson, the first female and

SEE ALUMNI, page 6



MATT HELLMAN | LARIAT PHOTO EDITOR

The Nelson-Dudley-Boulet family received the First Families of Baylor Award during the Annual Baylor Alumni Association Hall of Fame Awards dinner Friday in the Waco Convention Center.

Alumni Association president under fire

By SIERRA BAUMBACH
STAFF WRITER

The 258th State District Judge Elizabeth E. Coker, who is also president of the Baylor Alumni Association, is under review by the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct for a text message allegedly sent during court that was thought to aid the prosecution in a felony charge of injury to a child.

According to an article published on Jan. 18 in the Houston Chronicle, the text was allegedly sent five months ago from Coker at the bench to assistant prosecutor Kaycee Jones, who was not working on the case but was in the courtroom.

She then passed the information in the text to lead prosecutor Beverly Armstrong.

The contents of the note said, "Judge says ... baby pooped on (Reeves) - if he threw a dog off the bed because the dog peed on bed what would he do if baby pooped on him?" This appeared to prompt a question in favor of the prosecution, the Chronicle reported.

The defendant, David Reeves, had earlier testimony in the trial that showed after Reeves became angry when a new puppy soiled his bed, he threw the animal off of the bed. Additional testimony showed that Reeves' baby had severe diarrhea the night the child was injured, according to the Chronicle article.

"The prosecutor who received the communication was not assigned to the court in which the trial was held and was not participating in the trial of the case. However, it appears that the substance of the communication from the judge was

indirectly communicated to the prosecutor who was trying the case," Polk County Criminal District Attorney William Lee Hon wrote in an e-mail to the Lariat.

According to the Chronicle article, Polk County Investigator David Wells was sitting beside Jones in the gallery.

Jones asked to borrow Wells' notepad and it was from this exchange that Wells discovered the interaction between Coker and Jones.

Wells reported the interaction to Hon. "Following a jury trial conducted in August of 2012, it was reported to me by a member of my staff that there had been a communication during the trial between the presiding judge and an assistant prosecutor regarding possible testimony in the case," Hon told the Lariat.

Following an internal inquiry within the office, Hon said it was determined that the communication did not influence any line of questioning or strategy employed during the trial, nor did it influence the ultimate outcome of the trial.

The defendant was acquitted of all charges against him.

Hon said that because of the investigation, it would be inappropriate for him to comment on the precise details of the communication or the administrative steps which were taken after the investigation began.

"The office will cooperate fully, however, in response to any such investigation," Hon wrote in the email.

Coker declined to comment on the investigation.

Attempts to get in contact with other

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TRAVIS TAYLOR | LARIAT PHOTOGRAPHER

Serving up a new Tennis Center

Jim Hawkins hits a ceremonial first serve to dedicate the opening of the Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center as his wife watches on Friday.

Boy Scouts considering retreat from no-gays policy

By DAVID CRARY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The Boy Scouts of America may soon give sponsors of troops the authority to decide whether to accept gays as scouts and leaders - a potentially dramatic retreat from a na-

tionwide no-gays policy that has provoked relentless protests.

Under the change now being discussed, the different religious and civic groups that sponsor Scout units would be able to decide for themselves how to address the issue — either maintaining an exclusion of gays, as is now

required of all units, or opening up their membership.

Gay-rights activists were elated at the prospect of change, sensing another milestone to go along with recent advances for same-sex marriage and the end of the ban

SEE SCOUTS, page 6



The Baylor University Undergraduate Catalog contains the following information regarding Chapel:

Chapel requirement is two semesters for an entering freshman and for a student who transfers to Baylor from another institution and who is classified by Baylor at the time of transfer as either a freshman or sophomore.

Entering freshmen who begin in a fall semester must take Chapel during that semester.

Chapel requirement is at least one semester for a student who transfers to Baylor from another institution and who is classified by Baylor at the time of transfer as either a junior or senior.

Credit for Chapel requires attendance of at least three-fourths of all meetings.

Most students must attend 21 of the 28 Chapel Sessions (MW) each semester

First-year students involved in University 1000 during the fall semester must attend 26 of the 34 sessions (you may miss eight chapels and/or University 1000 sessions).



Millennials need good jobs, but must do the work to get them

Picture this: As you sit on the couch, watching daytime television and eating cereal, you begin to wonder how this all happened and if this is how you're going to spend the rest of your life.

To make matters worse, your mother comes in screaming, telling to you to finish the dishes, as you think to yourself that you have to get out of there.

No, this is not some child in high school wanting to move out. This is a picture of an unemployed college graduate.

This is a sad reality many college students are facing after graduation.

In an article published in December of last year, the Huffington Post, said the youth unemployment rate is higher than the national average. To make things worse, many of the people who are employed are doing low-wage jobs such as being a waiter or waitress.

Many people are beginning to wonder if college is even worth it.

There was a time when education was not a big deal, since only a few went to college. However, times have changed.

Many people are going to college, hoping that it will pay off in the future and that they can get a high-paying job. More people are going to college and getting degrees, meaning that there is extra competition in the post-college job market.

However, not only are we competing against students from other schools in our own country, we are now competing against people from all over the world.

While some people complain about this, there really is not much we can do.

We can't control the economy. Big corporations outsource jobs. It happens. However, we can change our behavioral patterns and embrace the competition.

There is a common misconception that millennials are spoiled kids who feel as if they are entitled to everything, including a job. Is it true?

There are articles stating that our generation has a terrible work ethic, lacks passion and has poor problem-solving abilities, among other things. This should not offend anybody, because partially it's true.

We must break the stereotype. Those doing the hiring are looking for the best as the market gets ever more competitive. It

is our job to break the millennial norm and work harder than everyone else. We are not entitled to anything.

It can be frustrating hearing that, because some of us do work hard, staying up endless nights studying, making sure we get that A on an exam or project.

However, education should be more than just a grade. Having a good GPA is great, but what you learn and what you can do is what matters in the work force. We need to stand out and tell the hiring managers that our generation does work hard, and that an entire generation can't be characterized by a certain few.

Better yet, we need to show them, because words don't mean much if you don't follow through with actions.

While we do need to embrace the competition, many jobs out there are lower-wage jobs because companies know if we don't take them, people in other countries will.

This is what is bothersome because tuition is rising and the number of loans students take out is skyrocketing. College tuition is rising faster than the inflation rate, which causes some concern. So while people think we

feel "entitled," it is a reality that we do need jobs with decent wages to pay off our loans and to live comfortably after graduation.

While our generation has a bad reputation, companies and hiring managers need to realize that not every millennial is the same. Some do work hard and have a passion for learning.

We are living in a world filled with information and technology, and millennials know how to dissect that information and how to do it quickly. This could be an advantage because we already know how to function in a fast-paced environment.

We don't need to be coddled. We don't need to be held.

We need to go out there and compete.

We can't let the criticism hurt us and we must not be sensitive. We should only be using that to make ourselves better. Winning will not only give us the ultimate prize, a job, but it will make us feel better about the millennial stereotype, knowing we achieved something on our own and grew up.

Parmida is a junior journalism major from Wurzburg, Germany. She is a sports writer for the Baylor Lariat.



Parmida Schahhosseini | Sports writer

Chapel: Give students some credit

Editorial

Chapel: As undergraduates, we've all been through it.

Every undergraduate at Baylor is required to attend Chapel in some form, although the requirements vary. Chapel, a time of worship every Monday and Wednesday, is one of the oldest and most valued Baylor traditions. It has been a part of student life for more than 160 years.

Although Chapel is a valued tradition, it is taking up time that many students can't easily sacrifice. It's also taking money. There is a class fee of \$65 for attending Chapel.

Although the course is a university requirement that costs students time and money, it does not actually contribute to the 124-hour minimum requirement for all students to graduate.

We believe this practice should be re-evaluated, as it is becoming increasingly difficult for students to graduate in four years while completing the university requirements as well as those included in each degree plan.

It works like this: Chapel is a pass/fail class.

If the student shows up and swipes their Baylor ID card going in and out of the assigned Chapel time and misses no more than eight sessions, then the student gets credit for the course. However, this is an empty credit. Bearweb lists Chapel as an undergraduate course with zero credit hours and zero quality (GPA) points.

It would be difficult to offer quality points for Chapel due to the organization of the course.

With classes containing at potentially hundreds of people every day and no real way to regulate workflow, there is no chance of giving out assignments in an organized fashion or even grade students based on performance and enthusiasm, as there are simply too many students present.

Furthermore, as the Chapel requirements aren't strictly academic in nature anyway, to offer Chapel for quality points might artificially inflate students' GPAs, which could in turn damage Baylor's academic reputation.

Instead, Chapel should be considered a credit hour that does not contribute to students' GPAs, to reflect the time they invested in attending Chapel. It is a fair compromise between keeping up Baylor's academic reputation and recognizing the time students invest.

Chapel is an hour-long commitment two days a week, which takes up as much time as some other classes that students must take and can edge out classes students need to take instead because of its time commitment. If it takes students' time and money, the course should be offered for credit, instead of as a compulsory university tradition.

Don't read 'em and weep: Contribute to the Lariat instead

It's a new year. Things are changing.

We're changing, too.

The Lariat itself has been around for a long time, but most of our current staff have not. As a college newspaper, we have a very high turnover rate. Staff members graduate and move on, find jobs. Some staff members only remain for a semester before moving on. New semesters can see a staff with few returning members. For example, the staff five years ago was very different from the staff now.

In fact, the staff this semester is even different than that of last semester, a few short months ago. People have left, others have been hired, and some of those who remain have changed jobs.

Every now and then, I'll hear "Oh, I won't talk to the Lariat. A few years back, they misquoted



Caroline Brewton | Editor in chief

me." In one case, a certain professor's grudge extended 28 years. I won't name names, but this person refused to comment in the paper because of a mistake made in the very distant past.

It's understandable. No one wants to be misquoted, especially in a public forum. Perhaps the misquote makes you look bad. Newsprint can be unforgiving that way. And we don't run corrections as front-page stories; they run on page two, as they have traditionally. This structure can leave some feeling disenfranchised, especially if they feel they have been roughly treated by a reporter.

To those who have had a bad experience with the Lariat in the past, I first want to extend a sincere apology on behalf of the paper. We are well-intentioned, but we are also students. We're still learning, and mistakes do happen. All media sometimes make mistakes. The Lariat does it, but so do outlets such as the New York Times. To correct mistakes is the purpose of editor's notes, corrections and

clarifications. If a mistake is made, we will run a correction or clarification on page two to remedy it as soon as we are made aware.

With that said, to hold a grudge that extends for decades makes little sense. The staff that offended you has long since moved on. We're a fresh crop of young journalists who are eager to report the news.

Please keep that in mind if you are asked to contribute an interview or comment on an event. We are students who want to make a difference by getting news out using the best sources we can. Before you write off the Lariat, please consider that we are a different paper than we used to be, and we just want to get better. Please give us that opportunity.

Caroline is a junior journalism major from Beaumont. She is the editor-in-chief of the Lariat.

For daily updates, follow us on Twitter: @bulariat

Corrections

The sentence should read: *Conroy has more than 35 years of experience in higher education, health care administration, and nursing and health care research.*

The Lariat regrets the error.

In the January 24 edition of the Baylor Lariat, a story titled "Dean of nursing school appointed as trustee" contained a sentence that read:

"[Shelly] Conroy has more than 25 years of experience in higher education, health care administration, and nursing and health care research."

In a January 23 article titled "Student Government kicks off first meeting of spring," Brian Kim, the student government internal vice president, was incorrectly identified as the president.

The Baylor Lariat is committed to ensuring fair and accurate reporting and will correct errors of substance on Page 2.

Corrections can be submitted to the editor by sending an e-mail to Lariat_letters@baylor.edu or by calling 254-710-4099.

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Charges dropped against one in shooting

By JUAN A. LOZANO
ASSOCIATED PRESS



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trey Foster leaves the courtroom after his appearance in the 228th State District Court at the Harris County Criminal Courthouse Monday in Houston. Authorities took Foster, 22, into custody Friday as a suspect in the shooting that took place on the Lone Star College campus.

men and leg. Berry also was shot and wounded, and a maintenance worker for the college, Bobby Cliburn, 55, was hit in the leg.

Authorities say at least 10 shots were fired, causing panic and a leading to a campus lockdown. Berry's attorney, Robert A. Jones, said his client never should have been charged or jailed because the evidence showed he was a victim.

Berry was shot in the left hip, which Jones said was an indication that Berry might have been facing away or running away from the shooter.

"He said that continually, whenever (authorities) talked to him, that he didn't do anything. But that wasn't enough. Then they started their investigation based upon his statement and they realized he didn't do anything," Jones said.

Prosecutor Alison Baimbridge said authorities dropped the charges in the interest of justice. She said that as with any investigation, the more witness interviews and evidence collecting that are done, authorities are "better able to determine who was where, what actually occurred."

Charges were formally dropped during a court hearing Monday, and Berry was later released from jail. Foster made his initial court appearance Monday. He is being held on bonds totaling \$100,000, and if he posts them, a judge ordered him subject to GPS monitoring and a curfew.

Quanell X, a community activist and a spokesman for Foster's family, said Foster told him Berry had nothing to do with the shooting. Berry and Foster apparently knew each other from school.

"It was inappropriate and wrong for Trey to have a pistol on campus," he said.

Quanell X said Foster legally bought the .40-caliber handgun authorities say was used in the shooting at a sporting goods store in Houston. Foster took a class for a concealed handgun license but had not completed the process to get a license, he said.

Garcia said investigators confirmed Foster bought the gun at the store, but noted there are questions about whether he should have been allowed to do so because of his criminal history.

Jess Myers, a spokesman for the sporting goods store, St. Paul, Minn.-based Gander Mountain, said the company couldn't provide firearms purchase records or comment on an ongoing investigation.

"Gander Mountain operates in strict compliance with all local, state and federal laws regarding firearms ownership and fully cooperates with law enforcement," Myers said in an email.

Quanell X said Foster bought the gun to defend himself after he was shot in the face a couple of years ago and had recently been receiving threats. He said Foster panicked during the shooting.

Baylor students show talent in accounting competition

By LINDA NGUYEN
A&E EDITOR

Baylor accounting students are xTREME.

A Baylor accounting team was one of five teams nationally to qualify to compete in PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) national xTREME games in xTAX or xTREME Taxation.

The team, which consisted of Waco senior Reenal Bhakta, Edmond, Okla. sophomore Kendall Buskirk, Richardson senior Lauren Farish, Austin sophomore Brianna Goulet and Dallas junior Meredith Wachel, won \$1,000 for being the top team at Baylor and \$10,000 for being one of the top five teams nationally.

On Thursday and Friday, the team of students traveled to Washington, D.C., to compete in the national competition.

The other teams to qualify for the xTAX national competition were Binghamton University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Wisconsin and Oklahoma State University.

Elonda Benton, a PricewaterhouseCoopers campus sourcing manager, said the team competed against 460 other teams from across the country in order to qualify for the national competition.

"The xTAX competition is a case competition that is focused on

a tax case," Benton said. "The focus of the competition is to give students exposure to real-life business scenarios. At the same time, we are looking to raise awareness on campus, awareness to the accounting profession as a whole, and also to give some insight as a whole to what it's like to work at PwC."

Wachel said the first stage of qualifying for the national competition was the Baylor competition, where they competed against other Baylor teams.

"First, we were given a case and we had to look over the case and put together a proposal," Wachel said. "We presented our proposal to the judges at Baylor. They saw 10 different teams and chose us as the winner."

Wachel said a video of their presentation was sent to the national competition where judges evaluated their presentation. The team was chosen to advance to the national competition.

Wachel said the team gave their presentation Friday morning over a case they were given prior to the competition date.

"They gave us a new case," Wachel said. "We changed the presentation format of our old case, but it was essentially the same information just with new judges."

The competition concluded with a lunch and presentation about PricewaterhouseCoopers

and the first place team was announced. Although Baylor did not place first in the competition, the team members agreed they grew professionally as individuals and as a team from the competition. Oklahoma State University, the only other Big 12 school in attendance, won first place.

Goulet said the competition opened her eyes to accounting.

"It's been so cool," Goulet said. "When we first competed in the Baylor competition, I did it for fun, but when we won at Baylor, it was exciting. There were 460 teams that competed and the top five went to D.C. The whole thing was an amazing experience. It's so unique. I'm never going to have another experience like that."

Goulet said she was able to network with teams from other areas of the country at the national competition.

"We got to meet lots of teams from different areas," Goulet said.

Goulet said although the team did not place first in the competition, the overall experience was worth all their hard work.

Wachel also said she enjoyed the experience competing in the xTAX competitions.

"Overall, it was just a very positive experience," Wachel said. "I loved my team and I think we bonded more than just working together. We enjoyed what we did."

Phi Iota Alpha fraternity to address Latino stereotypes in public forum

By KATE MCGUIRE
STAFF WRITER

Phi Iota Alpha, the Latin American fraternity at Baylor, is hosting a Latino forum "An Educated Latino's Journey," tonight at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Cashion Academic Center.

This forum will discuss many issues that have been circulating the Baylor campus such as possible faculty discrimination on campus, Latino stereotypes and awareness of minorities on campus.

Houston senior Francisco Solorzano is a member of Phi Iota Alpha who is assisting his fratern-

ity in the forum. "We will be diving into the de-humanizing of our people," Solorzano said.

During Rush Week the fraternity showed the film "A Better Life," which recounts the journey of a Hispanic gardener who wants his son to have everything he couldn't have.

"A lot of what happens in the movie happens at Baylor," Solorzano said.

Race relations at universities across the nation have received much coverage recently after a sorority at Penn State posted racist photos on Facebook in December.

After the Pennsylvania State University/ Baylor University controversy over racist Mexican photos and this recent viewing of "A Better Life," Solorzano said this forum is much needed.

"We will be educating as well as tackling Latino stereotypes," Solorzano said. The forum will include maintenance staff and landscaping staff from Baylor's faculty. They will discuss their experiences as a minority on campus.

"We hope this will spark more conversation between students and faculty and address these issues that are kept in the dark," he said.

Texas cancer-fighting agency weathers backlash from severe state audit

By PAUL J. WEBER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN— The beleaguered \$3 billion cancer-fighting agency in Texas approved lucrative taxpayer-funded projects despite unfavorable marks from scientists, kept sloppy records and allowed imprudent relationships between top agency executives and recipients of multimillion-dollar grants, according to a scathing state audit released Monday.

The report is the latest black eye for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas,

and will likely serve as a 99-page blueprint for state lawmakers who have vowed this legislative session to reform the troubled agency. Just three years after debuting to widespread acclaim and hiring Nobel laureates, CPRIT has become a national embarrassment that's under criminal investigation.

"The report ... serves as another reminder that CPRIT is in need of significant change," said Republican state House Speaker Joe Straus, whose power includes appointing members of the agency's governing board.

Findings by the State Auditor's

Office revealed fresh details into known controversies that caught the attention of Texas prosecutors, and also exposed new problems. Among them are irregularities discovered with a \$25 million statewide clinical trial network — unlike any in the county — that the agency long hailed as a symbol of the potential and impact of CPRIT.

Auditors bluntly stated that CPRIT "did not have adequate documentation" to support the grant to the Clinical Trials Network of Texas.

They also revealed that the CTNet proposal not only received

poor marks from independent peer reviewers — whose opinions are supposed to guide the agency about which projects are funded — but also received a score lower than nine other similar, but rejected, applications. The report also criticized CPRIT for letting agency executives and two members of a key review board council have "business and professional relationships" with the operation of CTNet.

"Those weaknesses concern the appropriateness of CPRIT's decision to award a grant to CTNet and CPRIT's individual and pro-

fessional judgment in monitoring CTNet's use of grant funds and compliance with grant requirements," the report said.

Auditors also discovered grant recipients that failed to acquire matching funds from outside sources, a requirement lawmakers built in to help secure the state's investment.

State Auditor John Keel launched the audit in June, though each of CPRIT's top three executives resigned before the findings were published. Interim executives at the agency told auditors they generally agreed with the

report's conclusions.

"The report paints a picture of an agency in the early stages of its development," interim executive director Wayne Roberts told Keel in a letter.

CPRIT's problems started in May with the departure of Dr. Alfred Gilman, the former chief scientific officer and a Nobel laureate. Gilman had clashed with executive director Bill Gimson over agency priorities, accusing him of letting politics trump science. Dozens of scientific peer reviewers loyal to Gilman also severed ties with the agency.

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