



DANA COLLEGE Hermes

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?????? What's Inside ??????

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- > Baseball team plays in major league stadium
- > Five wrestlers prepare for national meet

Theft does have consequences

CHRISTINA NUTTER
Copy Editor

Food service has had to replace approximately 1,000 regular drinking glasses in the past seven months. Some do break said Tricia Hamilton, director of food service, but many don't.

"We see some things disappear, and it makes you feel bad," she said.

Many different items regularly disappear from the cafeteria, said Hamilton. Some high-theft items are salt shakers, soy sauce bottles and glasses. Other disappearing items are salad bowls and decorations.

Hamilton said the high-theft items are easily taken and used by students—salt for popcorn, soy sauce for Ramen noodles and glasses for drinking, planters or paint cups. Larger, heavier items don't disappear as often.

Unfortunately these losses result in costs that weren't planned or necessary. Purchasing glassware and dishware, as well as containers for salt and soy sauce, is expensive. "Replacing the containers is much more expensive than refilling them," Hamilton said.

The college and Sodexo Marriott

Food Services split the costs of these items as designated in their contract, she said. But either way, the cost gets back to the students.

Theft also results in an inconvenience to students and food service staff. Hamilton said that if food service had all the items they purchased, such as glasses and bowls, students wouldn't have to wait while the items were being washed; there would be an abundance.

"This seems absurd to many people," Hamilton said. "We have a group of students that respect, in general, the dining hall and what we're doing.

Unfortunately though, some students don't feel this way.

Hamilton said she thought one of the main reasons for theft was a feeling of entitlement. "Some students think they've paid for a meal plan and are entitled to these things."

She said that these students probably don't understand that all their money isn't going directly to Marriott; the college keeps a portion of it. This budget area is used in paying for gas, lights, window washing, trash disposal, equipment maintenance and other costs, as well as the actual food and staff wages.

Food service runs on a budget just like other departments and the addi-

tional cost of replacing items stretches their limited funds.

Hamilton said that she has seen some vindictive behavior because students didn't get the servings they wanted the first time through the serving line and they didn't understand why.

Hamilton said Marriott prepares food in batches in order to ensure freshness and quality. If everyone took three grilled cheese sandwiches on their first trip through the line, Marriott would have had to begin cooking them at 9 a.m., resulting in poor quality food.

Hamilton said the problem with disappearing items and inappropriate behavior varies from college to college depending on the physical set-up of the food service area.

It is more difficult to control at Dana due to continuous serving hours and various entrances. Food service could maintain set hours, open only one door and gate off the cafeteria during closed hours, but Hamilton said this is not the atmosphere Marriott nor the college desires.

"It's a no-win situation," said Hamilton. "I'm not going to cause grief to the respectful students because of the bad ones, but we will stop them if we see them."

183 pledges taken during Computerthon

CHRISTINA NUTTER
Copy Editor

The Computerthon completed last week will have raised a minimum of \$6,500 to improve computer services on campus.

Tom Hansen, director of development, said he was very pleased with the effort made by the students. Fourteen Student Senators volunteered to call parents of current Dana students.

Hansen said during the three nights of calling, the Senators reached 400 of 478 names on the calling list. Of these, 183 pledged and 100 requested more information.

"We reached more people this year

than before," Hansen said.

At the end of the drive, \$6,525 had been pledged. This is short of the \$8,000 goal. "We're \$1,500 short of our goal, but it was an ambitious goal," Hansen said.

He said he hopes to come closer to the goal after hearing from the 100 people who requested more information before pledging and the 78 people they failed to contact. Student Senate will also contribute.

The top callers of the event were Toni Ahrendt, Brian Jones, Mark Knudsen, Amy Klusmeier, Kelly O'Brien and Brooke Thomsen.

Hansen said he would like to thank the Senators on behalf of Dana for volunteering their time for this event. It was a joint effort, he said.

Honors dinner held

DANA COOPER
Graphics Editor

On Wednesday night the Honors program hosted a dinner to welcome and present certificates to the new members.

The evening started with hors d'oeuvres which progressed into a dinner of chicken, fettucine and carrots with cheesecake for dessert. As members of the group enjoyed coffee, Professor Emeritus Gene Lindblad gave a talk entitled, "You Can't Know Where You Are Going Unless You Know Where You Have Been." He stressed the impact history has on shaping who we become. Immediately following the talk,

new student representatives were elected to serve a one-year term on the Honors Advisory Council. The new representatives are Curtis Isaacson, Michael Stessman and Brooke Thomsen.

The remaining colloquia for the spring semester, attending Opera Omaha's presentation of Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" and a Saturday morning trip to the Joslyn Art Museum to view the traveling exhibit "Searching for Ancient Egypt," were also discussed.

A senior member of the group, Jackie Smith, will be presenting her senior research project, which is the final requirement necessary to graduate as a Morton Scholar, this spring. Her presentation is open to the public.

Changes to housing for 1999-2000 academic year

LAURA HIEBENTHAL
Editor-in-chief

It's that time of year again for students to begin thinking about where they want to live next year. Room selection begins in April and students will have some new options to consider.

A change in housing policy was announced last week that will allow students of senior credit classification to live off campus. Those seniors who choose to remain on campus will now have the option of having a single room for the double rate. In addition to these changes, next year Rasmussen Hall will not be used as a residence hall.

"I think the idea to let all seniors live off campus is great," said senior Jackie Smith. "If you've been here for three years, then I think you should be allowed to have a place of your own."

Previously, to be granted permission to live off campus seniors had

to obtain an exemption from the housing board or win an off-campus spot through the housing lottery.

"I am happy that they have finally changed the housing policy," said junior Lisa Decker. "It doesn't affect my plans too much because I was planning on living off campus anyway. But now I just won't have to worry about getting off campus."

Junior Brian Jones agreed that the change in policy is good. "It is really cool. It is about time that Dana starts doing something that the students really want," he said.

While the option for seniors to have a single room for a double rate will not be a permanent change, it will be granted on a yearly availability basis, according to Kevin Schaudt, dean of students. He added that seniors must sign up during room selection in April to receive this special rate.

"I'm really excited that I can have my own room for double occupancy next year," said junior Leslie Schroeter. "My roommate is getting married, and I didn't want to have to find a new one."

"I think this policy is good," said sophomore DaLean Butterfield. "I know that if I were a senior and had the opportunity to stay in a single room for the double rate, I sure would. I think that it will keep several people on [campus] who were planning on trying to get off."

Junior Cheryl Karl and freshman Abby Jones view this rate change as a reward for seniors. "I like the fact that seniors, if it is their third or more year living on campus, are able to have a single for double price," said Karl. "This benefits those who have opted to stay a part of the campus by living here at least three years."

Abby Jones said, "I think it's great that seniors will get a break and have the opportunity to get their own room for a double room price. It's a nice way to congratulate them for their hard work and make their last year here a little easier and more fun."

While most reactions to the changes for seniors were good, a few students felt the changes were unfair.

Continued on page 3



Cancelled again! For the second time in three weeks, Dana called off Monday afternoon classes due to winter weather conditions. Enjoying their free afternoon, Dana students Chris Moberg and Razy Sparacino, along with Sparacino's sister and friend, construct a snowman in front of Blair and Mickelsen Halls. (Photo by Leslie Schroeter)

Letter to the Editor:

The men's and women's basketball teams would like to give a special thanks to the student body for your support at our home games this season. You were truly a sixth man for us! A special thanks goes to Matt Kern, Ryan Boozikee, Jill Oestmann, Coach Foley and the Superfan Club for organizing the events at the games. It means a lot to our players to see the students at our games and it is even more special to hear you cheering for us. We hope you all had a great time at our games. We have the best student body, for overall support, in our conference. We were proud of the way you supported us

and the way you kept it clean (for the most part). You did a great job of raising the school spirit at Dana. You really shined at the Midland Lutheran game and showed how you can support a team without using the obscene tactics that Midland's student body had to display.

We hope to see all you underclass people supporting us again next season and hope you are already making plans for another fun year at Dana basketball games. Seniors, we will miss you. Thanks a million from all of us!

Coach Jensen, Coach Vaughn and the basketball players



Q&A

"What did you do on your afternoon (snow day) off?"

Question and Photos by Leslie Schroeter



"We played in the snow!"

--Chris Sorensen, Shane Lundeberg, Ben Schacht, Matt Haufle and Mark Haufle



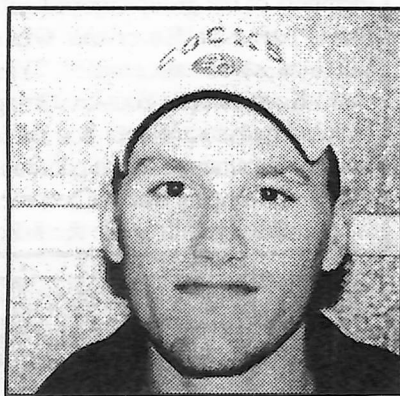
Soul Support, a Lincoln-based a capella singing group, entertains the audience during their concert on Tuesday night. The concert was sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. (Photo by Leslie Schroeter)

The *Hermes* staff wishes everyone a safe, fun and relaxing spring break!



"I went sledding and drank hot chocolate."

--Erin Eggers



"I watched a movie and did nothing."

--Chad Greguras



"I played on my computer."

--Becky Dunnell



"I caught up on my homework."

--Elizabeth Lange

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Housing

continued from page 1

"As far as the seniors go, I think that they should make it that way for everyone," said freshman Christine Reiners. "Everyone pays the same amount to go here and should be treated to the same luxuries as the

seniors."

In addition to the changes regarding seniors, the college has decided that beginning on May 21, Rasmussen Hall will be used for summer and conference housing.

Schaudt said this was a necessary change because of the need to consolidate students. He said that the

current number of residents in Rasmussen could easily fit into the other dorms and that Rasmussen was the logical choice for conference and summer housing.

Elk Horn Hall has been the summer residence in the past, but Schaudt said that it would require massive repairs to make it liveable and meet

safety codes. He said that Rasmussen is best for conferences because it is air conditioned, has two entries and offers the largest amount of conference space. He noted that Rasmussen had previously been used as a conference building and was reopened as a residence hall four years ago.

Reaction to the closing of Rasmussen was also mixed.

"I think that it is a good idea because there are plenty of rooms in the other halls and Ras can be used as a conference hall," said Brian Jones.

Karl said, "I think the closing of Ras to students was a good idea because it is on the outskirts of the campus but is a more suitable place for visiting groups to stay. [It has] a larger gathering area, nicer rooms than Elk Horn and a nicer smell."

Some Rasmussen residents were disappointed by the news.

"I am very upset with this decision," said sophomore Kale Maguire. "I enjoyed Ras because I felt a comradery here in this hall that I have not felt in other halls."

"I am very disappointed that Rasmussen Hall will not be used next year," said freshman Jessica Gall. "I've had a lot of fun being in this hall and hoped to room here next year."

I will be able to adapt fine to new living arrangements but I was really hoping to live here next year."

Freshman Kimberly Gurzick said, "I feel that Ras is a very exciting place to live; I love it here. It doesn't affect me severely as long as I will receive a single room with my request and there is no problem about limited space."

While several students have expressed concern about the availability of single rooms next year, Schaudt said that everyone should be able to get what they want. He said currently there are 68 empty rooms in the dorms and with more students living off campus next year and lower enrollment, there should be plenty of space to fit everyone's needs.

Schaudt said that a special time has been set aside for Rasmussen residents to sign up during room selection. He said they can block out rooms and live together if they want.

Room selection begins April 13 for students who want to remain in their rooms or in the same hall. On April 14, juniors and above, current Rasmussen students and sophomores will have special times to choose their rooms. Sign-up concludes with freshmen on April 15.

St. Patrick's day inspires many traditions

TRAVIS KJAER

Reporter

Shamrocks, rainbows and pots of gold are just some of the traditional symbols that remind us of St. Patrick's Day. Green and white decorations set us in the mood, while people from all around get ready for long days of parades and parties to celebrate the great Irish holiday.

Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into more of a secular holiday celebrated by many people all over the world. It honors a Welsh man named Maewyn, the patron saint of Ireland. He adopted the Christian name of Patrick and converted Ireland to Christianity. After he died on March 17, 461, that day was commemorated as St. Patrick's Day.

This year for Dana College, St.

Patrick's Day occurs during spring break. Many students will be traveling home to their families or going on trips with their friends to relax and enjoy their time away from school. For this St. Patrick's Day, students Renee Osmera and Bobbie Day said, "We will be going to a parade in Colorado Springs and then afterward we are going to find our pots of gold."

Two of Dana's athletic teams are going to be spending time in Florida, as the men's baseball team and women's softball team, will be scrimmaging on St. Patrick's Day.

Student senate president Matt Kern said that he will be spending his St. Patrick's Day having fun, hanging out and playing ball.

St. Patrick's Day has an impact on some of the students here at Dana, because it is a time to commemorate and to understand what it is all about.

"It is a holy day, a time to have fun

and celebrate, and a time to feel lucky," junior Joe Bailey said.

Kale Maguire said St. Patrick's Day is a great day and perpetuates the unique culture and heritage of the Irish. Vivian Chan, an international student, said, "It is kind of new to me. Everything is green around you, but it is a neat experience."

The students and faculty alike must not forget to search for the rainbow on St. Patrick's Day. "Wherever you may be, look up into the sky and find that rainbow, because at the end of it, might be your pot of gold" said senior Vincent Shen.

They must also not forget to wear the color green on St. Patrick's Day because if they do not have any on, it is tradition to pinch that person. Sean Crow, freshman, advises it best by saying "Don't pinch anyone bigger than you!"

Spring break lures students both north and south

BROOKE THOMSEN

Reporter

Midterm has finally arrived. This not only means that there are seven weeks left in the semester, it means we have a week away from classes for spring break.

Many students have set their vacation plans down. Some people have been talking about spring break since Thanksgiving. Others are going to jump in the car and drive someplace, without planning anything definite. So, what are people doing for break? A few students spilled their plans.

Erin Eggers, Lisa Decker, Amber Weber and Stacy Weber, Amber's sister, have been planning a trip to Cancun since Thanksgiving when they found a brochure of spring break packages. Decker explained that a company called Surf and Sun Tours sold them a package that includes round-trip airplane tickets, a place to stay, meals and drinks, and discounts on Mexican excursions.

Decker said the group is not only planning to roam Cancun beaches but is hoping to visit some cultural sights such as Indian ruins. They're preparing for the trip by tanning and making early plans such as getting passports and calling the airport.

According to Matt Kern, the Viking softball and baseball teams are also heading south for break. However, the teams won't be sunning themselves on the beach. They're competing in tournaments. The softball team will compete in Pensacola, Fla., while the baseball team will battle on the fields at Panama City, Fla.

Other students are planning to sim-

ply hop in the car and begin driving. Ben Edelman, Andrea Bjergaard, Mahmud Parvez and Vivian Chan only know that they will be visiting Minneapolis, Minn., over break. Their plans evidently began as a trip to Mount Rushmore. However, the park will not be open so they decided to continue heading north.

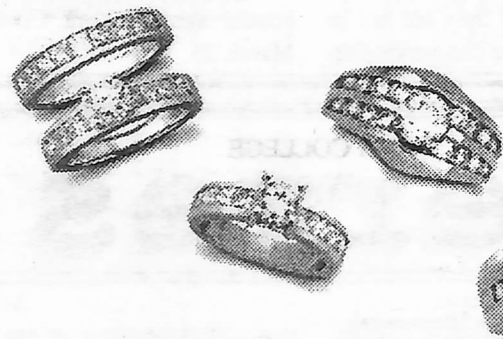
Edelman said they may visit the Mall of America, go to hockey game or do whatever they find fun and relaxing. Edelman and Bjergaard will spend some time at Bjergaard's home in South Dakota where they will begin to develop their wedding plans. The couple is also looking forward to a catch-up week for homework.

Home is a popular place for people who either cannot see home regularly or don't have the resources to go anywhere else. Derek Fey plans to enjoy time in Omaha over break. He said that his break won't be very exciting since he does not have a car or enough money to spend on a big trip. He hopes to run a 70-mile week over break in preparation for an upcoming marathon in May.

A trip home to California is the plan for Kelly O'Brien. She said she has no choice but to fly home over spring break, an expectation of her parents. O'Brien said she is looking forward to seeing home. She's already sent her mother a menu for the week. She also plans to visit the beach and enjoy the sun for awhile. A goal O'Brien has is to look for a summer school and check into summer volunteer opportunities in occupational therapy.

Dana students will obviously be spreading our far and wide next week for new and old destinations, bringing a lot of sunburned or even frost-bitten faces back to campus.

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Stanley wins conference title in mile, runners prepare for outdoor season

WENDY TROFF
Sports Editor

After competing two weeks ago at the NAIA national meet, the Dana indoor track team took several contenders to the Nebraska-Iowa Athletic Conference championships last weekend. Due to unconventional meet scheduling for the past two years, the championships have followed the national meet by a week.

Despite the unusual order of these two significant meets, a few Dana athletes competed brilliantly for the second consecutive weekend to earn medals and break records.

Junior Scott Stanley outran Nebraska Wesleyan's Matt Byington to win the conference title in the mile by .03 seconds. In addition to the conference title, Stanley's time of 4 minutes, 17.11 seconds broke a Dana record of 4:17.86 set by Ben Sandy. Incidentally, Sandy's record-breaking time earned him the title in 1997.

Freshman Allen Wagner, who competed in his first NIAC champi-

onships, finished the mile with a solid fourth place finish. Wagner's time of 4:20.58 was just .07 seconds shy of the bronze.

With the conference's top qualifiers placed in the fast heat, Wagner was placed in the slow heat of the 880-yard run, which he dominated with a clocking of 2:00.14, good for third overall.

Competing for Dana in the 1,000-yard run were freshman John Tripp and sophomore Justin Christensen. Although neither placed, both Tripp and Christensen set new personal bests. In addition to the 1,000, Tripp and Christensen also ran in the 440-yard run.

Also competing for the men were senior Kevin Ronnenkamp, who ran the 880, and junior John Henningsen, who ran the mile.

For the women, junior Amber Weber had a mark of 4 feet 11 1/4 inches in the high jump, which earned sixth place, while freshman Sarah Thomas put the shot a distance of 27-9. Sophomore Tiffani Nielsen, slowed by a knee injury, finished the two-mile run in an impressive 11:35. Unfortunately, Nielsen's fifth place

finish was disqualified by an apparent lane violation.

Sophomore Brooke Thomsen set a personal record in the 60-yard hurdles while competing in four out of five pentathlon events. Freshman Natalie Flynn and sophomore Jessica Chambers ran the mile.

With last weekend's conclusion of the indoor track season, the Vikings open the outdoor season on April 3 in Maryville, Mo., at Northwest Missouri State University. Tentative start time for that meet is 10 a.m.

Wrestlers ready for nationals

DEREK FEY
Reporter

The NAIA Regional meet last Saturday was the site as two more wrestlers qualified for the NAIA National meet, bringing the total field of qualifiers to five wrestlers.

Junior Steve Jenny and freshman Nathan Hoeft finished third in their weight classes to qualify for the March 19-20 NAIA National meet.

Hoeft, competing in the 133-pound weight class, finished the meet with a 3-1 mark. Hoeft's only loss went to Briar Cliff's Leve Stutzman, 5-3. The freshman's point total for the three victories tallied up to be 45-23.

Jenny also finished the day at 3-1, with all three victories ending with a pin. Jenny's lone loss came from Missouri Valley wrestler Jeremy Bridle, with a 9-3 decision.

Jenny and Hoeft join senior Ryan Barrett and sophomores Dax Doran and Perry Mostek as Dana's representatives at the NAIA National meet.

Doran and Mostek both finished in second place for the Vikings. Doran finished the day at 2-1, falling to Clint Long of Mt. Saint Clare College. Mostek finished 1-1 at the meet in the 197-pound weight class.

Sophomore Darold Foster qualified for the national meet, but will not compete due to an injury. Foster is currently ranked seventh in the NAIA in his weight class and had beaten the regional champion 11-3 at the Northwestern Open four weeks earlier.

The regional meet also marked the final meet for sophomore John Brummer, 125; sophomore Josh Stolz, 141; sophomore Nick Tostenson, 149; sophomore Riley Tonkin, 174; freshmen Ryan Uhing and Jason Carroll, 285.

The final meet is the NAIA National at St. Charles, Mo., on March 19-20.



Junior Amber Weber does plyometrics during track and field practice as sophomore Brooke Thomsen looks on. (Photo by Leslie Schroeter)

Softball team heads to Florida for games

ASHLEY DENNEY
Reporter

Tonight at 6 p.m. the Dana softball team will head out of Blair bound for Pensacola, Fla. Their 23- to 27-hour bus ride will be shared with the Viking baseball team. Both teams are riding in a charter bus.

The softball team will play two games on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday is the team's day off and the Lady Vikings hope to make good use of it. They are planning on driving to New Orleans. No firm plans have been made as to exactly what will take place, but the team hopes to have an enjoyable time.

Thursday and Friday will bring more games to the team's agenda. Depending upon their progress during the entire week, they may participate in a two-day tournament on Saturday and Sunday. In order to be invited to the tournament, the team must place in the top four during the week. The softball team could be returning back to Blair as early as Saturday if they are not in the tournament. The championship

game of the tournament will be played on Sunday.

The team seems to be excited about their upcoming excursion down south. Jamie Peters, a transfer from California, emphasized this point, "I'm looking forward to seeing the sun again and to experiencing a new place, especially at Dana's expense."

Last year the team took a similar trip to Florida where they played six games and compiled a 3-3 record. This year the team has many new faces including a new coach. Kathy Foley, Dana's athletic director, took over the team last fall. Junior Jessi Thomsen has a positive outlook for this year's team. "Last year in Florida we went 3-3," she said, "This year we're hoping to improve that."

Junior Lisa Shefland believes the trip will be beneficial to the team's chemistry. "I think it'll be good to go down to Florida so we can play some games," she said. "It will give us some experience playing together."

After spring break, the team's next game will be a home double-header against York College on March 23.

Dana men play on major league field

WENDY TROFF &
LAURA HIEBENTHAL
Sports Editor &
Editor-in-chief

While playing baseball in Nebraska during March is often an uncertainty, playing in the Metrodome is not. To avoid the unpredictable spring weather, the Viking baseball team traveled to Minneapolis this week to play in the Metrodome, home of the major league Minnesota Twins.

On Monday Dana played a double-header against South Dakota State University and lost the first game 10-4. According to coach Paul Davis, sophomore Aaron Woodard picked up the loss despite pitching well.

"He pitched very well. He only gave up two earned goals in five innings," said Davis.

Six of 10 Viking runs were unearned and South Dakota State out hit Dan 11 to seven. Of these seven, Kyle Murata and Rich Martell had two apiece. Sophomore Tommy Cox had a two-run triple.

Despite the loss in the first game, the Vikings came back to win 11-5 in the nightcap. Senior Tony Eitzmann was the winning pitcher. While South Dakota State out hit Dana seven to five, the Vikings drew 13 walks. Martell had two hits, one that was a double, and had four runs batted in. Junior Ryan Enright also had two hits and contributed two RBIs.

On Tuesday the Vikings remained

at the Metrodome and played a doubleheader against Bethel College. In the first game Dana came out on top 11-8 and senior Craig Wetterberg was the winning pitcher. He went four innings, giving up only two hits and striking out three. Senior reliever Sam Breuklander came in to finish the last three innings.

The Vikings had 12 hits to Bethel's nine. Freshman Joe Pennucci and sophomore Justin Dutcher each had three hits. Pennucci had a double and a triple while Dutcher drove in three runs. Cox had a three-run double, while junior Joe Pope had two hits and stole two bases.

The score for the second game was 12-4 with Bethel taking the victory. While Martell had two hits and two RBIs, junior Corey Johnson was the losing pitcher. Bethel had 12 hits compared to Dana's six.

"Obviously, we have some things to work on," said Davis. "It was nice to play four games in a major league ball park."

According to Davis, one of the overall highlights of the team's performance was in the offense.

"We pitched pretty well in the four games, but we didn't do so well on defense," he said. "We hit well with a .333 batting average for the four games."

The baseball team has only a few days to rest and prepare for their next games over spring break. The Vikings will travel to Panama City, Fla., next week to play in the Gulf Coast Classic.

DANA COLLEGE Hermes

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