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# THE INKWELL

The weekly student voice of Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, Ga.

Week of March 06, 2014

TheInkwellOnline.com

Volume 83, Issue 7

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Seniors bid Armstrong farewell

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## VELVET CARAVAN

Local band rocks Armstrong

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Get to know your candidates

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## Mobile



Photo by Emily Smith

# ARMSTRONG GIVES BACK: TREASURE SAVANNAH 2014

BY EMILY SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

The Armstrong community of students, faculty and alumni woke up bright and early Saturday, March 1 to partake in Armstrong's community service project, Treasure Savannah. Ten volunteer groups were assigned to various locations throughout the city to contribute helpful services.

This event is held every semester for Armstrong to give back to its surrounding city.

Madeline Jardine, a sophomore speech communication science and disorders major, was a returning volunteer working at the sign-in station with her sorority.

"I do this every year. My sorority sisters and I always do Treasure," she said.

Volunteers were provided hot chocolate and coffee before loading onto the buses. Armstrong provided transportation to the different working sites that included Forsyth Park, Union Mission Grace House Kitchen, a homeless camp, a Girl Scout camp and other places.

Before sending everyone off, volunteers were supplied with necessities such as trash bags, gloves and other items to aid in completing their duties.

"It involves the whole school so a lot of people are caring for one cause," said freshman nursing major Georgia Smith.

Having a dedicated team for

one day substantially advances these sites' goals.

Aliyah Owens, sophomore music major, volunteered at the Broad Street YMCA for the first time.

"They provide food and daycare for poverty housing. It gets a lot of people on their feet and maybe out of poverty," Owens said.

Volunteers at the YMCA helped by heavily cleaning and organizing the classrooms.

Junior early childhood education major Alexandria Nicholson was busy organizing a cluttered supply closet.

"It'll take them a week what we do in one day, so we really help them out when we come," Nicholson said.

Some chosen volunteer sites

do not get the help they need on a regular basis, so Armstrong's help is greatly appreciated.

Briona Reed, a junior radiology science major, said, "People from the community are helped. In an area with a high crime rate, people may be scared so it's good to volunteer where it's needed." Other volunteers were hard at work at The Savannah Chatham Animal Shelter. Cleaning, picking up trash and landscaping were only a few chores that needed to be done.

TREASURE | PAGE 6

# SGA debate sparks racial tensions

The SGA elections are coming up. The presidential candidates are Nathan Rich and Cassian Nunez, and the vice presidential candidates are Dylan Herod and Matthias Downs. Voting opens on March 11 in Port of Armstrong, and will continue until March 13.

BY KATIE MADDOX  
NEWS.INKWELL@GMAIL.COM

This year's Student Government Association presidential race pits Nathan Rich against Cassian Nunez, with Dylan Herod and Matthias Downs running as their vice presidents, respectively. On Feb. 27, these candidates debated one-on-one in University Hall, discussing their policies and taking questions from the audience.

Despite the last-minute venue change, the room was packed with few empty chairs remaining. The vice presidential candidates opened the debate, with Downs winning the coin toss to go first.

Kwame Phillips moderated the debate. A past SGA president himself, Phillips kept a hold of the somewhat rowdy audience as the debate grew heated throughout the evening.

The hot-button issues of the evening included housing, food on campus, Armstrong's retention rate, undocumented students, campus safety and alcohol on

campus.

But one of the biggest issues asked of and mentioned by the presidential candidates concerned race.

Tensions mounted when both candidates began to talk about "a disparity of our diverse student body, in comparison to the faculty and administrators," as worded by the moderator to the candidates.

Nunez mentioned the recent hiring of a new Diversity Director.

"I think it's a shame that I have yet to see a professor of any color, or any other color," Nunez said. He also mentioned the idea of awarding scholarships based on students' race.

"I get frustrated when in today's society we look at skin color or their religious background as an affirmation of their character or what they can accomplish," Rich said. "I don't care what the skin color or the ethnicity is of my professor, as long as they're well-qualified, they're published, I want the best of the best. If that means

SGA | PAGE 6

# Armstrong faculty salaries are below average

BY ROBERT TUCKER  
STAFF WRITER

Recent results of a faculty salary study reveal 188 of 252 full-time faculty salaries at Armstrong are less than average when compared to 44 other peer institutions. That is just over 74% of the tenured staff.

Additionally, the report states: "Disturbingly, twenty Armstrong faculty and eight rank-discipline group means had salaries that were equal or less than the minimum reported salary among 44 peer comparator institutions." Armstrong faculty who are at the lowest salary among comparator institutions can be adjusted to align with the mean for approximately \$62,000 in total annually.

In order to retain quality instruction for students, faculty must be paid appropriately. Unfortunately, Vice President of Business and Finance David

Carson states, "The budget for 2015 will likely be the same as 2014, because our enrollment rate has flat-lined."

If enrollment goes up so will funding from the state. Funding higher salaries won't be such an issue if enrollment increases. A 1% increase or decrease in enrollment equates to \$309,767 as stated in a budget presentation at the February faculty senate meeting by Carson.

After the faculty senate proposed the Administrative Freeze Bill in September 2013 with hopes to address faculty wages, President Linda Bleiken formed the Study Committee in October.

The committee includes one representative from each of the four colleges, a representative from the Office of Institutional Research, the Vice President of Business and Finance and Dr. Michael Toma, the Facilitator. Their task was to assess the level of pay throughout the full-time faculty and compare it to

peer universities.

When Carson was asked if this was an efficient assessment of faculty wages, he responded: "It is a consistent approach, since it is the third time we are doing the study we have a consistent methodology."

The committee agreed to use data from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR) to administer salary comparisons. Similar studies handled in 2008 and 2011 also used CUPA-HR for data.

CUPA-HR collects data regarding salaries from institutions around the nation. DataOnDemand is an application which allows outfits like Armstrong's Salary Committee access to salary data from other institutions. Armstrong's committee used 2012-2013 data in the DataOnDemand tool to complete this study.

SALARIES | PAGE 6

# Office Hours

Dr. Maxine Bryant:

Instructor of Criminal Justice

INTERVIEW BY EMILY SMITH



**What drove you to become a professor?**

A long time ago, about 20 years ago, I thought about going into higher education but the pay was so low. I had a contract with the Chatham County jail and worked with a national agency out of Washington DC. The pay is low but I'm at a point in my life where I don't have kids to raise and now is the time to do it. I love challenging and igniting young minds to utilize critical thinking.

**Tell me about the award that you recently won.**

The MLK Outstanding Faculty Award. While I was out, Dr. Daniel Skidmore Hess and my peers decided that I met the criteria for Outstanding Faculty Member. He's aware of my passion for teaching and it is specifically geared towards people of Pan African descent like me.

**What are you involved in outside of the classroom?**

I started a group in Indianapolis geared towards African-Americans in primarily white colleges where they may not see people like them. I started a chapter here to maintain student retention. It calls upon faculty and students to support and encourage young women. Students feel comfortable enough with me to reach out. They know I'll tell them straight how it is. I don't sugar coat.



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## Lady Pirates win again on Senior Night

By BERRY ALDRIDGE AND  
DALTON JOHNSON

The Armstrong Atlantic women's basketball team attained yet another impressive win on Senior Night, March 1, this time against the Georgia College State University Bobcats, 86-79. Seniors Mauri Wells, Tyler Carlson, Bryonna Davis, Stephanie Coney, Hanna Bogner and Morgan Mitchell were honored during halftime of the men's game.

The game was close through the end of the first half as the Pirates only led 37-34. However, solid defense and efficient offense would eventually break the game open in the second half.

Although it was Senior Night, freshman Brigitta Barta made her presence known and led the Pirates with 26 points on the night.

Wells notched a double-double with 19 points and 16 rebounds as well.

"This game was very important, especially for us seniors, because it was Senior Night and our last home game," Wells said. "Everyone contributed and it was a good win."

"We are playing the same team Thursday so we are preparing by making adjustments from last game," Carlson said. "We know that they are going to come ready to play so we just have to play smarter."

Carlson contributed 14 points, six rebounds and eight assists to the win.

Davis, who added 13 points of her own, offered insight as to what it was like playing her last game in Alumni Arena: "It was bittersweet, you know, but I knew the day would come soon," Davis said. "Going into

the post-season is very exciting though because we worked so hard to get to this point and we are ready to win some more games."

The Pirates now head to Columbus on March 6 to face GCSU again in the first round of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament.

### Lady Pirates honored

After one of the most impressive seasons in recent school history, the Armstrong women's basketball team was awarded with honors.

Freshman Brigitta Barta was named the 2014 Peach Belt Conference's Women's Basketball Freshman of the Year, while first-year head coach Fala Bullock was named the league's Co-Coach of the Year.

Barta became just the third Pirate to be awarded Freshman of the Year. The Hungary

native averaged 14.3 points per game, led the PBC in field goal percentage (57.6%) and ranked fifth in the league in free throw percentage (81.4%). She also scored in double figures in 20 of the 23 games played.

Bullock is just the second coach in the school's history to take home Coach of the Year honors. In her first season as head coach, Bullock took a team that was picked to finish 12th in the league to the top spot in the Eastern division. Armstrong won 19 games, its highest total since the 2007-08 season, and was 14-5 in conference play.

Senior Bryonna Davis also earned honors, after being named to the All-Conference second team. The Gary, Ind. native led the Pirates with 14.5 points per game and had six games with over 20 points.

## Seniors proud to be Pirates

By BERRY ALDRIDGE  
STAFF WRITER

"One thing we preached from day one was 'we, us, and our,'" said Armstrong head men's basketball coach Evans Davis. "All I ever asked for was effort and that's what these guys gave me all the way through the last game."

The Armstrong Atlantic men's basketball team saw its season come to a close after a narrow 85-83 loss against Georgia College State University on March 1. Senior Pirates Hichem Benayad-Cherif, Kenny Bellinger, Eric Eversley, Darius Morales and Kelcey Walker were honored on Senior Night at Alumni Arena with a pre-game ceremony celebrating their last game as Pirates.

Benayad-Cherif went out with a bang, scoring 26 points and leading the Pirates on the night.

"I am very thankful to Coach Davis for letting me play the game that I love," Benayad-Cherif said.

Three separate times during the second half, the Pirates built double-digit leads but were unable to hold on in the final minutes of the game. A GCSU field goal with 16 seconds left propelled the Bobcats past the Pirates, and that

would prove to be the final score of the game.

Bellinger, who finished with 14 points, said, "I have enjoyed these last two years and they've helped me understand that there are ups and downs, and you have to ask yourself 'will you quit or keep fighting.'"

"It was an overall learning experience that has taught me about life and faith itself," Walker said about his time as a Pirate.

"These past two years at Armstrong I've met some great people and built relationships that will last a lifetime," Eversley said. "I am blessed to be a Pirate."

Eversley finished the season averaging 11.8 points per game and 10.4 rebounds per game, to become the first Armstrong men's basketball player to average a double-double over an entire season in over 15 years.

Morales also finished on a high note, notching 20 points, eight rebounds and three blocked shots for his last time in an Armstrong jersey.

When asked if there was anything he would like to say after his final season at Armstrong, Morales proudly answered, "It was an honor being a Pirate."



## JOHNSON'S JOCK TALK



By DALTON JOHNSON  
sports.inkwell@gmail.com

Ellen Degeneres posted the most famous selfie on Twitter ever, Jennifer Lawrence fell again and Leo lost...again. Is it not weird that Leonardo DiCaprio is one of the most underrated actors ever, yet gets an overrated label all too often? The 86th Academy Awards were full of highlights and one of the most plentiful groups of movies trying to take home the Oscar for Best Picture.

The sporting world also took place in the Oscars without even having a sports-themed movie nominated, thanks to John Axford.

Axford, beginning his first season as a reliever for the Cleveland Indians, started spring training in perfect fashion. Well, in picking the Oscar winners that is. He went 18-for-18 picking the award winners, after correctly

## Sporting World's Academy Awards

picking 14 of 15 award winners in 2013. Axford didn't completely get every award right as he didn't attempt at picking Production Design, Sound Mixing, Sound Editing, Animated Short Film, Live Action Short Film and Short-Subject Documentary. After throwing an Oscar-perfect game, Axford tweeted, "I'm pretty sure this means I have to do all 24 categories next year! #Oscars #18for18." Don't let us down Mr. Nostraford.

With the loss of a sports movie hitting the Oscars, here are the Oscar winners for the sports world in an age of too many forgettable sports films.

**Best Picture:** Coming to a theater near you, "This Is Our F\*\*\*ing City!" The story of the 2013 World Series champion Boston Red Sox is a surefire box office hit, with drunken Bostonians cheering and cursing during the whole movie. With the beards of Jonny Gomes and Mike Napoli, and add in David Ortiz, Dustin Pedroia, Shane Victorino, Jon Lester, John Lackey and Koji Uehara and an Oscar is in the books. The Red Sox went from worst to first, and won a World Series with stars and scrappers, when the city of Boston needed them most during the Boston bombings.

**Director:** The young, deep Seattle Seahawks are led by the third youngest general manager in the NFL, John Schneider. The moves Schneider made to form Seattle's roster won them a Super Bowl, with tactics like selecting 5-foot-11 quarterback Russell Wilson with the 12th pick of the third round in the 2012 draft. Wilson threw for 3,357 yards and 26 touchdowns to just nine interceptions in his second year in the NFL. Perhaps the biggest acquisition of last season was Seattle trading for Percy Harvin for a plethora of draft picks. Harvin was almost never healthy, just playing in 33 snaps before the Super Bowl, but he returned a kickoff for a touchdown and had two carries for 45 yards while catching one pass for five yards. Schneider also drafted Richard Sherman and built the young Seattle defense.

**Lead Actor:** This is my appeal for LeBron James to do "Space Jam 2." LeBron doesn't have as many championships as Michael Jordan and he hasn't even participated in a slam dunk contest. If he joined Bugs Bunny in this epic sequel, he could at least be in same category for film with Jordan. Even without doing the sequel, LeBron wins the award for his marvelous MVP

and championship season while perhaps being the best athlete in the world. To put the cherry on top, he is the best flopper in the league, giving him high acting credentials.

**Lead Actress:** "Rowdy" Ronda Rousey is the face of women in the UFC. She can't be stopped and right now nobody knows who will challenge her. Rousey, at 5-foot-7 and 135 pounds, is 9-0 in the UFC. She became the first UFC women's bantamweight champion and still holds the title today. Her last fight lasted all of 66 seconds at UFC 170. Not only is she dominating in the ring and a powerful figure for women in sports, but she is in line for two upcoming films, including the "Entourage" movie.

**Supporting Actor:** Time for a curveball. Could the winner be someone who was traded during the offseason just two years after signing a nine-year, \$214 million contract? Yes. And this player is Prince Fielder, even after having a "down year." Fielder played two seasons for the Detroit Tigers, making the All-Star team in both seasons and Miguel Cabrera won the MVP both years. The first baseman also did not miss

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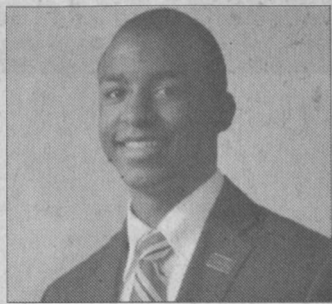
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## Editor's Note

In an effort to present the opinions and standpoints of both SGA presidential candidates, The Inkwell approached Cassian Nunez and Nathan Rich about writing an opinion piece on why they felt they were the most qualified candidate for the position. By the time we went to print, only Cassian Nunez had turned in his statement and Nathan Rich was unavailable for comment.

## Candidate close-up: Cassian Nunez



Cassian Nunez is the current Treasurer of the Student Government Association, and is running for President.

By CASSIAN NUNEZ

Hello my fellow Pirates,  
My name is Cassian Nunez, and I currently serve as your Student Government Association Treasurer. I've been a part of SGA for three years and hope to serve

my fourth as your president. As your treasurer, I manage the recognized student organizations budget, the Student Government Association budget, the Campus Union Board budget, and the Student Activity Fee budget which funds The Inkwell, the honors program, band, etc. I also select comedians and artists for Open Mic Night, and represent all of your thoughts on various issues. This year alone, SGA has passed a food policy which will allow organizations to provide food from outside vendors at events, helped resident assistants understand their compensation package, lowered the price of the universal parking decal, and continued the fight for transparency between SGA

and the Administration. SGA has also offered support to the "Finish Strong" campaign, which will allow students of age to drink and have guests overnight. These are just a few of the many successes this year has brought and I am ready to get to work for you next year. What inspired me to run for president are the students that I constantly see struggling to afford to continue their education at Armstrong. As a Peer Financial Counselor under the Office of Financial Aid, I find it unacceptable that hundreds of students do not continue to attend Armstrong because there are not adequate opportunities for students. Working with the incoming director of scholarships, the focus will be to provide new

scholarship opportunities and to organize the current scholarships via the scholarship bulletin board. Another priority would be to increase communication by using text messaging as a means to inform students of pertinent student activity information. Increasing campus life is also a priority - holding more events on campus in collaborations with other organizations and encouraging new student traditions on campus. With all of the problems faced by students, it is important that we contribute to solutions that provide a better place for all of us. That is why, my fellow pirates, I ask you to stand with me.

## Campus Voices

"Will you be voting in the SGA elections?"



"No, I just don't pay attention."  
Ian Zimerle  
Junior  
Radiation Therapy



"I thought about it. I think furthering student activities is important."

Tramika Brown  
Freshman  
Pre-Vet



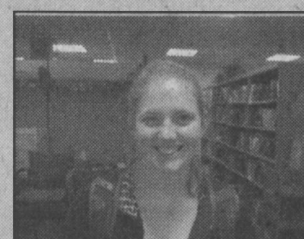
"Yes. I'm in the Student Court. I went to high school with one of the candidates, I think she'll do a great job."

Stephen Grotto  
Senior  
History



"No, I don't know who's running."

Lisa Turner  
Junior  
Middle Grades  
Education



"No, because I don't know anybody. I don't think I could make an informed decision."

Samantha Cain  
Junior  
Psychology

## Be firm, be patient on Ukraine

CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
(MCT)

As night fell Monday, Russia controlled much of the Crimean Peninsula and threatened the rest of Ukraine, as President Barack Obama and Western allies pleaded with President Vladimir Putin to recognize he was making a terrible blunder. Putin doesn't have a track record of responding nicely to appeals for reason.

Putin knows that the West won't respond militarily to a full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, which is not a member of NATO. Russia was busy laying the groundwork Monday for an argument that Ukrainians wanted Russian troops to come in to protect them.

So how can the West respond? By recognizing that Russia has tanks to roll, but its economy is on the rocks.

Bring a methodical economic squeeze. That won't bring instant satisfaction. It could cause pain in the parts of Europe that rely heavily on Russia for energy supplies. But an economic squeeze is the best, probably the only, course to convince

Putin this time that his recklessness carries too high a price.

Russia invaded Georgia in 2008 and lived to tell about it. Ukraine and Georgia sought membership in NATO, but the alliance saw no urgency ... and feared provoking Russia. Ukraine eventually withdrew its bid.

Russia invaded Georgia one year after it was awarded the Winter Olympic Games that just concluded in Sochi. There was never any serious thought by the International Olympic Committee of withdrawing the Games. Russia was a bad character ... but everybody moved on.

So how can the West extract a price that means something? By focusing on Russia's energy industry, which has provided the revenues to prop up the Putin government through Russia's economic malaise.

Trade restrictions could make it more difficult for Russia to obtain the capital, equipment and know-how it needs for the exploration and development of its untapped energy reserves. Travel restrictions could make it more difficult for Russia's government and tycoons to do business abroad.

The risk is that Eastern Europe, Ukraine included, relies on Russia for practically all its gas. In Germany, Europe's biggest economy, 35 percent of the gas comes from Russia. Retaliation by Russia against sanctions could cause an economic jolt.

But the West has few other options. The United Nations can pass finger-wagging resolutions. Think Putin cares?

Long term, Russia's belligerence should prompt the U.S. and Europe to encourage investment in energy production from friendlier sources. Norway's Statoil sells more gas to European nations than does Russia's Gazprom.

Once the dust settles - even Russia has to realize a long-term occupation of Ukraine isn't in the cards - the West should step up efforts to boost domestic energy production in Ukraine. The West isn't going to buy off a Ukrainian president, like Putin did. But it can surely provide much more economic assistance, and greater access to markets, to convince a divided populace that a free economy is the only direction to go.

Ukraine can't match the Russian military gun for gun. But it can make itself a little less vulnerable to Russia's economic bully tactics. Ukraine has signed deals with Chevron Corp. and Royal Dutch Shell for potentially transformative energy projects in the western, Eurocentric part of the country. American and European diplomats can assist in nailing down deals for deep-water drilling in the Black Sea.

The Russian economy grew by only 1.3 percent in 2013. That's likely to look like nirvana compared with 2014 if Russia persists with its folly in Ukraine. Stock indexes in Russia cratered Monday. The Russian ruble hit a record low against foreign currencies. The country faces a dangerous threat of inflation.

Putin has squandered his nation's oil wealth to promote his Soviet-style, autocratic rule. As Russia marches backward, resorting to force to achieve its political ends, it becomes even less attractive for foreign investment. America and Europe can make the most of that vulnerability.

Dry up foreign investment in Russia. Putin's not one to cry for mercy, but he'll feel the pain.

## Letters

### to the editor

The Inkwell welcomes and invites letters to the editor. All submissions must be 350 words or fewer, and must be signed. Send your letter to Chief. [inkwell@gmail.com](mailto:inkwell@gmail.com). The Inkwell reserves the right to edit for grammar, spelling and style.

## Hooked on You

We're not claiming to be matchmakers or anything, but everyone knows it can be a rewarding experience reading the missed connections section on Craigslist. None of the following content has been edited. Here are our top picks for this week:

**Waiter held on to my bag - m4m**

I ate a cpl weeks ago at the restaurant left my bag sketchbook, thought u were cool, u said u were gonna find me thru fb if i didnt show up for it perhaps ill run into u again cause never saw u send reply with the restaurant and what u served my friend

**Newmen Gym - m4m (Fort Stewart)**

You were in the locker room at the water fountain heading to the pool. You were wearing a blue swim suit. I was walking by and looking at you hard. You caught me looking at you. You are fine and hot. I don't know if your into guys or not but if you are I would love to do anything for ya body rub down, shave your legs, hand j\*\* or blow j\*\*. I will be looking for you now each time I'm the gym. Thank you for looking so hot.

**The Quarter On Tybee Tonight Wed feb 19th - w4m - 33 (Tybee)**

this might be a crazy shot but ill try it lol,i was waiting to pick up my food and my "killer dog" you called her was barking at you in my car while i was standing inside waiting,you had a SSFD shirt on and you were very handsome,my luck your married lol but hopefully not;) and i hope you see this.and if you remember me what did i look like and color hair and what was my dogs color

**The lovely mature woman at the South side Home Depot - m4w - 27 (Abercorn)**

You were the curvy mature beauty taking your time strolling through half the store. I was the younger man who was too hurried to swing past you to see if there was a ring on your finger, but not too hurried to notice you...

I should have taken the time to say hello, but I think you would have shot me down if you knew what was on my mind...

If this might be you, please describe yourself or send me a picture and we can see if we can have the intimate conversation I was hoping for...

**Sexy fireman - w4m**

You have dark hair and I seen u in hinesville wearing a blue outfit at walmart doing some car seat thing the u married ?

**The smoke that curled across your lips - m4w (Downtown)**

You were wearing a denim jacket over a dark blue dress, and smoking a cigarette outside the American Legion on Saturday night. In your eyes, I could see the lies and disappointments;

the wrong turns; and every man you've ever had-- and in the mist of cigarette smoke that curled across your lips, I saw you wonder if I had anything more to add. -BISON JACK

**You pulled me over - m4w**

You are tall. You are sexy. And you pulled me over. Wish I would've gotten your name and number.

**New neighbor - m4w - 19 (Walthourville)**

Hello neighbor I just wanted to let u know I been having eyes for u. I am sure u will never read this but wanted to just flirt with u more \$\$ I think u wanted to but kids were at fire tonight let me know what trailer park I am from so I know ur real



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

[4] THE INKWELL  
March 06, 2014

## Returning art exhibition showcases student work



Photo by Emmi Frankum

Art showcased at the Student Juried Art Exhibition.

By EMMI FRANKUM

Armstrong's annual Student Juried Art Exhibition has finally arrived.

Every year, student artwork adorns the walls and fills the cozy Fine Arts Gallery. Eleanor Grix, professor of art history, deemed this year's show one of the best of the past couple years.

"It's fun and punchy," Grix said.

This competitive exhibition offered Armstrong's most talented artists an opportunity to display their work on

campus. The artworks displayed were the select few of many submitted. It was a prestigious honor for all artists whose artwork was selected for the show, especially those who received awards. A non-faculty juror selected all works included and awarded the best pieces from each category of media.

Taylor Preckel was awarded Best in Show for her printmaking piece, "I Tip My Hat to Venice." The Juror's Choice Award was given to A'Shanea Monroe's photograph titled "Pure."

Both stunning pieces are

windows into the lives of two very talented artists.

The impressive range of media included both three and two-dimensional works. Some of the media featured in this show included jewelry, photography, printmaking, graphic art, painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, mixed media and digital photography.

Mario Incorvaia, Arts Marketing Coordinator for Armstrong, said, "This is a great show, each student's vision shines through his or her work."

Incorvaia also appreciated the diversity among the

pieces: "It's a fantastic opportunity for all students to express their own viewpoint," he said.

There are roughly two-hundred art majors at Armstrong, about the same as the previous years, and the program is very competitive. There are many very talented artists, recognized for their work around the coastal region.

This past year in a citywide art competition, Armstrong had a large number of student artists featured. The ceramics displayed in the Student Juried Art Exhibition show just how talented and dedicated these artists are. Dawn DeFrank's "Fern Vases" were good examples of carefully crafted ceramics masterpieces.

The photography included in the show, like "Untitled" and "Pure" by A'Shanea Monroe, also proved these artists to be talented craftsmen. The photographs displayed were hand-developed by the photographers in a dark room, locally at Armstrong. This meticulous work is no easy task and is often underappreciated in the age of smart phone and point-and-shoot cameras.

Not a single piece displayed from any category, whether two or three-dimensional, failed to amaze the admirers who flocked to the Fine Arts Gallery. This exhibition has been open since Feb. 24 and will continue to be on display until March 7.

The gallery in the Fine Arts Hall is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Be sure to see the exhibit before it is gone.

## 'Non-Stop' fails to take off



Liam Neeson, star of 'Non-Stop.'

By TODD PERKINS

Liam Neeson's career has taken an interesting turn from dramatic work in important films like "Schindler's List" and "Kinsey" to remodeling himself as an action hero in movies such as "The A-Team," "Unknown" and "The Grey." Audiences will be familiar with Neeson's no nonsense, tough-as-nails approach that he perfected with his Bryan Mills character in "Taken," the movie that completely re-launched his career, which he brings to his latest film "Non-Stop." With so

many action films out in theaters and a built-in fan base with high expectations, can Neeson's latest film live up to the hype?

This time around, Neeson plays Bill Marks, a washed-up, alcoholic Federal Air Marshal on a non-stop flight to London. After taking off, Marks receives a text saying that a passenger will die every twenty minutes unless a large sum of money is placed into an unknown bank account. As Marks attempts to track the terrorist down and keep all 200 passengers calm, the odds continue to stack

against him. There are gunshots and explosions, paranoia and accusations, and Liam Neeson taking names and kicking butt.

The film's main flaw is that it is never truly able to differentiate itself from the other Liam Neeson action movies. Director Jaume Collet-Serra, who also directed "Unknown," keeps the plot moving by throwing every sort of twist and turn imaginable, which is precisely the problem. Every plot development is predictable and the film is never able to stay ahead of its audience when delivering the goods. Collet-Serra places all of the tension on Marks being able to figure out the identity of the unknown terrorist, but any clever viewer is able to pinpoint the caller from the moment the villain appears on screen. The story takes cues from past action flicks like "Flightplan," but the lack of originality or inspiration in the writing prevents the material from ever taking off.

The acting is solid without ever truly excelling beyond the minimum requirement of what is asked from the actors. Julianne Moore plays a passenger roped

into helping Neeson's character, and she makes the most of her screen time, but she is never given anything to do that truly shows off her capabilities as an actress. Character actors Corey Stoll and Scoot McNairy are both exceptionally gifted actors playing fellow passengers who stand out among the supporting cast, but the only person given any depth is Neeson's character who is given such a generic backstory that it becomes nearly impossible to differentiate his role here from any of his other action hero characters.

There is action and suspense to tide over the genre fans, and some scenes feel as if they could have been taken from a good "Die Hard" sequel, which is quite a compliment. Neeson makes a great leading action star, but it is a shame that the filmmakers could not have given more thought into the story development. This is in no way a bad film, and far from boring, but it is sad to think that smart and intelligent action films are something of a rarity nowadays. "Non-Stop" is entertaining and moves at a brisk pace, but do not expect to see anything that has not been done many times before.

### Silver screen

Rating 2.5 out of 5



Directed by Jaume Collet-Serra

Produced by Universal Pictures, StudioCanal, and Silver Pictures

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of action and violence, some language, sensuality, and drug references

Starring Liam Neeson, Julianne Moore, Scoot McNairy, Lupita Nyong'o

Now showing at Victory Stadium 9, Carmike 10, Carmike Wynnsong, Royal Cinemas and IMAX, and GTC Pooler Stadium Cinemas

## Upcoming Events March 6-12

### Thursday, March 6:

Close to Home, Famous Last Words, Phineas, and At Heart at Sweet Melissa's 6:30 p.m.

Retro Futurist Label Showcase at the Jinx 9 p.m.

GVNTHAVS II at Chuck's 10 p.m.

### Friday, March 7:

Soft Science Label Showcase at Congress Street Social Club 4 p.m.

F/5 Visual Impact reception at Ashmore Gallery, 5:30 p.m.

March Art March at Desotorow, 6 p.m.

Hematologic opening reception at Non-Fiction Gallery 6 p.m.

### Saturday, March 8:

Shamrock Scramble at the Rail 2 p.m.

Furious Hooves Label Showcase at Congress Street Social Club 2 p.m.

Nine Lives, Without,

Snowfort, and Muleskinner at Sweet Melissa's 8:30 p.m.

Southern Holiday Jazz Band at Jazz'd Tapas Bar 9 p.m.

### Sunday, March 9:

Slopver with House of Gunt at the Sentient Bean, 8 p.m.

### Monday, March 10:

Hilton Head Island Wine and Food Festival begins

### Tuesday, March 11:

Launched SAVANNAH at Southbound Brewing Company, 5:30 p.m.

The Rosies at Jazz'd Tapas Bar 7 p.m.

March GreenDrinks at the Jinx 5:30 p.m.

Savannah Winds: Spring Is In The Air, 7:30 pm

### Wednesday, March 12:

Exmortus at Dollhouse Productions 7 p.m.

Did you find a Stopover band you wanted to see in either of our two previews? If so, we've got the updated schedule so you can catch them. Times are still subject to change, but this will give you a good guideline of when to expect your favorites.

### Thursday, March 6

7:00 p.m.: Good Graeff at Moon River Beer Garden (all ages)

9:00 p.m.: Fare the Oap at Hang Fire (21+)

11:00 p.m.: The Black Cadillacs at Congress Street Social Club (21+)

1:00 a.m.: Kylesa at the Jinx (21+)

### Friday, March 7

4:00 p.m.: Christopher Paul Stelling at Abe's on Lincoln (21+)

6:00 p.m.: Los Colognes at the Jinx (21+)

9:30 p.m.: July Talk at Knights of Columbus (all ages)

12:00 a.m.: Speedy Ortiz at the Jinx (21+)

### Saturday, March 8

4:00 p.m.: City Hotel at Moon River Beer Garden (all ages)

5:30 p.m.: Missionary Blues in Ellis Square (free, all ages)

6:30 p.m.: Los Colognes in Ellis Square (free, all ages)

8:00 p.m.: Christopher Paul Stelling at the Artist's Lounge (21+)

11:00 p.m.: Fever the Ghost at Knights of Columbus (all ages)

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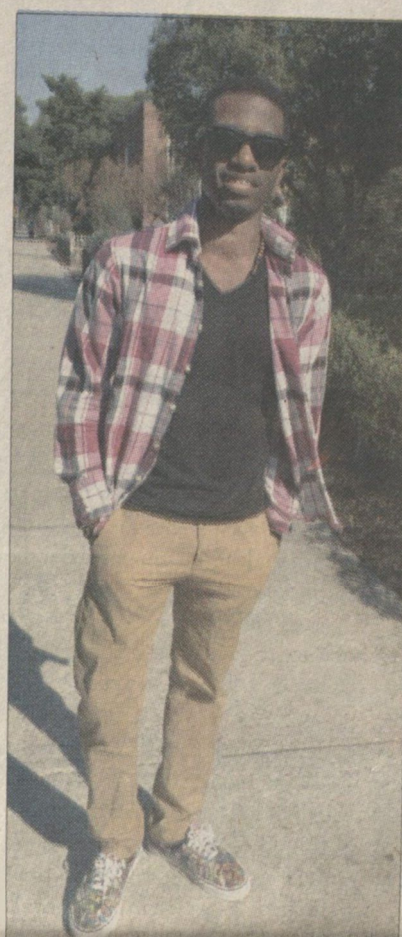
# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE INKWELL [5]  
March 06, 2014

## Velvet Caravan brings the party to Armstrong

### U Style

BY ELAINE HANRATTY



### GABRIEL AMADI-EMINA

Junior, Visual Arts major

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?  
Comfortable and clean. Not too flashy or sloppy

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SEASON FOR FASHION?  
Spring and summer

WHO IS YOUR STYLE ICON?  
Pharrell Williams

WHAT'S YOUR SIGNATURE ACCESSORY?  
Wooden bracelets and necklaces

WHAT'S THE MOST PROMINENT COLOR IN YOUR WARDROBE?  
Red, blue, and black



Velvet Caravan plays to a lively audience in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

BY RACHAEL FLORA  
ARTS.INKWELL@GMAIL.COM

On March 1, popular local band Velvet Caravan joined Armstrong professor Benjamin Warsaw and guest vocalist Elissa Alvarez for a concert in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

The pairing drew a packed house to the auditorium, with guests of all ages flocking to see the talent.

The concert was the first part of the "Piano in the Arts" concert series. Three more will take place over the course of the semester.

"I'm excited to see such a wonderful turnout," Warsaw said before the show.

Alvarez started off the night by singing songs in several different languages, from Russian to French to Catalan. Warsaw accompanied her on the piano for the songs. Translations of each song were passed out to the audience before the show.

Alvarez is a renowned soprano singer with an impressive history, including her performance as Mary Magdalene in "The Son of Man" and her involvement in several chamber operas. She performs with Warsaw quite often, and he writes songs specifically for her.

After the first few songs, Alvarez sang traditional Hebrew songs as members of Velvet Caravan gradually joined her onstage. First was Ricardo Ochoa, playing a violin with "Yerushalayim Shel Zahav," or "Jerusalem of Gold."

Joey Rosen introduced each Hebrew song and spoke about the cultural importance of each.

"Jerusalem of Gold" has been in my life as long as I can remember, and I think it beautifully describes the Jewish people's 2,000-year longing to return to Jerusalem," Rosen said.

For the next song, "Good Sign and Good Luck," three more members of Velvet Caravan joined Alvarez and Warsaw on accordion, acoustic guitar and stand-up bass.

People familiar with the songs joined in singing along with Alvarez, and the final song, "Hava Nagila," was by far the most familiar and had the whole audience singing and dancing.

After the Hebrew songs, there was a short intermission to set up the stage for the second half of the concert, where Velvet Caravan played several songs of their own.

For the first song, Ochoa invited everyone to come dance in front of the stage. They had several takers, from young students to an older couple that showed off their swing-dancing skills.

Velvet Caravan is comprised of Ochoa on violin, Sasha Strunjas on guitar, Jared Hall on keys and accordion, Eric Dunn on bass and Jesse Monkman on percussion.

"We like to call our music gypsy jazz," said Ochoa. "When we say that, they're like, 'What? Who?' So then we call it European redneck music."

During the show, Ochoa joked about Velvet Caravan's camaraderie, saying, "We all drink well together" and suggesting they met on GypsyMingle.com.

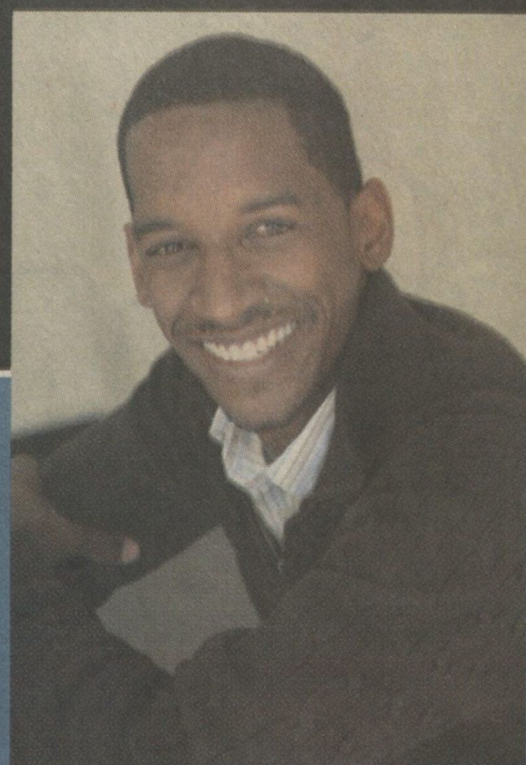
In actuality, Velvet Caravan is a bit of a motley crew, with members added gradually as they brought a different instrument to the band, Ochoa explained.

This Saturday, March 8, Velvet Caravan will play a Stopover show at Moon River Beer Garden at 3 p.m. Judging by the energy filling the Fine Arts Auditorium, Velvet Caravan has surely earned some new fans that may follow them to Stopover and beyond.

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# BACKPAGE

[6] THE INKWELL  
March 06, 2014

## SGA FROM PAGE 1

it's a black professor or an Asian professor, I'll be damned, I don't care."

"I believe that's easy to say when you don't have anybody that looks like you teaching you. I think that's a problem. I agree that we should not look at race, but the fact of the matter is that we do. The reason we brought on a diversity director is because there is a problem that needs to be addressed," Nunez countered.

Another issue addressed to the candidates by an audience member concerned undocumented students.

"They meet all of the qualifications to apply for in-state tuition but are being denied out-of-state tuition waivers, what is your position on this and what do you plan to do about it?" the audience member asked.

"I'm the son of a general contractor, and that field is heavily reliant upon undocumented workers. I grew up along aside them, and I'm very appreciative of them," Rich said. "Immigration reform is something I'm really passionate about. I wrote a memo to the Georgia General Assembly to not only grant in-state tuition for undocumented students, it would also grant access to HOPE to out-of-state students."

Nunez reminded the audience of his own diverse background.

"With a last name like Nunez, it's no secret where I come from. My grandparents immigrated here, and I don't work for that family, I'm actually from it," Nunez said.

He went on to explain that the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition is about \$12,000 dollars.

"We should start awarding special scholarships to students like Camino does so that those students can continue to come to Armstrong," Nunez said, mentioning an offshoot of the HOLA program.

The tension in the room increased as another audience member asked Nunez, "Can you tell me what exactly the benefits are of having somebody who looks like you teaching you?"

The audience immediately responded, with some exclaiming "Oooohh" and "Damn!"

"I encourage you to come to some Black History Month events," Nunez responded, "because there are a lot of different reasons why when somebody teaches you, it has a direct effect on how you learn. It doesn't make sense—I apologize, let me calm down—that a university that is 66 percent Caucasian, 27 percent African-American, why there are five faculty members that are African American. There have been instances where faculty members judge their students based off of their skin color. I'm not trying to sound racist or anything, but it definitely has a direct impact on how students learn."

After the vice presidents' opening statements, both were asked by Phillips to list their top three priorities in their vision. Herod mentioned Armstrong's retention rate of students, events on campus and safety on campus.

"Since 2002, our retention rate has not risen above 68 percent," he said. "Homecoming is a tradition that we can improve

upon. Armstrong is a safe campus, compared to the area around campus." Herod believes in continuing programs such as BLAST, which alerts students of impending weather or other threats.

Downs said that he was "working with the chief of police to implement a type of program called the bussing program, where we put on different events off-campus. While we are trying to implement more events on campus, there are certain events that happen off that students want to participate in. It'll increase Armstrong's presence, because they'll see us out there having fun."

Downs also said that he was "working with chief of police and director of housing to figure out what safety issues we have."

Another big issue addressed was Armstrong's upcoming name change. All parties were for it, but Downs and Nunez wanted a compromise to be reached for graduating students still wanting the old name on their diploma.

Another policy that both parties agree on is Armstrong's newest housing community, Finish Strong.

"Our current policies are a deterrent to upper classmen who want to stay on campus," Downs said.

The first contradiction of the evening was a dispute over the benefits of raising the student activity fee. Herod first argued that the activity fee will help Armstrong obtain lights for the athletic fields, but Downs corrected him.

"The student activity fee doesn't go towards athletics, that's the athletics fee," he said.

Overall, the audience responded well to both vice presidential candidates.

"I think I did okay, it was a little rough on the edges. I was a little nervous," Herod said.

Next up was the presidential candidates, Nathan Rich and Cassian Nunez. Both have been involved with SGA for the past three years, with Nunez currently serving as treasurer and Rich running last year for president against Elijah Walden.

"What I want to see Armstrong look like in the future is a place where students are able to afford to come here," Nunez opened with. His top priorities were financial aid, campus life and "fostering an environment where students are now being treated as adults."

problems be addressed. The committee is dismayed and dumbfounded this recommendation has been overlooked by the administration since 2008."

"The CIP codes were inconsistent, and are being updated by the administration," Toma stated.

Multiple mitigating factors play a role in accurately assessing the level of professors' pay at Armstrong when compared to other institutions.

Suffice it to say, the issue of faculty salaries needs to be addressed.

The results of the faculty salary study can be found on Armstrong's website. Go to the home page and click on faculty resources, then scroll down to Senate Agenda and click on the January 2014 meeting. The report begins on page 76.

"I'm having a little bit of déjà vu here," Rich joked. "This is my second time running, hopefully I'll have a little bit of luck this go around. The reason I'm running for SGA president is not for the title, not for the stipend, but I want to expedite the change that you guys want to see."

Both candidates were for the raising of the student activity fee, which funds all SGA and Campus Union Board events, such as Open Mic nights and other special events. Rich is in "overwhelming support" for the increase, and Nunez said that "not only did I support it, I thought about it, I wrote it, and I supported its passage."

During the vice president's debate, the crowd was responsive but respectful to the candidates. But as the evening wore on, the moderator had to intervene several times to either ask the crowd to quiet down or be respectful of the candidates.

At one point, Rich was answering a question addressed to him by the moderator and was interrupted by an audience member.

"You didn't answer the question," she said.

Phillips quickly picked up his microphone, and asked the audience to wait until the end of the debate to address questions to the candidates.

Many of the issues raised by the audience and the candidates hit a few nerves. It's important for candidates to be well-informed about the issues that their audience face. Armstrong's student body is very diverse, and SGA's president will need to be aware of these differences and be able to lead and adequately represent them to the rest of Georgia.

## Archaeobus returns

By RANDEE MAY

The ArchaeoBus made its annual trip to the Armstrong campus Feb. 28. Last year's visit was cold and rainy, but this year's visit provided much better weather for the participants.

Students and staff of Armstrong, homeschooled children, Godley Station School and St. Frances Cabrini Catholic School all took part in the exhibit, held in the University Hall parking lot.

The ArchaeoBus is run by the Society of Georgia Archaeology (SGA), a nonprofit organization whose goal is to unite all persons interested in Georgia archaeology.

Rita Elliott, the Chair of the ArchaeoBus, gave a captivating lecture on the extraordinary things that the SGA has done for archaeological sites here in Savannah and across Georgia.

"We've done excavations at the Davenport house. We have twenty-one boxes to wash, count and put into the database, before we figure out what those artifacts were doing there."

She explained how Savannah had humble beginnings, and holds one of the oldest and richest sites to excavate.

"The Davenport house was outside of the city at the time, so the artifacts shouldn't have been there," she continued.

Elliott even explained how they occasionally found gold during excavations.

"It's rare though, and we don't get to keep it," she said.

Students in Jonathan McKellar's Intro to Anthropology class made up a majority of those listening to the miniature lecture. History major Antonio Singleton seemed to know

his stuff as he quickly answered questions Elliott asked the audience.

"I liked the arrow heads and the leftover piece of plate," he said, while describing one of the exhibits students studied.

Third graders from Godley Station School spoke of how they enjoyed their field trip. Genesis Watson stated, "It was good. I learned that some archaeologists use sand to find out things."

"It's like a puzzle," one little boy exclaimed as he put together pieces of a plate that had been dug up.

Armstrong's Anthropology club also participated in the arrival of the ArchaeoBus. They set up a craft table making masks and bracelets for the children. They also sold bracelets created by an organization called Mayan Hands, a group of artists based in Ecuador.

Part of the raised funds will support the group's service project during their study abroad trip.

Richard Jones, the club's treasurer, attended the event to personally inform students on campus about the Anthropology Club.

Jones said that the greatest benefit of being in the club is "learning about culture and diversity of humanity."

"We've gone to a lecture on the Eastern Island Caves. We saw the Buddhist Monks and we volunteer with Jungle Friends," Jones continued.

Jungle Friends is a primate sanctuary that gives unwanted primates a permanent home. The club volunteers its time to clean and help maintain the habitats.

As Jones said, "We're here to learn and experience."

## Treasure FROM PAGE 1

Animal Control Officer Christian Sutherland appreciated the volunteers' hard work and encouraged students to get involved after the event. "We're revamping our volunteer program. We're always short-handed and need help," he said.

After the hard work was complete, volunteers were given the pleasure of petting the animals and feeding them treats. Throughout the day, many volunteers updated the progress

that they were making to social media sites. They captured the moments by taking pictures with their friends as well as the work that they were participating in. This was a great way for groups to stay connected and to be in the know about what was going on at other locations. When everyone met back on campus, Armstrong treated the volunteers to lunch in the Student Union Ballroom.

Once again, Treasure Savannah provided the Armstrong community a great opportunity to keep connections in Savannah strong as well as genuinely assist people in the community that surrounds Armstrong.

## Salaries FROM PAGE 1

However, Armstrong did not submit salary data to CUPA-HR in 2012. Because of this, the committee is urging Armstrong to thoroughly submit the proper data to the CUPA-HR in the future. The report by the committee states they are disturbed by the lack of data submitted in 2012: "Failure to submit the data needlessly burdened the committee with additional work to complete the study."

The committee suggests salary studies be performed every three years to ensure Armstrong's faculty has value and retains quality instruction.

Each faculty member has a CIP

code, which is a taxonomic coding scheme with information regarding their discipline, rank and specialty. CUPRA-HR collects CIP codes from universities nationwide.

Because Armstrong is a growing, diverse institution, it is imperative the administration submits up-to-date codes for all faculty members. This will ensure accuracy when performing such studies.

The report also states, "The committee recommends that the current CIP codes for some faculty at Armstrong be reviewed and realigned with CIP codes used by Armstrong's peer institutions." The lack of up-to-date codes creates distortions in the analysis, leading to inaccurate data. This issue is not new:

"The faculty salary studies completed in 2008 and 2011 recommended the CIP coding

have a big season for the Texas Rangers.

**Supporting Actress:** Many people saw Lolo Jones as an act, and felt others deserved to be on the USA bobsled team in the 2014 Winter Olympics. Act or not, Jones made Team USA with little experience and the achievement alone is impressive. However, she

was not on the top USA team, and ended up placing 11th in Sochi. Jones did win a gold medal in 2013 for bobsledding at the mixed team event at the 2013 World Championships. She did all this after being a track star for years, when she last placed fourth in the 100 meter hurdles at the 2012 Summer Olympics.



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