

Brief Biographical Sketch:

I grew up in a small town in western Washington on something that resembled a farm (my parents own donkeys). I have long had an interest in science, and physics specifically, at least since I was in sixth grade. Then, I had an inspiring teacher who would give me books to read on physics while the rest of the class worked on their homework.

In high school, I was in band, played baseball and was captain of the knowledge bowl team (imagine Jeopardy! with teams). In high school, the knowledge bowl coach and calculus teacher was very influential in my education. He and I would sometimes talk for hours after school about science and mathematics. (I was, and still am, a nerd.) After graduating from high school, I attended the University of Washington where I double majored in physics and mathematics. In college, I was a teaching assistant for three years for the physics department where I graded homework and exams for minimal pay. I also was on the College Bowl team (the college version of knowledge bowl) and took two years of French. (Je sais un peu de francais.)

In the summers after my sophomore and junior years, I took part in the National Science Foundation program Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) where I went to the University of Toledo in Ohio and the University of Minnesota to do research with faculty there. In my junior and senior years at UW, I became involved in research with two professors.

Not wanting to enter the real world, I entered graduate school at **Stanford University and am now a fourth year physics student. I am studying theoretical particle physics at SLAC National Accelerator Lab. This summer, I traveled to Europe for 5 weeks attending conferences, giving talks and a summer school in Corsica. In the (small amount of) free time that I have, I enjoy skiing (I've skied since I was four), backpacking and playing the trumpet.**