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**PRESS RELEASES**

**Rep. Nass: UW-Madison busy researching fantasy baseball**  
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Rep. Steve Nass (608) 266-5715

*Nass: UW System needs higher tuition why????*

State Representative Steve Nass (R-Whitewater), Chairman of the Assembly Colleges and Universities Committee, responded with confusion and amusement over the announcement from UW-Madison regarding high priority research into fantasy baseball and “competitive fandom.” The press release from UW-Madison was issued on the same day (July 13, 2007) that the Board of Regents and System President Kevin Reilly were busy meeting to address the crisis of how to manage under the Assembly Republican Budget that provides a 3% increase in state funding for the system.

“On the same day that System leaders are trying to convey a message of doom and gloom over a 3% increase in state funding, the folks over at UW-Madison promote the concept of ‘sifting and winnowing’ by announcing research into one of the greatest dilemmas of our time – fantasy baseball. The people running the UW System really ought to consider taking some of this material and piloting a television sit-com,” Nass said.

The groundbreaking research will look at how three different fantasy baseball leagues organize themselves, their rules for play, how they compete and how players feel about their play. Participants will also complete surveys that seek to get at where they rank on fandom and competitiveness. The research is being conducted by two assistant professors in the UW-Madison School of Education.

“So, System President Kevin Reilly and the Board of Regents believe that the people of Wisconsin should pay higher taxes and families should be socked with skyrocketing tuition increases to help promote these types intellectual farces,” Nass said.

“Maybe with higher taxes the Ivory Tower elites at UW-Madison can solve the great psychological mystery posed by the joy that adults and kids get while playing dodgeball or kickball. It couldn’t be that most simple of reasons – it’s fun,” Nass quipped.



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