

Bring more to your front page without the clutter. Utilizing AJAX to bring content in on the fly.

Who am I?

Richard Orelup

Programming Czar at Valparaiso University for the past 2 years, previously with an IT Consulting Firm

Web Developer for the past 6 years and working with AJAX for the past 3 years

This is my first conference presentation.....

Establishing the problem

Most fans want access to only a specific sport that they are interested in.

Each sport feels that it should have equal treatment when compared to other sports

Overview of possible solutions

Content Puke

Adobe Flash / Flex

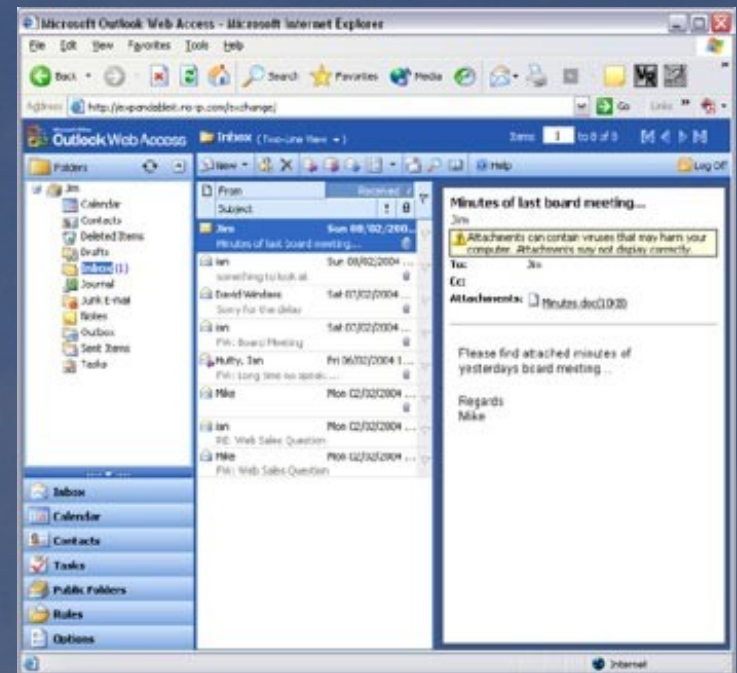
AJAX



What is AJAX

Asynchronous JavaScript and XML

Term created by a consulting firm in 2005 but the concept was created by Microsoft back in 1996 and used for their Outlook Web Access interface



What is AJAX really

Grabbing data after the page has loaded

This is made possible by the XMLHttpRequest (XHR) function

Does not really need to use XML

It's a Buzzword

- Great for pitching to your higher ups
- Great for submitting to conferences so you can speak about it



Can make Flash-like interfaces without Flash

No rebuilding of SWFs

More Benefits of AJAX

Devices like the iPhone support AJAX so you can bring rich experiences to those devices.



Here come the negatives

Some people and devices don't support Javascript

Solution

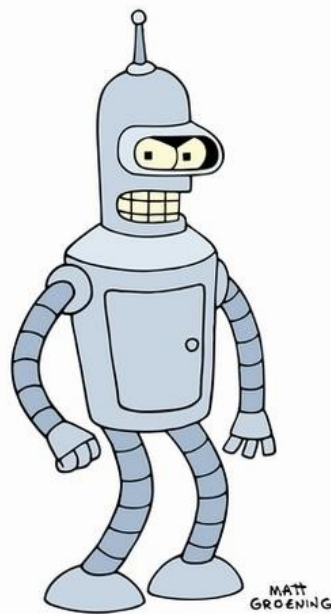
Graceful degradation

Robots

Google™



YAHOO!



msn™



“With great power comes great responsibility”
- Uncle Ben (Spider-Man)

It becomes very easy to change the functionality of your website, but users might not “get” it.

Example - The Back Button

Pick a framework

YUI
MooTools
Prototype
dojo

A-Grade Browser Support Chart

This chart lists browsers that receive A-grade support as defined by [Graded Browser Support](#).

	Win 2000	Win XP	Win Vista	Mac 10.4	Mac 10.5
Firefox 3.†	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade	A-grade
Firefox 2.†		A-grade			A-grade
IE 7.0		A-grade	A-grade		
IE 6.0	A-grade	A-grade			
Opera 9.5†		A-grade			A-grade
Safari 3.1†				A-grade	A-grade

More lessons learned

Test in as many browsers AND OSs as possible

Selenium

<http://selenium.openqa.org/>

Premature Ajaxulation

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/04/14/ajax_charlatans_old_school_attack/

Bad security practices are now obviously in the open

Old attacks reappear and become easier to perform

Possibility of negative performance side effects

Got Questions?

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Feel free to stop me around the Hotel
(best chance to find me is at the craps table)

