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An uplifting story on a depressing news day

by Bobby Tanzilo



Medford's Matt Razink received a functional prosthetic hand last week on "Anderson."

On a day filled with the sad news of a fatal school shooting and a tragic Wauwatosa train accident that left an 11-year-old dead, I did hear one uplifting story Monday.

Maybe you've already heard about Medford's Matt Razink, who lost his lower left arm in a work accident almost six years ago. Last week he was on Anderson Cooper's eponymous TV show to get a prosthetic arm that was handmade for him by Advanced Arm Dynamics.

The arm uses the body's own electrical impulses to control what appears to be a fully functional hand.

The moment the arm was strapped on, Razink – who moments earlier told Cooper he missed playing catch with his son Dustin – was able to control the fingers. It's pretty amazing to see.

"Just to be able to have a functional hand that looks like a hand is awesome," Razink told Cooper.

The technology was developed for wounded soldiers and Razink is the first civilian to receive the prosthetic.

You can see a video of the segment [here](#).

Also on the emotional episode, Cooper gave Razink basket full of Brewers swag, including an autographed ball that Matt was immediately able to grasp.

And live on camera from Maryvale, Ariz., Brew Crew hurlers John Axford and Randy Wolf invited Razink and his family to Spring Training – thanks to Southwest Airlines and Double Tree Hilton in Phoenix – and suggested he start warming up to throw out the first pitch at Miller Park on June 3.

Wolf said, "it'd be my pleasure if I could catch you. From one lefty to another."

"I'm very up for that," said Razink. "I'll be practicing. I'll put my long johns on and start practicing."