

CIVILIANS IN SPACE: TESLA CEO ANNOUNCES ALL-CIVILIAN TRIP

by Griffin "To the Moon" Velez

Elon Musk, founder and CEO of SpaceX, and currently the world's richest person, is planning for another huge step into space-tourism. In the fourth quarter of this year, October-December, SpaceX is sending four civilians to space.

While not the first time a civilian has been to space, this event is way more groundbreaking. All other civilians that have been to space were extremely rich multi-millionaires who spent tens of millions of dollars to spend a couple of days in space. Musk and SpaceX are not creating a service where rich people can spend fortunes to have the opportunity to see space. They are making something that allows an average person to go to space one day.

All four people have already been picked for this opportunity of a lifetime. Jared Isaacman, CEO of Shift4 Payments, a payments processor, is a passenger on the Dragon capsule, the spacecraft that the four people will ride on. Isaacman bought four spots and actually gave the other three away, as a part of a charity initiative to raise money for Saint Jude Chil-

dren's Research Hospital. The second spot was given to Hayley Arceneaux, a former patient of Saint Jude's and a current physician assistant at Saint Jude's, who was picked for benefiting from Saint Jude's. The second is Dr. Sian Proctor, who was picked for her use of Shift4 Payments software to program an online store. The third and final passenger is Cristopher Sembroski, someone who donated to Saint Jude's. He did not actually win, but his anonymous friend did and gifted him the reward of going because he preferred not to go.

The mission has been dubbed the name "Inspiration4", showing Musk's and Isaacman's enthusiasm for future missions. Isaacman said in a statement that the mission is "the realization of a lifelong dream and a step towards a future in which anyone can venture out and explore the stars." Musk and Isaacman are working together to provide humanity with a service previously thought impossible for a long time. SpaceX is pushing to further the journey that was started back in the '60s. Taking huge leaps, SpaceX is quickly showing us the future of space, and our



Elon Musk standing in front of SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft.

ability to traverse it.

Safety is a main concern for the crew. While they will be trained for space by SpaceX in the months prior to the launch, the company doesn't think anything can be safe enough. Elon Musk has said, "Any mission where there's a crew on board makes me nervous." He also has said, "The risk is not zero." This will be a huge hurdle that SpaceX will have to face if they want to be the future of space travel. The plan is for normal people to go to space. SpaceX will need to be able to quickly and effectively train civilians how to properly and safely be in space. Astronauts are normally in years of training by the government to ready their body and their minds for the strains of being in space. For this mission, and maybe others, the civilians don't have years, they have months, and SpaceX needs to be able to ensure to the maximum of their ability that the safety of the crewmates is almost guaranteed.

It is no doubt that SpaceX knows what it is doing, however. SpaceX constantly sends shuttles to the International Space Station. They are also the first private

company to launch and retrieve spacecraft, send humans into orbit, along with a handful of other achievements no private company had ever done before.

This isn't the only big thing Elon Musk has planned for future years. Musk has said in an interview that he is "highly confident" that SpaceX would send a manned mission to Mars in 2026. If he accomplishes this, it would be the first time a human has ever been to Mars. Before this, Musk said, "We want to send an uncrewed vehicle there in two years." This uncrewed vehicle would most likely be a huge supply drop for the people in 2026 to use, so they would not have to bring as much with them on their spaceship. Musk also plans to send Japanese billionaire Yusake Maezawa to the moon in 2023, along with around eight other artists Maezawa will invite, paint the moon, and other things in space for Maezawa. With all of these huge landmarks coming up in SpaceX's future, we could become a multi-planetary civilization sooner than we thought.



One of SpaceX's many successful launches.

Covid-19 Update

Why the Global Pandemic is Far from Over

by Nathan "Diamond Hands" Khichi

Over the recent months, the pandemic situation in the U.S. has improved significantly. 26.7% of the U.S. population is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and 216 million people have received at least one dose of the vaccine. As the vaccine demand decreases in the United States and having already secured 1.2 billion doses the question becomes - is it time to start helping other countries?

In the beginning of the pandemic, many countries in the developing world were particularly at risk. They simply do not have the healthcare infrastructure to manage an outbreak of such magnitude. India, with a population of over 1.3 billion, looked to be one of the countries that would be severely impacted by this new virus. Low income families live in extreme poverty and everyone lives in very close proximity to one another. To the world's surprise, a nightmare in India thankfully never really seemed to happen. This, however, has all sadly changed in the past weeks as cases and deaths have soared in the country. India's health system is not equipped to handle the sudden rise in cases. Outside of major hospitals in Delhi, there are lines of 50 to 100 ambulances with patients waiting to be treated. There is also a shortage of oxygen and hospital beds. Right now there are 2 patients per hospital bed in Delhi right now. All of these factors may contribute to India's already high death rate, as many patients who could be treated and survive are not. New variants may also be affecting this outbreak. India is dealing with the new variant named B.1.617, but scientists are still trying to find out if it is playing a significant role.

Only 8% of India's population has received at least one dose of the vaccine so far. This is extremely low, so it is not surprising that when restrictions were relaxed, cases skyrocketed. We do not even know how many actual cases there are in India, as they have low testing availability. India is testing 1 out of



A relative of a person who died of COVID-19 is consoled by another during cremation in Jammu, India, Sunday, April 25, 2021 (Al Jazeera)

every 1,000 people, compared to the U.S. which is 5.5 out of 1,000. 30% of all COVID tests in India are coming back positive. If the whole population got tested the number would be nothing like the world has ever seen. Ramanan Laxminarayan who is an economist and epidemiologist and founder and director of the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy said, 'We don't know the cause of death for four out of five people in normal times' in India, 'only one in five deaths is medically recorded' — and "that has continued during COVID." India's cases and deaths are likely much higher than the official number show right now.

In conclusion, India is really struggling with COVID. India is not the only country in a similar situation. Brazil has faced a similar situation and has suffered immensely over the recent months. So as the pandemic slows down in the U.S. and we are seeing signs of recovery, we have to start thinking about this virus on a global scale to truly end the pandemic. America is the greatest country on Earth and we must help the world fight COVID, because it is not just an American problem, but a problem facing the whole world and we have the resources to end the pandemic and save millions of lives.

MORE ELON MUSK PLEASE! -- HYPERLOOP LEVITATING TRAINS

By Dylan "Not the Best with Directions" Scarpati

Elon Musk, CEO of the Tesla Incorporation, has begun a project to create a vac-train that could travel from Los Angeles to San Francisco in a half-hour. That's 380 miles! With the help of modern technology, Hyperloop will be able to transport goods and people at record speeds of 760 miles per hour.

What does Hyperloop bring to the table that other vehicles don't? Hyperloop travels at supersonic speeds, faster than planes. Unlike planes, the Hyperloop doesn't cause air pollution or noise pollution. Hyperloop is powered by solar modules making travel extremely cheap and eco-friendly. One may think that a train traveling at 760 mph would be unsafe, but it is much safer than planes and cars. Why would anyone not want to travel via Hyperloop?

What are the weaknesses of Hyperloop? Many trees will have to be cut down before they even start building. The initial cost when constructing the Hyperloop and tunnel will be very expensive. Traveling at high speed will cause motion sickness or dizziness to passengers. Land rights will be hard to obtain to build these all around the country because of each state's laws. When did the race of creating the world's first 'Hyperloop' start? Believe it or not, in the 17th century, many inventors had started making pneumatic tunnels to hold a train that would travel this fast. The idea was originally founded by inventor George Medhurst, but the design lacked and the idea failed. Dublin, London, and Paris are countries that started building pneumatic tunnels,

but likewise they failed and were shut down. Today, we use these pneumatic tubes to deliver mail and many other things.

Today, companies Hyperloop TT and Virgin Hyperloop are working hard to reinvent the Hyperloop and make this impossible dream possible. They have already made prototypes for the Hyperloop that have been tested. Thousands of companies are investing in Hyperloop, speeding up the race by a lot. This past November marked the time where the first passengers boarded the Hyperloop. It is estimated that 150,000+ passengers will be able to ride on the vehicle daily at each station.

How does Hyperloop technology work? Like a plane, Hyperloop gradually propels itself, and it does this by using electromagnets. Hyperloop travels through a vacuum-like tube system. These tubes are extremely narrow and air-sealed: this causes there to be less air pressure and friction, and thus travel faster. At the end of the tube, there's a lot of air resistance to slow the train down.

Where is the Hyperloop being built? As of now, Virgin Hyperloop has built a 500m test track for the Hyperloop. This is located in the desert of Nevada. Virgin Hyperloop is mainly based in Los Angeles, so you can expect many to be built in that area. Virgin is also planning many other foreign projects such as the 12-minute ride from Dubai to Abu Dhabi. On the other hand, Hyperloop TT has built a 320m test track in the city of Toulouse, France.

When will the Hyperloop be released to the public? Virgin Hyperloop's chairman, Jay Walder, said that



Musk's Hyperloop Levitating Trains can Travel up to 760mph!

the Hyperloop would be safe to ride by the year 2030. This model is called the Pegasus. This Hyperloop will only be able to hold two passengers at a time. Hyperloop TT is said to have the Hyperloop released by 2029. Quintero 01 is Hyperloop TT's model name. This version is much longer and can have more people riding than the Pegasus. No promises were made on either side, but both companies hope to go down as the first company to release the Hyperloop.

The Hyperloop models are almost ready for passengers, but the companies need to take a lot more safety measures. For the next ten years, Virgin and Hyperloop TT are making their final touches. The race between the two is very tight.

Virgin has more funding and a patent. Hyperloop TT has many more workers and offices across five different continents. Virgin is currently working on two projects, the Pegasus and the XP-2. Hyperloop is putting all of their eggs in one basket, with the Quintero 01.

The Hyperloop will change modern-day transportation forever. With these built all around the world, travel will be much more efficient. In twenty years, riding the Hyperloop will be the norm. Elon Musk has truly paved the path for the future to come, but the question is, are you ready for the future?

MLB Highlight: Dodgers vs. Padres

By Colin "Brings the Heat" Badcock

I would like to focus on a four game series between the powerhouse Dodgers who owe ~\$742 million in contract money and a team who owes ~\$980 million, the San Diego Padres. The battle of the future vs the present. MVP candidates vs MVP candidates. Fernando Tatis Jr and the Padres vs Mookie Betts and the Dodgers.

Game One - Game one saw rookie Ryan Weathers go against established star Walker Buheler. Through 3 the game was tied up at 0, but now Manny Machado was up with Fernando Tatis on second, He ripped one over the Seager's head to bring in Tatis and give San Diego the lead. In the top of the 6th this lead was extended by a deep fly from Trent Grisham. In the bottom of the 7th inning AJ Pollock responds with a solo shot for LA to make it a 2-1 game. Then, the very next batter Sheldon Neuse follows with another home run to tie the game 2. In the top of the 8th Tatis gives the lead back to the Padres with an RBI double play. In the bottom of the ninth, Mark Melancon Strikes out former MVP Mookie Betts and the heart of the lineup.

Game Two - LA looks to rebound under future hall of famer southpaw Clayton Kershaw, while San Diego put forth ace Yu Darvish. In the top of the third with game tied at 2 Fernando Tatis crushes a ball off of Clayton Kershaw to give San Diego the lead. Then in the bottom of the fifth Tatis blasts another bomb off Kershaw to seal the fate of the game. Now the Padres have guaranteed at least a series tie, but the bigger headline is Tatis homering on the same day 22 years later in the same stadium, with his first home run being in the same inning as when his father for the only time in baseball history hit 2 grand slams in one inning,



Mookie Betts (LAD) and Fernando Tatis Jr. (SD) chatting on second base.

Game Three - LA looks to keep their dreams alive of tying the series with reigning CY Young winner and free agent acquisition Trevor Bauer, and San Diego pitched 2018 Cy Young winner and new acquisition Blake Snell. On the second pitch of the Game, Fernando Tatis Jr Takes the reigning Cy Young deep, mocking his one eye strikeouts while rounding first. In the top of the 6th Tatis goes yard on BAuer again for back to back games with 2 home runs against top 10 pitchers, this made him the youngest player in 50 years to have back to back multi home run games and joins just Barry Bonds to do so at Dodger stadium. Unfortunately Tatis' efforts were in vain as San Diego ended up coming up short.

Game Four - after going down 7-1 in the bottom of the 6th, the Padres begin a comeback starting with a two run single in the seventh, followed by 8th inning RBIs from Eric Hosmer and Jorge Mateo and in the bottom of the ninth Trent grisham and Manny Machado RBI singles tie the game. In the top of the 11th Eric hosmer hits an RBI pop fly to put San Diego up by 1. In the bottom of the 11th San Diego closes out the game and series.

MVP - The undoubted MVP of the series is Fernando Tatis Jr who hit .444 with 10 runs 6 RBIs and 5 HRs.

THE RIDDLER'S REFUGE

By Patrick "Riddlemaker" Goetz

1. *There's a one-story house in which everything is yellow. Yellow walls, yellow doors, yellow furniture. What color are the stairs?*

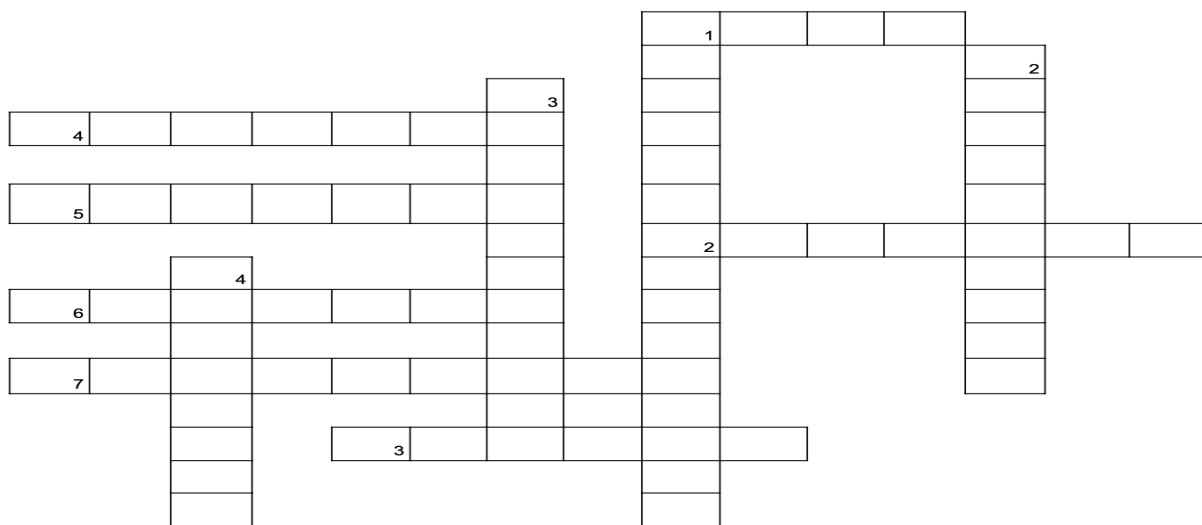
2. *What gets wet while drying?*

3. *What can't talk but will reply when spoken to?*



DYLAN'S CROSSWORD CORNER

By Dylan "Deadline" Scarpati



ACROSS

1. Delbarton's Dining Service
2. Delbarton's Year Book
3. An everyday free period
4. Delbarton's Newspaper
5. The Kountze family mansion; now known as _____
6. Delbarton groups led by Juniors and Seniors that help with drives and collections
7. Delbarton's Team Name

DOWN

1. "That which gets cut down grows back stronger."
2. Delbarton's Sister School
3. The first building to hold classes at Delbarton
4. Delbarton's annual informal dance