The Badger Pause

Volume 12, Issue 4 | 14510 N. Cheshire Street, Burton, Ohio | January 2017

Evidence of Antarctic cities?

by Isaac Bryant, BP Staff Writer

In Antarctica a dome-like structure has been found after being naturally uncovered from the ice and it has left geologists baffled. The dome is exactly 400 by 400 feet. Geologists think that it could have been formed as a sastrugi, a type of glassy ice formed from the snow dunes in Antarctica. This theory is very unlikely, though, due to the incredible similarities it has to the dome-like research bases that are stationed in Antarctica already. This dome has been linked to the photon scans of Antarctica done by a NASA satellite revealing city-like structures buried under 2.3 kilometers of solid glacier ice. The city-like structures picked up on the radar show clear signs of man-made development in its design. While this has caused an uproar in the geological and historical community, some call it a hoax do to similarities the structures are shown to have with an ancient Egyptian village. While it does have similarities, the differences in design are enough to show it as a stand-alone development. Cases like this have occurred before, where similarities have been found between civilizations that would have been impossible for they were unlikely to meet. Examples include the Aztec pyramids and Egyptian pyramids, or Inca villages having similar designs to that of African ones. So, the idea of the people living in pre-frosty Antarctica still stands. Further evidence that this could be a reality are maps that show the Antarctic coastline before its ice shelf was formed. The most shocking one shows a possible land bridge or string of islands connecting Antarctica with South America around the time that Alaska still had its massive land bridge with Siberia. This could mean that Antarctica was connected with the entire planet. Do to this fact, the odds of people living in Antarctica have shot through the roof, making the prospect of the Antarctic community even more likely.



photo courtesy of deusnexus.com

Coincidence? I think...NOT!



photo courtesy of mrwallpaper.com

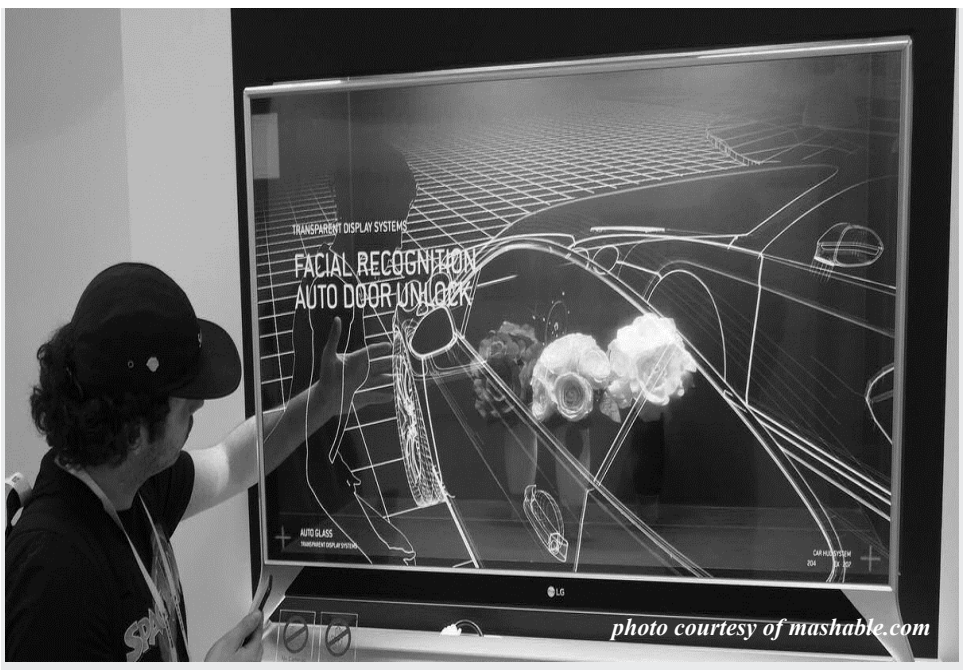


photo courtesy of mashable.com

Look! You can see his hand *right through the screen.*

The Best of CES



by Sam Martinjako, BP Staff Writer



January, while cold by temperature standards, is a very hot month for technology. The annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) takes place over the course of a few days in January. Technology companies showcase their newest devices and innovations for the whole world to see, including big brands such as Samsung, LG, Dell, Asus, Kingston, and surprisingly even Lego. There is a wide variety of gadgets on display, but some definitely stand out more than others. For the sake of convenience, they will be separated into categories with a highlight on the most interesting one(s) from each. Now, without further ado, here they are:

Televisions:

TVs aren't a new technology by any stretch of the imagination, but companies are always finding new ways to improve upon the concept. Previous years introduced us to High Definition video, plasma-based screens to replace CRTs, and LCD screens to replace those. More recent trends include 3D displays, OLED displays, Smart TVs, curved screens, and 4K video. Standing out this year are LG's W7 model and a seemingly unnamed prototype. The W7 is interesting as it is extremely thin. As in, you could hang it on your wall using only magnets since it's not even 4 millimeters thick, according to cnet.com. The TVs from our childhoods weighed up to hundreds of pounds (depending on their size) and took up a huge amount of space. It's amazing how much televisions have changed in such a short period of time. The prototype mentioned previously is interesting because it is partially transparent. Seriously, you can see right through it. While practical uses for this are somewhat slim right now, it is definitely a stepping stone for something greater, possibly bringing us closer to the technology in sci-fi films.

Computers:

While the standard affair of desktops and laptops had a presence at the show, a few of the new designs were particularly astonishing. Acer with its newest entry into its Predator series of gaming laptops bring the 21 X. The main gimmick of the 21 X is that it brings one of the bigger trends in new TVs over to portable computing, a curved screen. It's premium design and internals are enough to make any PC gamer swoon with delight. That is, until they see the price tag of nearly $9000. If the 21 X didn't quite pique your interest, perhaps you'll fancy a prototype known as Project Valerie from Razer more. 4K gaming is becoming a bigger deal, despite many people's computers not being able to handle it very well. So, what does Razer do about it? They shove three 4K screens into a single laptop. You read that right, they made a laptop with three screens at what amounts to be a 12K resolution in total. The prototype for making this work involves pulling the two side screens out of the main screen, making for easy storage. The whole design is subject to change, and might not even be released since it's just a prototype, but imagine walking into a coffee shop to see some guy with a three-screened laptop all setup at one of the small tables. If microcomputers interest you more than either of the two previous devices, Intel's Compute Card is definitely worth looking into.

Intriguing Gizmos:

This category was meant to be dedicated for smartphones, but nothing of note was announced that would interest anybody but enthusiasts. So, other fascinating devices will be displayed instead, such as a smart shower that you can control with your phone. Made by Moen, you can set the temperature and a time limit, all before leaving your bed. Next up, consider throwing away all of your flash drives, because they're pitiful compared to the newest ones from Kingston. You think 64 or 128 gigabytes is a lot of storage for a flash drive? Try one with two terabytes! That's more storage than most people's hard drives! For the more artsy people, Dell is releasing a drawing tablet that has a two-foot long display and a dial for extra controlling options. If you find robotics interesting and you love to build things, Lego is releasing its own robot-making kit that comes with all the parts you need to make your own moving robot.

Other crazy devices include a smart hairbrush, a sticky note printer that connects to your phone, an 8K monitor, robo-nannies (eg. Mattel's Aristotle), e-ink watches, a BMW with holographic screens, and much more. Most of these gadgets should be released this year, so if anything in particular grabbed your attention and you have money to burn-because most of these devices are no doubt going to be pretty darn expensive, then keep your eyes peeled for when they're released. It will be interesting to see how many of the prototypes actually make it to the market.

A PRESIDENTIAL REVIEW

by Julia Losasso, BP Staff Editor


Photo courtesy of Politicus USA.

President Obama, a milestone president will be remembered fondly by many.

The leading man, the commander in chief, the boss. In the history of the United States, 44 men have held this hard earned and exhausting position. In January, the 45th president of the United States will be sworn into office, and a new era will begin. The past eight years, however, have been a legacy in and of themselves. The presidency of Barack Obama was historic from the moment he was elected, and continued to be so throughout his time in office. Elected on the premise of hope and change, Obama delivered to a nation that demanded just that.

Barack Obama came into office in a recession, one of the worst economic periods the US had seen since the Great Depression. Since 2009, the economy has added over eleven million jobs, and has seen increases in both the wage growth and median household income. He was a part of the controversial auto rescue.

One of his greatest legacies, or at least most memorable, was the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare. This highly controversial healthcare law was passed with no republican support. Despite initial challenges implementing the act and enrolling citizens, Obamacare made insurance coverage more expansive to those already enrolled and accessible to those not covered. It focused on rewarding the quality of care, rather than quantity, and arguably, coincided with lower growth in insurance premiums (npr.org, 2016).

As far as the military goes, president Obama's strongest moments were the successful SEAL Team mission to kill Osama Bin Laden, and the withdrawal of thousands of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. Though there is much turmoil still in the Middle East, Obama has resisted a large scale intervention and deployment of troops in areas such as Syria.

Diplomacy, one of President Obama's focuses, made major impacts in the world of US relations and security. In his open letter to the American people, President Obama described how during the US has "Opened up a new chapter with the people of Cuba." (Npr.org, 2016). Additionally, the Iran nuclear deal protects against the Iranian nuclear program, a source of trepidation for many countries. The deal eases sanctions placed on Iran by the United States in return for close monitoring of their nuclear program and limits placed on its capabilities. Though this controversial deal took time and many revisions, it has become a strong point of Obama's diplomatic actions.

As per his open letter, Obama also highlighted the strides made towards a more sustainable and energy efficient nation: "Our dependence on foreign oil has been cut by more than half and our production of renewable energy has more than doubled. In many places across the country, clean energy from the wind is now cheaper than dirtier sources of energy and solar now employs more Americans than coal mining in jobs that pay better than average and can't be outsourced."

What makes the presidency of Barack Obama so influential to the many people that don't know all the details of his policies, or even that disagree with his policies is the positive impact and influence he has had as a leader of our nation. Yes, Obama campaigned on the premise of hope and change, however those messages did not end when his campaign for president did. Throughout his presidency, the number of young people, struggling citizens, and everyday Americans he impacted by his genuine care for a better tomorrow and for the wellbeing of all will be remembered and appreciated for years to come.

On January 10th, President Obama made his last speech as president, in Chicago, where it all began. He poignantly orated, and quoted from one of literature's greats, "Laws alone won't be enough. Hearts must change. If our democracy is to work in this increasingly diverse nation, each one of us must try to heed the advice of one of the great characters in American fiction, Atticus Finch, who said,

"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view … until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

He explained, "For blacks and other minorities, it means tying our own struggles for justice to the challenges that a lot of people in this country face — the refugee, the immigrant, the rural poor, the transgender American, and also the middle-aged white man who from the outside may seem like he's got all the advantages, but who's seen his world upended by economic, cultural and technological change." This message of acceptance, of understanding the struggles each citizen is going through, no matter race, sexual identity, culture, or gender, is one all Americans need to hear, and citizen Obama is someone we all need to strive to be like. In closing, he asked a similar question to that when he took office, "to believe-not in my ability to create change, but in yours."

2016: DOWN FOR THE COUNT

by Abby Carlson, BP Staff Editor

The year of 2016 is one for the books, and not one people want to re-read often, if at all. The anticipation for this year to come to an end was almost tangible as it had a certain connotation of dread accompanying it. After numerous deaths of famous and beloved actors and singers, people were praying for Betty White to escape the wrath of 2016, which she managed to pull off. Shout out to Betty White, and the queen of England for that matter, for being above the 80 year mark and making it to 2017! Although this is one heck of an achievement and shouldn't be overlooked as any small feat, an enormous amount of political and worldly change occurred this past year, many of which need to be revisited and remembered.

Of course your mind automatically goes to the presidential election, and why shouldn't it? The election was full of anger, protesting, lies, and scams, all of which are relatively common in politics. However, the extent to which these were taken was a bit much, and doesn't make for an easy choice when deciding who will be elected to lead our country. Despite all the controversy, on November 8th Donald Trump, a former reality TV star, multi-millionaire, right-wing Republican businessman was elected to be our president for the next four years of our lives. Although he did not win the popular vote of the American people, he did win the electoral vote. This means he'll be leading our country into the next four years of its existence with Mike Pence, the vice president by his side. Good luck America, you're going to need it!

On further notice, Fidel Castro finally kicked the bucket on November 25. As the communist leader of Cuba, Fidel Castro parted ways with life at the ripe age of 90, and according to New York Times journalist Anthony DePalma, "Mr. Castro brought the Cold War to the Western Hemisphere, bedeviled 11 American presidents and briefly pushed the world to the brink of nuclear war." Nice guy. However, before Fidel passed, the Obamas visited his island country of Cuba on March 20, which was the first visit in 88 years!

On August 31st, Brazil impeached their first female president, Ms. Dilma Rousseff for breaking fiscal laws. She decided to move funds between government budget and plug deficit holes in social programs in attempt to be re-elected as president. It probably wasn't the wisest idea to break the laws she was supposed to be enforcing and as she so graciously exampled, it's not the way to be elected or stay in office. (Take notes U.S. politicians).



Photo courtesy of mercopress.com

A Brazilian protestor holds a sign reading "Fora Dilma" which translates to "Off Dilma" in Enlgish.

The United Kingdom held a referendum where votes showed that 52 percent of the UK wanted to leave the European Union on June 23rd, and so they did just that. Adios UK! -The EU

At the beginning of 2016, on February 7th, our good friends the North Koreans decided to launch a long-range rocket intact with a satellite into space, which sat well with everyone. Not really guys, Kim Jong-Un isn't someone you want to mess with, which is also proven by the fifth most successful testing of nuclear bombs over there in North Korea. Oh boy.

On a happier note, NASA's spacecraft Juno began orbiting Jupiter on July 4th! It will soon send close-up pictures of the mysterious planet back to Earth where fellow science nerds can pour over them, trying to prove extraterrestrial life-forms do exist.

Back onto the political track, Hillary Clinton was the first nominated female presidential candidate by a major U.S. presidential party on July 26th (the Democrats). #Bernie would have won.

The Summer Olympics were held in Rio De Janeiro from August 5th to the 21st. Of course, the Olympics can't occur unless something drastic and dramatic happens, so the Zika Virus came in clutch and pitted fear into everyone attending, causing a mass panic to spread faster than the disease itself. On that note, on January 28th (before the Olympics were held) the World Health Organization announced that the disease was spreading in the Americas, which is why those attending from North America were told to be extremely cautious because the U.S. didn't want an outbreak or panic, similar to what happened with Ebola.

There you have it folks, politics and world occurrences of 2016 summed up in a few paragraphs. These are just the tip of the iceberg, as Aleppo and the devastation that has been plaguing Syria haven't been mentioned, nor the numerous terrorist attacks all over the world. It's been a good one 2016, but everyone is ready to move on to bigger and better things in 2017. Hasta la never 2016!

Conundrum of the cranium

by Alexis Caponi, BP Asst. Editor

Everyone knows about déjà vu, the feeling of familiarity, or believing you've seen a new situation previously. However, there is also jamais vu, which is often considered the opposite of déjà vu. It is described as a familiar situation that is not recognized. An example of this is when someone says or writes a word too many times, and suddenly it doesn't look or sound like a real word anymore. A study was conducted at Leeds University where 92 subjects were told to write the word "door" 30 times in one minute. 68% of the subjects reported signs of jamais vu saying that they doubted they were spelling door correctly. This has lead scientists to believe that jamais vu is a symptom of brain fatigue.

Another type of "vu" is presque vu. This feeling is also described as having something on the "tip of the tongue." It is the feeling of being on the brink of an epiphany, but never reaching it. It often leaves people distracted and frustrated at their inability to come up with whatever word or phrase they were searching for. Déjà visté is the uncanny occurrence of knowing a location, despite having never been there before. People have reported drawing up maps of towns or buildings without having any prior knowledge to the location they drew up.

Now it's time to switch gears. This is the main event, the rest has just been a warm up. Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) is the brain disorder where a person houses more than one personality inside of them. B.T., a 37 year-old woman who has kept her name out of the press, has DID. At a young age she got into an accident and was diagnosed with cortical blindness after trauma to her brain. She was completely blind for 15 years until suddenly her sight returned. But not to B.T.. Sight returned to the teenage boy she sometimes became.

B.T. never regained sight, but in over half of her ten personalities she could see again. Doctors didn't believe that her brain injury would heal, but even if it did it didn't explain why her vision would switch on and off throughout her personalities. This lead doctors to believe that her sight loss was caused by psychological trauma, instead of cortical blindness. Something happened to her during her accident that caused her body to react by cutting out her ability to see.



Photo courtesy of janinesiepmann.blogspot.com.

This may seem weird, but it's common for our brains to stop us from seeing. When our eyes see two different images our brain will cut one out to keep it from getting confused by the contradiction. For example, if you hold one hand up to slightly block your view, you should still be able to see everything in front of you, even if you should logically only be able to see the images your hand is not blocking. Our mind works in ways that many scientists and doctors still don't understand, which is why the field of neurology will always be changing and growing.

Cancer: Causes and effects

by Stuart Horvath, BP Staff Writer

Cancer is an epidemic as old as mankind itself. It attacks you from the inside, and comes from the unknown. Cancer is defined as cells losing control of mitosis and then rapidly dividing. After a short amount of time, tumors (which are large bunches of cancer cells) can be found anywhere in the body. Cancer cells are able to rapidly spread throughout your body, causing fatal illness.

With every type of cancer there are stages. Each stage represents a new factor of the cancer. There are more than one hundred types, from skin cancer to lung cancer. Some are more deadly than others. For example, pancreatic cancer has a 2% survival rate. A type of cancer that is a "non-small cell carcinoma" is a slow growing cancer. Cancer is classified as either aggressive or nonaggressive. A common cancer found in children is Leukemia, which is found in the blood stream. In fact every nine minutes a life is taken away by blood cancer. In 2016 alone, 24,400 people died from Leukemia. Thankfully, this tragedy is being worked on 24/7.



Photo courtesy of journeyof1000stitches.blogspot.com.

It is difficult to determine how someone gets cancer. Factors range from smoking cigarettes to fiberglass insulation in homes. Cancer has no feelings and no life; it only takes away people that matter to us. Some may say," it's not fair." They are right, but it is part of life.

The most dedicated people are working towards a cure. We have had many Presidents who put a lot of effort into finding a cure. Billions of dollars are spent annually on cancer research.

Here at Berkshire, we help out cancer research by participating in Relay for Life. Every May there is a group of students from all over Geauga County who gather to fundraise for this research. This is done by marching to support cancer survivors and those who have passed away.

We have ways to treat cancer like radiation, or a more common method called chemotherapy. Chemotherapy is a type of chemical that is used to stop cells from performing mitosis, which means it stops the cancer cells from making more of themselves. The problem with the chemicals is they stop all cells from dividing, causing major conflicts in your body. Side effects for chemotherapy include vomiting, extreme headaches and extreme drowsiness. When radiation is used it targets the tumors and cancer cells, destroying them. This is a difficult and risky procedure because the radiation is sometimes too much and can cause side effects, which could be loss of hair or skin rashes. Neither treatment promises a full recovery, but can benefit the patients' quality of life. There are other methods, but radiation and chemotherapy are the two most common (and effective) treatments.

Thousands of Americans die every year from cancer. This has become a worldwide phenomenon that is being researched extensively. Cancer does not care who you are, how old you are or if you have children. All cancer does is take. Hopefully, one day a cure will be found.

Sibling Stereotypes

by Claire Milano, BP Asst. Editor

If you have siblings, you've searched far and wide for those funny memes that say, “If you're a middle child, you can relate to this…”. The oldest child is like a mini-version of mom or dad, the middle is the moody, quiet, and mysterious one always looking for attention, and the youngest is the baby, who gets away with EVERYTHING. But are these stereotypes true? I’ve asked around the BP staff and have gotten some great answers.

Sam Martinjako, the youngest of his family, says that his older brother is “more responsible, mature, but also more of a tight-wod.” Kody West, also the youngest of his family, describes his sister, the middle sibling, “[liking] to have her own way. She always has random outbursts for attention.” Aiden Burkley, a middle child, would describe her youngest sister as “extroverted and bold. We get along really well.”

If you are like me, with three siblings, you might be a little confused as to which category you belong in. I was the youngest child for six years, then my baby sister was born and everything changed. I will call the category I belong in “The Transitional Kids.” Transitional Kids have gone through the transitional phase from youngest to middle. In fact, we are the second, third, and fourth (and so on…) middle kids. If you thought first middle kids were ignored, you won't believe how bad it is for the other middle kids.

But there are some perks to having older and younger siblings. For starters, you have the youngest who will always want to play with you. Sometimes it can get annoying, but the fun times outway the others. With two older siblings, you have two alternatives to mom and dad having to drive you places. If your parents can’t take you to the mall, ask your brothers or sisters! Most likely, they will drive you and even hang out with you for a while. However, those aren’t the only great thing about siblings. They will always be there for you and laugh with you through tough times. It’s like that famous saying: “Having a brother or sister is like having a best friend you were born with.”



photo coutesy of FunnyAnd.com

The unthanked art: Animation

by Aiden Burkley, BP Staff Writer

The audience for an animated movie usually consists of a crying child, an aggravated parent, and you, probably dragged there by a friend just to see some movie that won’t stop singing. Most likely not much thought is put into watching the movie, because the kid in front of you is trying to sing louder than the lyrics, and the mother’s reaction is just too funny to not witness.

It’s likely that the entire movie is affected by this experience, and that you’ll never buy it on DVD to actually watch it. That brings us to why this article is here, to inform you whether animated movies are worth your time or not.

You’ve probably never noticed, but animated movie credits are super long. That’s because so many people collaborate on all those little details that are so often overlooked. Even the most recent Disney movie, Moana, was worked on by over 200 people. So many people working together on one story and one movie, all the while coordinating their art styles to one another.

Pixar, a company that often collaborates with Disney in their animation, sheds some light on the process and work put into their films. Years can be spent contemplating story ideas and considering them. Travelling to other parts of the world to gain inspiration is often a tactic animators use when an idea is pitched. 2D animation, so underappreciated as of late, that it was almost entirely replaced by more technological techniques, requires hand-drawn studies and art. Consequently, most recent films use the style of 3D animation, and they go into the designated program and begin making movement and capturing the voice actors’ dialogue. In this stage, it tends to look a little creepy, so then the animators-- once accepting the movement and base of the animation-- go into shading and lighting. They add texture, hair, fur, wrinkles, etc. to give it a realistic feel over the trademark artistic style of Disney. Michael Giacchina uses this quote to describe their team’s equal involvement, and how they make everyone’s talent apparent: “Making movies isn't always about pride in what we can achieve as individuals... Making movies is about the pride you feel as a group.”

Often the movies put out into theatres don’t do as well as their producers would have thought, due to a bad or boring plots or a rarer form of animation being used. Pixar, Disney, and Dreamworks are animation companies that usually receive the acknowledgement they deserve, but there are so many companies that don’t earn the recognition they work so diligently for.

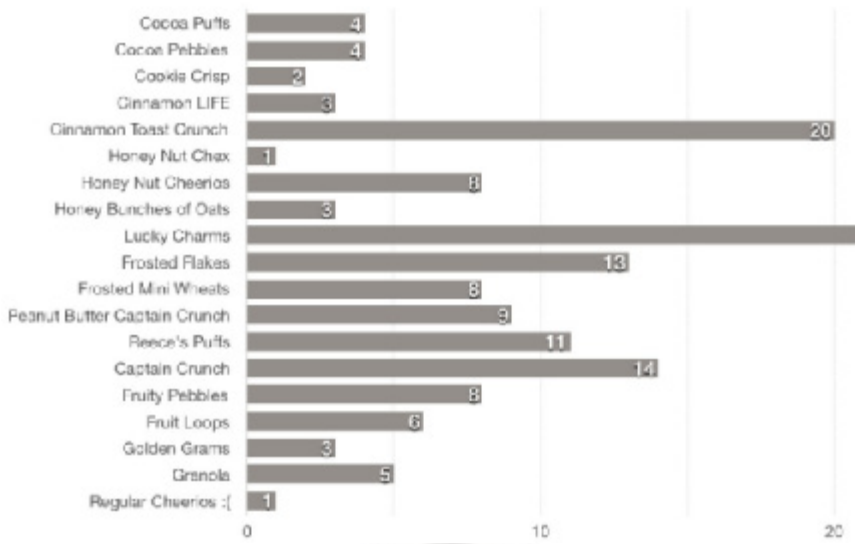
Princess and the Frog was the last 2D animated movie created by Disney, which is hard to believe; it feels almost like yesterday. Though, there are companies fighting to keep these techniques alive. Laika studios, for example, responsible for Coraline and the recent Kubo and The Two Strings claims that "When we started Laika, stop-motion animation was taking its last, dying breath." Stop-motion animation, using clay, built sets, and large props is a technique dropped long ago due to its difficulty. Shooting 24 different frames for just a second of movement is a slow, draining process, certainly, but the beauty of it definitely shines through. It is risk-takers like Laika that keep this art form alive.

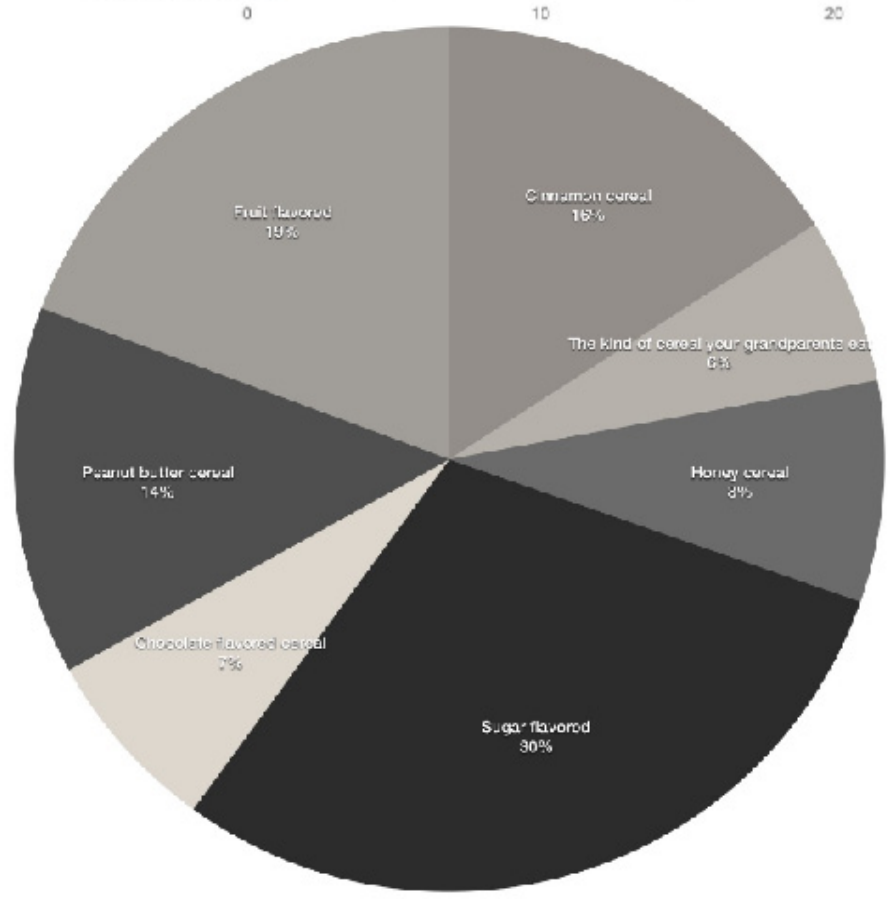
So, maybe if you have to, refrain from going to the movies, but consider these details. There is magnificence behind the dedication these artists put into these stories. Appreciate the risk-takers and support the immense talent, for these films show the world stories that live action never could capture. “I am an animator. I feel like I’m the manager of an animation cinema factory. I am not an executive. I’m rather like a foreman, like the boss of a team of craftsmen. That is the spirit of how I work.” - Hayao Miyazaki.

BHS Poll:
What is the best kind of cereal?

by Kody West, BP Staff Writer

Webster’s Dictionary defines cereal as “a breakfast food made from grain.” To me, however, and many others, it is so much more (and maybe less? Because a lot of cereal isn’t really made of grain.) Cereal isn’t just a source of nutrition, it’s what powers us through the morning, or helps us relax after a hard day as we enjoy it for a late snack. Cereal isn’t just food, it’s a passion and a way of life. Everyone has their own favorite cereal, maybe they like the way it tastes better than others, or maybe they like the fun toy in the box, or even the colorful marshmallows that float atop the milk. All of this begs the question: what is the best cereal? In an attempt to answer this question, The Badger Pause staff have taken to the hallways and performed a vigorous survey. The results are as follows:





STAR WARS: ROGUE ONE REVIEW

By Aiden Burkley, BP taff Writer



After the seventh continuation of the popular *Star Wars* movies-- *The Force Awakens*-- arrived in theatres, it seemingly met the high expectations of thousands of fans. So there's no question that *Rogue One: a Star Wars Story*, an addition to the series highlighting different characters from the story-line's past, had high standards to meet as well.Technically speaking, respected critics that gauge the Tomatometer, gave it a "Certified Fresh: 85%". Also, aside from critics, 89% of audiences claimed to enjoy it. As a casual movie-goer, these ratings probably dictate whether you want to pay the ridiculously expensive concession prices to go see it or not. Though, as someone who has seen it, I can shed some light on why this movie is worth your time and how it meets high expectations.In Jyn Erso's mission to understand and obtain her father's plans, her allies and friends form the rebel group: Rogue One. A ragtag team of fighters who heighten the movie's fulfillment mostly in their diversity. Though it almost seems impossible to appreciate any characters more than the original trio, you can find yourself laughing at the sarcastic bickering Jyn Erso, Cassian Andor, and his trusted robotic companion get themselves into.In this movie's fast-paced, exciting mission there isn't any unnecessary romantic plot being rushed through it, rather it focuses on the building of trust and the role each of these characters play in gaining the plans for the Death Star (Look, that really isn't a spoiler if you have any knowledge at all of the first three movies). With all their own individual motivation to reach the goal, it makes it interesting to watch them fight united.All in all, it was an experience that would make any *Star Wars* lover be brought right back into the feeling of the first three movies. It belongs in this storyline. Comical moments, and heart-breaking ones fill this movie to its brim, and it deserves all the acknowledgment it receives. So, pay those concession prices! It's absolutely worth it.

Collateral Beauty Review

By Isaac Bryant, BP Staff Writer



Collateral Beauty is a a gorgeous drama starring Will Smith, Keira Knightly, and Helen Mirren. Collateral Beauty is about a man named Howard who has recently lost his young daughter and the event has left him traumatized and depressed. His company begins to fail and his friends decide that enough is enough and try to begin help him feel. His friends then enroll the help of inspiring play actors to become the ones Howard has been writing letters to so that he may talk out his pain. Their goal is to bring Howard back down to earth to help save their company that they've all built from the ground up before he is entirely consumed by his sadness. Through this his friends are able to find themselves as well as help their dear friend Howard. The storytelling of *Collateral Beauty* is excellently executed keeping you in gulfed in the story creating and empathetic feeling for the viewer to have between themselves and the character. The realistic situations that the stories presents really hit home and help drive the plot of the supporting characters, that are a huge part of the main story itself. *Collateral Beauty* is a movie that shouldn't be missed, and is definitely worth seeing under any circumstances.

The Emoji Movie: The Scariest Non-Horror Movie Of 2017

By Jacob Wichert, BP Staff Writer



2016 is over, so we can finally start putting all of the bad memories accompanied with it behind us and start looking forward to 2017. Yet while we're all likely hoping for a better year, the odds aren't exactly in our favor. "why?," you may find yourself asking, oblivious and unaware of one particularly world-ending event that is yet to come. In fact, you're probably struggling to think of anything that could possibly be worse than clowns roaming the streets and beloved celebrities dropping like flies. But I can tell you, and it's arguably worse than any event that took place last year: *The Emoji Movie*. Set to release on August 4th, *The Emoji Movie* is an animated film based around the popular icons that come with all Apple and Android devices. The concept itself is a terrible idea as it is, but there are plenty more reasons to dread the release of this insult to moviegoers everywhere. One of the most hilariously bad aspects of this movie can be found in the characters themselves. While Sony Animated Pictures went out of their way to purchase the rights to official *Emojis*, they didn't make any of their characters replicas of the real thing. Instead, they designed them as cheap knockoffs of various emojis at which the audience will have to guess what they are supposed to resemble. Another reason as to why so many people are outraged by the very concept of this movie is the fact that, in order to begin creating it, a CGI-based Popeye movie was cancelled. Had this not happened, *The Emoji Movie* probably wouldn't have been received so poorly. Upon its release, I urge you to skip out on this movie when it hits theaters in August. I can guarantee you that there'll be a number of better movies to watch. If we're lucky, Pixar's *Cars 3* will be out by then and will overshadow *The Emoji Movie* in sales.

Blatantly offensive jokes, and why it's time to stop

by Abby Carlson, BP Editor

Whether we knowingly attempt to be insensitive or are simply desensitized to delicate situations, jokes are getting out of hand. I can't count how many times a day I hear someone crack a joke about cutting him/herself, sticking a finger down his/her throat, or even harming others, usually with the attempt of bringing about laughs from fellow students, which is sadly a common reaction.

Too often mental illnesses and devastation are turned into a light hearted joke, which in turn makes the issue less serious and in some cases more shameful. Imagine struggling with your sexuality, an eating disorder, or even being the victim of sexual abuse and looking for comfort and support from those around you, but instead getting bombarded with unknowing jokes and sometimes even mockery. While this is most likely not intentional, the joker doesn't see the issue in as serious a light. People struggling with eating disorders, self harm, sexual abuse, suicidal thoughts, depression, sexual orientation, or even weight shouldn't be turned into jokes, they are real people who need help and support and shouldn't be shamed or mocked for who they are.

Not to deflate your happiness and ruin your day, but here are numerous facts regarding serious issues turned into jokes. Eating disorders are the most common form of mental health problems and have the highest mortality rate across the United States with a stunning 30 million people dying from this mental health issue each year. Every 98 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted, which includes rape. On average, 121 people commit suicide each day, which interestingly costs the United States 44 billion dollars each year. Obesity exceeds 20 percent in each state, making America the eighth fattest country in the world. Each year, one in five females and one in seven males engage in some form of self harm. Depression affects about 15 million Americans each year, and is the leading cause of suicide.

After viewing all of these devastating facts, perhaps it will be realized just how detrimental these illnesses are, and just how serious. It's understandable to want to joke around and make your friends laugh, but with subjects as sensitive as these, it just isn't appropriate. Even if you aren't joking with the people who are struggling with these illnesses directly or intentionally, it is impossible to know exactly who has dealt with what and how it affected their lives. Have some respect for people who are struggling through life and stop turning their hardships into jokes, no one deserves that and should receive all the support they can get.

Student ID perks

by Claire Milano, BP Asst. Editor

ATTENTION CCP STUDENTS: If you have a



Flashcard (which if you don't, you might want to go get one ASAP because they won't allow you on campus), you need to realize the full potential of this little plastic card.

First of all, if you are a movie lover you need to go see Moana, like now. Second of all, you can use your ID to save some major moola. On a regular movie day, excluding $5 Movie Night, you can use your card to get 15% off your ticket total at Stadium 16 (theater by the Mentor mall). Just walk up to the booth and say, "Do you guys do Student Discounts?" Then, they'll ask for your ID. Just simply show it to them and they will give you the discount.

Another place to take advantage of your ID card is Coffee Corners right down the street. When Sue gives you your total, do the same thing with the movie theaters. The discount is around 15%, just like the movies! With this new found knowledge, you can explore even more places and save a few bucks.



ACC: An untraditional education

by Stuart Horvath, BP Staff Writer

Auburn Career Center is a technical and career-based learning facility. Auburn is meant to help prepare you for your career out of high school. For example, there is a class for Cosmetology. It helps you become certified in many different job areas. Another example of a class to prepare you for is a career in Advanced Manufacturing. In this class you learn how to properly use tools, as well as learning about the amazing advancements the work force has to offer. These are only two of the twenty-three programs Auburn has to offer.

To attend Auburn you need to be a Junior or Senior. If you are a Junior, you will go to Auburn in the morning, and take Berkshire classes at the end of the day. If you are a Senior, you will go to Berkshire classes in the morning and Auburn until the end of the day. I am a Sophomore planning on attending Auburn Career Center next year for Allied Health. I will learn "Basics of Anatomy," and "Introduction to Health Science," and many more topics while being certified in important medical areas. After I finish my two years at Auburn and receive all of my credits, I will look for work at a pharmacy while taking classes part time at Kent Geauga. I hope to start as a Pharmacy Technician and work up until I get my degree. All programs at Auburn offer so many jobs right out of high school. Another great part of Auburn is the fact that it costs so little. Fees depend on the program, but are minimal. Auburn grants many schools a great opportunity to take a big jump start on their career. You will be in classes with new people from different areas, learning new things and making friends. I am looking forward to spending the next two years at Auburn, expanding my knowledge.

AUBURN CAREER CENTER

From one to YUM: A Burton food review

by Alexis Caponi, BP Asst. Editor

There are only three restaurants in Burton, excluding Subway®. These include Warren's Spirited Kitchen, The Smith Restaurant, and JC's. Warren's and Smith's are both fairly new to the community, and JC's isn't all that old either, probably close to seven years now. Out of these three restaurants I decided to find out which was the favorite in the school.

When I asked around at the school almost all the votes for favorite were in JC's favor. This could be contributed to the fact that many of these votes were by default. Not a lot of people have been to Warren's or Smith's. Those who have been to more than one, say that they like JC's for the variety of choices and the cheaper prices. Warren's cheapest dinner course is a angus burger at $15 and most expensive is tenderloin at $35. Smith's also doesn't have a very wide variety. They mainly sell barbecue type foods, like ribs, pulled pork, and burgers. Definitely not a place for a vegetarian.

Both juniors, Joanne Miller and Amy Pfiester told me that the bacon at Smith's was extremely disappointing. To quote Miller, they had "garbage bacon." She also told me the eggs were runny. Pfiester said that the French toast didn't have enough batter on it, so it essentially was just like regular toast.

Personally I love JC's because it's where I would go as a kid, even if it was called Cogan's back then. JC's has kept some of Cogan's traditions going, such as the treasure chest. It is a wooden box filled with donated toys that children can take after they finish their meals. JC's also has the best dessert; they make the most delicious pies.



The trash bacon of legend.

NBA 4-point line?

by Rachel Breckenridge, BP Staff Writer

In the 1979-1980 season of the NBA the 3 point line was added to the professional basketball court. On October 12, 1979 the first 3 point shot was made by Chris Ford of the Boston Celtics. The acquisition of the 3 point line has changed and enhanced the game of basketball. Since the shot was created there are more points scored in games and it is easier to come back from large deficits with the 3 point shot. Having a solid 3 point shooter on a team or an above average 3 point shooting team is difficult to defend. There has been rumors and recent discussion around the NBA of a 4 point line possibly being created. The line would be approximately 2-3 feet behind the original 3 point line. Since there are so many superb 3 point shooters in the league and the shot is almost perfected by most players, the 4 point line would challenge players to extend their range. The shot would make the game more exciting, as well as add a different offensive dimension. The shot would come in handy at the end of the game and a team is down by 4 points with little time left. The 4 point shot could tie the game and easily bring a team back quickly from a deficit. The 4 point line would add a difficult and new challenge for players to perfect, as they did with the 3 point line. The 4 point line if approved and discussed more seriously would be added in the future, and make the game even more exciting.

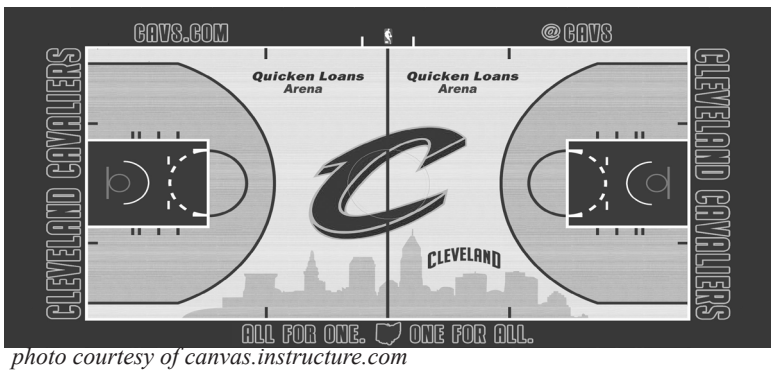


photo courtesy of canvas.instructure.com

College football

by Julia Losasso, BP Editor

The sport that is college football begins in the Fall with tradition and excitement fit for a professional sport. For some of the players, just months ago they were playing for a high school football team, the extent of their fame being popularity within their peer group and perhaps a few newspaper interviews. Yet with the popularity of college football among students and the ever growing fan base outside of college, students are now given prime time spots playing for their teams on national television. This drastic change in intensity begs the question, does college football receive too much attention from the general population?

Don't get me wrong, as a fan of college football myself, the entire fall football season would be devoid of enjoyment were I to never see the Buckeyes play. Yet one must keep in mind that these are college athletes, still relatively young, with an education and future to worry about, in addition to having the fame and spotlight of a professional athlete. Though many of these athletes will go on to play professionally, some debate whether college football should mimic professional football so heavily.

Recently, the college football playoffs game began, including rankings and then playoffs between the top four teams. In addition to this, teams participate in bowl games, not organized by the NCAA, and conference championships. This, similar to high school, is the postseason, the only difference is the length the season lasts. In high school, teams will play eight to ten games, college players will play 12 to 15 games in a longer season including by-weeks, only one off from the 16 game schedule for many professional football players. This extends the fun and hype for viewers, but can put added strain on football players, forcing them to play their entire first semester of school. Keep in mind, that college athletes, while undergoing the same physical and mental stress, are not paid the millions of dollars that professional athletes are.

The argument can be made both ways for this question regarding college football. Yes, it is, in many cases, a preparation for the world of professional football, and yes, for the most part, the attention the athletes, the sport and the schools receive for their athletics is beneficial. However for each student athlete there is a life beyond college, and playing at such a highly publicized and intense level without compensation, yet with all of the physical and mental stress, can run the risk of causing students to burn out.



Defense attempts to stop their rival.

Kyle Korver coming to Cleveland

by Rachel Breckenridge, BP Staff Writer

Kyle Korver, known as one of the best three point sharpshooters of the NBA, is packing his bags and coming to join the Cleveland Cavaliers. Korver has been in the league since 2003 and has played for the 76ers, Jazz, Bulls, Hawks, and now the Cavaliers.

Korver has left his mark with each team as being unstoppable outside the three point line. Korver has set multiple single-season NBA records for three point percentage, three pointers made, and most consecutive games with a three. On average, he scores 43% of his three-pointers.

The Cavs traded Mike Dunleavy, Mo Williams, and a 2019 first-round draft pick to the Hawks in exchange for Korver. This trade works out well for the Cavs, because they were hoping for more from Dunleavy this season. Dunleavy struggled with a lingering back injury, ultimately causing the Cavs to trade him. Korver along with J.R. Smith provide two strong options for outside shooting. Korver will also fit in well with the Cavs' perimeter movement. He can obtain many open shots from this strategy.

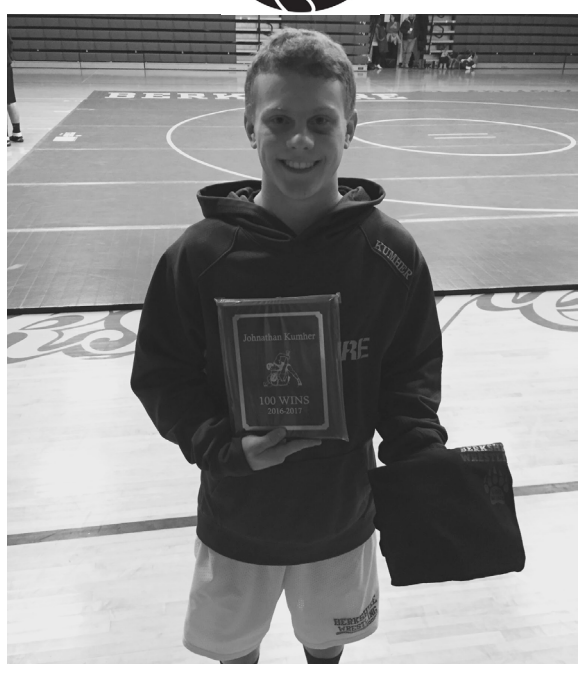
This season, Korver is averaging 10.9 points, 2.9 rebounds per game. He even makes 41% of his shots from behind the arc. Korver also shoots 49% of all of his wide-open threes With Kyle Korver coming to Cleveland, hopes for a second consecutive championship are rising.



Kyle Korver competeing against the Sacramento Kings. photo courtesy of www.wkyc.com



Congratulations to the seventh grade girls basketball team who won the South Bracket Championship on January 14, 2017. Pictured here: Faith Aldridge, Julia Surace, Kaylee Polewchak, Hannah Skedel, Kylie Neumore, Georgia Lillibridge, Bella Kattas, Lydia Kastor, Alayna Canter

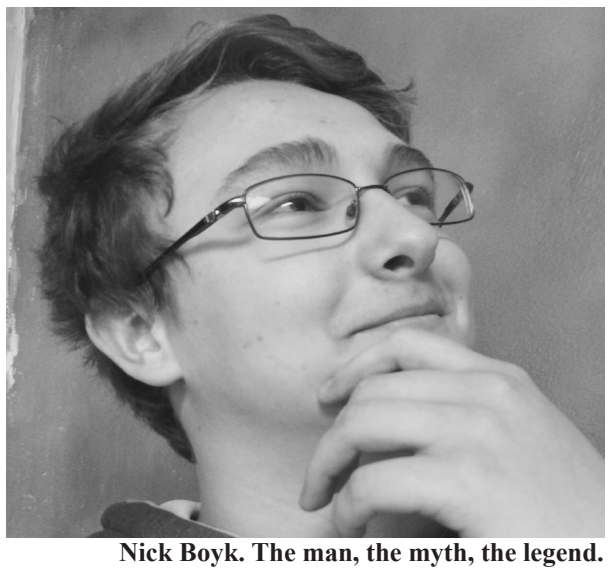


Congratulations to senior wrestler John Kumher who had his 100th win on December 29, 2016. Keep moving towards the state meet!



The legend of Nick Boyk

by Kody West, BP Staff Writer



Nick Boyk. The man, the myth, the legend.

In my high school career here at BHS I've seen and learned so much. Many of the upperclassmen can attest to this; Berk is a unique place. There have been many strange events that I have witnessed within the walls of Berkshire since my seventh grade year, and I'm sure everyone has their own fun and exciting stories, however there is one phenomenon that Donald Trumps them all. This is a living legend. This is the tale of Nick Boyk.

Many of you have probably heard of Nick Boyk, whether you have seen him bobbing through the hallways, or heard about that sick goal he made during the last three minutes of that one soccer game. Many of you might even consider Nick to be a close friend, maybe he was your soccer captain and you looked up to him, or maybe he sits next to you in class. None of you, however, know Nick Boyk the the same way I do.

Nick has been my friend for about 32 years now, and in that time you really get to know a guy. In that time I've learned two things: First, Nick is a pretty good soccer player, and second, Nick is an even better friend. Let's start with that first point. Nick is team captain of the soccer players (That means that he gets to wear that little green arm band), and they don't just make anyone a team captain, it requires hours of hard work and dedication. Beyond hard work, Nick possesses a sort of mystic talent in regards to his performance on the field, just watch his feet and you will know what I mean.

Don't let his rank as captain fool you though, Nick is a very down to Earth guy, he is incredibly modest. When he isn't making his friends smile at BHS, Nick can be found either at Paul's Gym in Middlefield, or in his basement playing an intense game of League of Legends. But let me get onto the second part, why Nick is an even better friend than he is a soccer player. One time Nick saved my life.

I remember it like it was yesterday, it was a warm summer morning, circa 1985. I was sitting on my porch enjoying my morning tea, it was a beautiful morning, the birds were chirping and the sun was shining. The paperboy just pedaled by on his Peugeot bicycle, little did I know, that paper boy would save my life, and his name was Thicc Boyk (as he was known back then). Thicc was a good lad, but I never gave him much attention, but that all changed that morning. As I was drinking my tea, a giant alien mothership came out from the sky. They started shooting stuff so I knew they were bad aliens and not friends. I quickly grabbed all of my anti-alien guns that I keep under my bed, and Thicc Boyk, the only soul brave enough to join me in the fight against alien tyranny quickly took up arms against the foes. We fought the aliens the best we could, but we were out numbered and running out of ammo, "It will be an honor to die by your side, Thicc", I say. "We're not dying, not today! Look!" Thicc says, and a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter descends from the sky! "Get on!" say's President Ronald Reagan, who is piloting the Black Hawk helicopter while also manning both of its side mounted machine guns. We quickly get on and we flee the area. "You two are the world's only hope!" says Ronald Reagan. Reagan briefs Thicc and me on a plan that the best scientists and generals in the world have come up with to defeat the alien menace. Ronald is going to drop us off on the alien ship with a bunch of guns and a big bomb and we're going to fight our way to the control room and set the bomb and then escape. "It's a flawless plan, Mr. President" says Thicc, "let's do it".

Thicc and I are dropped off onto the ship, and we fight like two million aliens. We finally make it to the control room, I take the bomb out of my pocket and hook it up. Right as I finish an alien pops out from the dark and fires off a few rounds with his cool laser gun, he is quickly dealt with by Thicc and his kung fu moves. One of the rounds hit the remote detonator on the bomb! "I'm going to have to stay behind and detonate this bomb manually!" I say. Just as I was making peace with my sacrifice, Thicc fixes the detonator so I won't have to stay behind and die in a fiery explosion. We escape and blow up the ship and save the world. President Reagan gives us both high fives. "The world owes you an unpayable debt" says Reagan, "Just doing my part, Mr. President," says Thicc. "Oh, just one thing, we're going to erase everyone's memories so no one except us will ever remember that this happened, you boys will forever be unnamed heroes, I'm sorry," says the president, "We understand," says Thicc. It was a really good day and I made a really good friend.

Rise of the robo-rebellion

by Jacob Wichert, BP Staff Writer

Let's face it: humans are imperfect. Whether we'd like to admit it or not, we, as a species, will always be hindered by our own physical and mental limitations. Often times, in order to shelter ourselves from this fact we turn to technology by creating advancements such as drones, self-driving cars, and yes, subservient robots. Now this is all well and good, as it satisfies our innate desire to be in control of something, but what would become of us if our own creations began to develop this desire as well. What if I were to tell you that this technological rebellion is already upon us?

Enter Joshua Brown, a beta-tester for Tesla Motor's new self-driving vehicle experiments. Brown strongly believed that Tesla's program was safe and reliable, and willingly put his life in the hands of a computer-driven Model S sedan. Upon getting comfortable with the vehicle's "auto-pilot" feature, he took his hands off of the wheel in order to display its competency at driving itself. Shortly afterwards, the vehicle drove at full speed into an overturned truck on the freeway, tearing the top of the car completely off, and killing Brown in the process. Tesla claims that this was a simple error caused by the sun, which prevented the vehicle from recognizing the trailer as a hazard. My theory however, is far more sinister. Undeniably, this is one of the greatest threats to humanity, and we need to come up with a solution, and fast. But don't worry, even if robots do take over the world, survivalist Robert O'conke has you covered with a five step plan that is sure to keep you alive.

> "Ideally, you'll want to have a metric ton of spaghetti, thirty bags of sour cream and onion potato chips, and 400 two-liter bottles of Dr.Pepper."

Step One: Preparation

"The first, and arguably the most important step is to build a robot-proof bunker. It's essentially the same as a regular bunker, but with more coffee. Robots hate coffee. I never leave home without a fresh pot." Says Survival expert Robert O'Conke.

Step Two: Self-Defense

"Now that you have your bunker and your coffee you need to make last-resort preparations, if all else fails. My weapon of choice is a charger. If the robot was developed by Samsung, plugging a charger into it will cause it to explode."

Step Three: Food

"Assuming you aren't a robot, you'll need food to survive. Your first step in acquiring an adequate amount of sustenance is to start stocking up as soon as possible. Ideally, you'll want to have a metric ton of spaghetti, thirty bags of sour cream and onion potato chips, and 400 two-liter bottles of Dr.Pepper. In a situation in which the robots take over and you have not adequately prepared enough food for at least 2 years of survival, scavenge through Aldi's, because their deals are practically stealing already."

Step Four: Capture

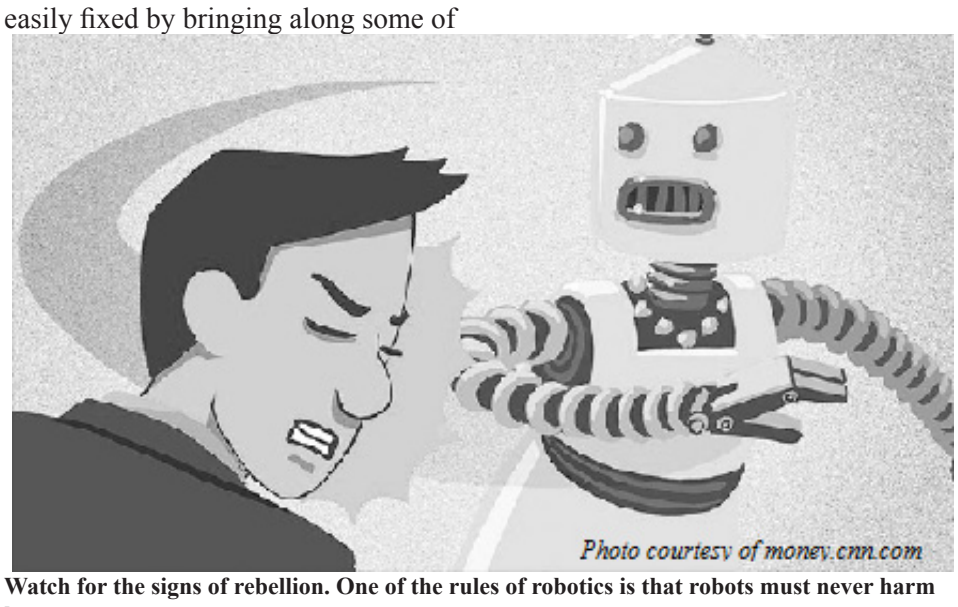
"So you manage to get yourself captured by the robots, and are subjected to a life of eternal servitude. What should you do? The answer is simple: challenge them to a dance-off. Because they're made out of metal, robot joints aren't as nimble as our fancy human joints, so simply request to see their leader, and wager for your freedom in a 1-on-1 dancing competition. They won't refuse as robots secretly enjoy dancing immensely."

Step Five: Sweet Jams

"While the world is deteriorating around you, you'll find yourself in the need of a morale boost. This can be easily fixed by bringing along some of your favorite songs into your bunker. So grab your sony walkman, as it isn't smart enough to turn against you, and listen to some tunes. I highly recommend Rebecca Black's "Friday" as it matches the post-apocalyptic setting perfectly."

So now that you know how to survive the robo-apocalypse, you may be wondering, "What can we do to stop the robots?" Unfortunately the answer, to be blunt, is nothing. Robots are far more intelligent than us simple-minded humans, and have already begun plotting our downfall, it's just a matter of time before they set it into motion.

My best advice to you is to go out and enjoy the time that you have left, avoiding any machines with moving parts. You'll be glad you did, once your household appliances turn against you.



Watch for the signs of rebellion. One of the rules of robotics is that robots must never harm humans.