



Exploring the fringes of science and history. Caveat lector!


[HOME](#)
[RECENT POSTS ON TDG](#)
[GRAIL BLOG](#)
[USER NEWS STREAM](#)
[AIR LASAGNA](#)


[Parkinson's Bike Therapy](#) Now Proven to Improve Symptoms. Request a Free ebook today! [www.Theracycle.com/eboc](http://www.Theracycle.com/eboc)  
[Heart Failure Stem Cells](#) Affordable Stem Cell Treatment Performed by Specialist Surgeons [StemCellMX.com/Heart-F](http://StemCellMX.com/Heart-F)  
[Stem Cell Rejuvenation](#) Stem cell therapy center US-based autologous treatment [www.the-stem-cell-center.com](http://www.the-stem-cell-center.com)

## Why You Shouldn't Write Off Google+ Just Yet

Slashdot - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 11:08pm

TheNextCorner writes "Cmdr Taco writes for The Washington Post on why you shouldn't write off Google+ just yet: "Google+ is technically better than its rivals in a number of key ways. The user interface is comfortable and friendly. It's easy to maintain circles of contacts, and to segregate what you share with each group. Discussions of small-to-medium sizes are manageable and readable — even in real time. Facebook wins when it comes to the open graph and app ecosystem, but a lot of people don't care about that stuff.""

[Read more of this story](#) at Slashdot.

Categories: [Science](#)

## Software Emulates Organism's Entire Lifespan

Slashdot - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 10:29pm

An anonymous reader "Scientists have developed a software simulation, running on 128 computers, of an entire organism, a step toward carrying out full experiments without traditional instruments (abstract). 'For their computer simulation, the researchers had the advantage of extensive scientific literature on the bacterium. They were able to use data taken from more than 900 scientific papers to validate the accuracy of their software model. Still, they said that the model of the simplest biological system was pushing the limits of their computers. "Right now, running a simulation for a single cell to divide only one time takes around 10 hours and generates half a gigabyte of data," Dr. Covert wrote. "I find this fact completely fascinating, because I don't know that anyone has ever asked how much data a living thing truly holds. We often think of the DNA as the storage medium, but clearly there is more to it than that." In designing their model, the scientists chose an approach that parallels

## SUPPORT THIS SITE!

What value do you get out of [The Daily Grail](#) over the course of a year? Is it worth the price of a coffee? Perhaps the price of a magazine subscription? Whatever it is, you can help ensure the future and independence of TDG by sending a 'voluntary subscription' of any amount. Your support is appreciated!



the design of modern software systems, known as object-oriented programming. Software designers organize their programs in modules, which communicate with one another by passing data and instructions back and forth. Similarly, the simulated bacterium is a series of modules that mimic the different functions of the cell."

[Read more of this story](#) at Slashdot.

Categories: [Science](#)

### **Inside Japan's Huge Space Truck (Infographic)**

[Space.com](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 10:19pm

Japan's H-2 Transfer Vehicles are disposable cargo ships that carry supplies to the International Space Station.

Categories: [Science](#)

### **Next Stop, Launch Pad: NASA Opens Apollo, Shuttle Launch Site for Tours**

[Space.com](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 10:01pm

If you ever wanted to see where humanity blasted off for the moon, now's your chance.

Categories: [Science](#)

### **Mystery Cats of the UK**

[Cryptomundo](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 10:00pm

Big Cats in the UK...

Categories: [Fortean](#)

### **When Tragedy Hits, Photojournalists Balance Reporting and Emotion**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:56pm

Earlier today photojournalist Barry Gutierrez made a photo of Tom Sullivan as he came running over to the media waving a black and white photo of his son Alex and asking frantically if anyone had seen him. The photo Gutierrez made of Sullivan has now been broadcast around the world and quickly become an important window into the heart of an unfolding tragedy. It's also become an example of the value that trained photojournalists like Gutierrez provide during events like these.

Categories: [Science](#)

## What Does Space Smell Like?

[Space.com](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:52pm

Astronauts say space has an extremely distinctive, and not unpleasant, smell.

Categories: [Science](#)

## Canadians To Get Unbundled Cable TV Channels

[Slashdot](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:50pm

Jerry Rivers writes "The CRTC, Canada's communications regulator, has approved changes to the way cable companies bundle programming to allow the purchase of selected channels while dropping others they do not want. However, the customers won't necessarily be paying any less. 'The flipside is that the fewer channels that are subscribed to, the more expensive each will become, people familiar with the matter said, asking for anonymity because details of the decision are confidential. The decision is a small step toward an "à la carte" model long talked about by regulators — and longed for by consumers — but resisted by TV channel owners and distributors for fear of undermining the economics of cable television, which have come to rely on subscriber fees from those channels."

[Read more of this story](#) at [Slashdot](#).

Categories: [Science](#)

## Charles Messier Biography

[Space.com](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:22pm

Charles Messier compiled a catalog of more than 100 fuzzy objects, known as nebulae.

Categories: [Science](#)

## Photographer Captures Stunning Night Sky Views in Time-Lapse Video

[Space.com](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:20pm

Photographer Brad Goldpaint in the Pacific Northwest assembled 7,000 pictures over three years to create the video.

Categories: [Science](#)

## Movie Review: **The Dark Knight Rises**

[Slashdot](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:10pm

Unless you've managed to not watch anything in the past three weeks, you're aware that Chris Nolan's final Batman movie is out. With Christian Bale as the low-talking caped crusader, *The Dark Knight Rises* is two hours and forty-five minutes of fun. While it lacks a stand-out personal performance like Heath Ledger's Joker in *The Dark Knight*, it is still a decent ending to this round of Batman movies. There are plenty of familiar faces, and a few new ones as well. Read below for my take on the movie, but be warned: there might be a few spoilers.

[Read more of this story](#) at Slashdot.

Categories: [Science](#)

### **Don't Blame *The Dark Knight Rises* for Theater Massacre**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 9:05pm

Nobody should blame the movies for Friday's horrific killing spree during a screening of *The Dark Knight Rises* at a theater in Aurora, Colorado. If anything, Batman is probably a gun-grabber.

Categories: [Science](#)

### **Interactive Player Piano Will Take Your Twitter Request for 'Call Me Maybe'**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:48pm

Player pianos haven't been tearing up the scene since the first half of the last century. But this weekend, thanks to some crafty engineering, Seattle partiers will get to jam to one that takes requests via Twitter.

Categories: [Science](#)

### **Federal Agencies Lagging Behind In Data Center Plans**

[Slashdot](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:48pm

Nerval's Lobster writes with news that U.S. federal agencies are falling behind in their efforts to consolidate government data centers. Current plans call for a savings of \$2.4 billion and the closing of over a thousand data centers, but 17 of 24 agencies still haven't provided details on their IT infrastructure and usage. A new report from the Government Accountability Office highlights the problems with this consolidation effort. "Data centers represent a significant cost to the federal government. Electricity to operate federal servers and data centers costs around \$450 million a year, according to an EPA estimate cited

in the report. Moreover, federal agencies reported limited reuse of data centers, along with server utilization rates dipping as low as 5 percent. The GAO report features agencies claiming several challenges on the way to data-center consolidation. These included accepting cultural change as part of the consolidation; funding the consolidation and identifying the resulting cost savings; operational challenges including procurement and resource constraints; and difficulties in planning a migration strategy."

[Read more of this story](#) at Slashdot.

Categories: [Science](#)

## **Meet Squirrel, the Image That's Also a Webpage**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:34pm

What happens if you create an image that's also a webpage? What happens if you then embed that image/webpage inside itself? "Squirrel" is the web's own version of Inception.

Categories: [Science](#)

## **U.S. Admits Surveillance Violated Constitution At Least Once**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:30pm

In a very rare public concession, a leading aide to the nation's top spy not only admitted a federal sidestep of a major section of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. She also acknowledged that the court overseeing such surveillance "has reached this same conclusion."

Categories: [Science](#)

## **Judge: Cops Can Impersonate Owner Of Seized Cell Phones**

[Slashdot](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:28pm

Aryden writes with news of a recent court decision in which a judge ruled it was acceptable for police to impersonate the owner of a cell phone they had seized, in order to extract information from the owner's friends. The ruling stems from an incident in 2009 when police officers seized the iPhone of a suspected drug dealer, then used text messages to set up a meeting with another person seeking drugs. "There is no long history and tradition of strict legislative protection of a text message sent to, displayed, and received from its intended destination, another person's iPhone," Penoyar wrote in his decision. He pointed to a 1990 case in which the police seized a suspected

drug dealer's pager as an example. The officers observed which phone numbers appeared on the pager, called those numbers back, and arranged fake drug purchases with the people on the other end of the line. A federal appeals court held that the pager owner's Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure were not violated because the pager is 'nothing more than a contemporary receptacle for telephone numbers,' akin to an address book. The court also held that someone who sends his phone number to a pager has no reasonable expectation of privacy because he can't be sure that the pager will be in the hands of its owner. Judge Penoyar said that the same reasoning applies to text messages sent to an iPhone. While text messages may be legally protected in transit, he argued that they lose privacy protections once they have been delivered to a target device in the hands of the police."

[Read more of this story](#) at Slashdot.

Categories: [Science](#)

## **Is a Better iOS Gmail App Coming? Google Buys Sparrow**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:17pm

On Friday, Sparrow CEO Dom Leca announced in a blog post that Google has purchased his young but successful company known for iOS and OS X email clients. Sparrow's software looks and works more like social networking apps than traditional email clients.

Categories: [Science](#)

## **Lenovo CEO Gives His \$3M Bonus To 10k Workers**

[Slashdot](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:09pm

ndogg writes "Lenovo CEO Yang Yuanqing has decided to give his \$3,000,000USD bonus to his workers instead of keeping it. Those 10,000 employees include receptionists, production line workers, and assistants. That works out to about 2,000 yuan or \$300 per employee, which is about a month's worth of salary."

[Read more of this story](#) at Slashdot.

Categories: [Science](#)

## **Game|Life Podcast: The Endless Summer of Downloadable Games**

[Wired News](#) - Fri, 20/07/2012 - 8:00pm

The cast of the Game|Life podcast is downloading and playing anything we

can get our hands on this summer. Disc-based games are few and far between in the long stretch of time before the holiday season, but the gap is filled in handily these days with downloads.

Categories: [Science](#)

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [...](#) [next >](#) [last »](#)

*The opinions expressed on TDG reflect solely the opinion of the person posting the material, not TDG nor its editors. If you have a problem with any material, please contact us immediately.*

*TDG09 theme is based on the original design by [Michael Hutagalung](#). DG logo "icon" courtesy of [Logos:Mythos](#).*