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THU JUL 19, 2012 AT 09:00 PM PDT

# Overnight News Digest -- "Sex, Violence and Nudity" Edition

rfall [Overnight News Digest](#)

0  1

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102 comments 209 Recs

**Overnight News Digest**

by [Oke](#)

34 comments 30 Recs

**Sheriff Joe Arpaio's two-ring circus comes to town**

by [Mother Mags](#)

122 comments 137 Recs

**The Economics of Leviticus**

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59 comments 146 Recs

**Media: If you can't do your job . . .**

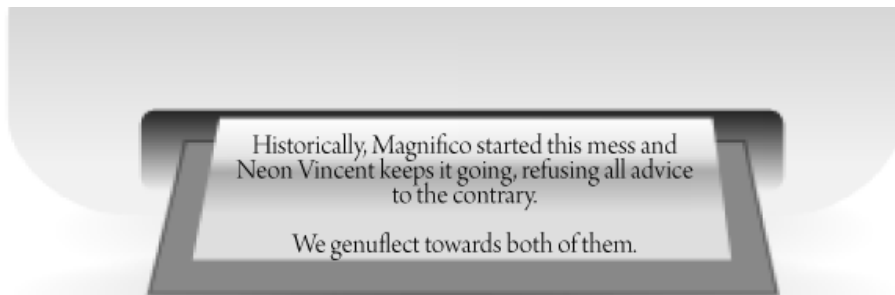
by [delphine](#)

175 comments 592 Recs

**Overnight News Digest-Ditch A**

The Overnight News Digest (OND)  
for Thursday, July 19, 2012

OND is a regular feature on Daily Kos consisting of current stories each night around midnight Eastern Time. The editors are responsible for content and presentation.



**Date? There's an app for that.**  
by [Oke](#) 33 comments 29 Recs

**The ACLU is defending the KKK: It's wonderful news**  
by [plf515](#) 31 comments 38 Recs

**Overnight News Digest: Sunday**  
by [jlms qkw](#) 18 comments 33 Recs

**DK Quilt Guild: Quilting Quick & Easy**  
by [Oke](#) 34 comments 28 Recs

**The discovery of Mitt's Boson**  
by [Jon Perr aka Avenging Angel](#)  
113 comments 78 Recs

Science News

Mideast violence goes way back

Head wounds common in region throughout last 6,000 years



By Bruce Bower

Head-bashing hostilities haunted the Middle East long before the region's current conflicts arose. Skulls of people from what are now Israel and the West Bank, dating to different times during the last 6,000 years, display a consistently high rate of serious injuries.

These head wounds typically were inflicted in small-scale brawls, not wars, say anthropologist Israel Hershkovitz of Tel Aviv University in Israel and his colleagues.

Skull injuries vary in frequency from about 1 percent to 25 percent at ancient sites around the world. Among human skulls previously excavated in Israel and the West Bank, 25 percent of individuals had suffered severe head wounds, whether they lived during the Copper Age or as recently as a century ago, the researchers report online July 11 in the International Journal of Osteoarchaeology.

That rate held for skulls from farming and urban populations and from societies that included Egyptians, Babylonians and Assyrians.

Coning In: New Ways to Tap Old Data Boost Hurricane Forecast Accuracy

To more accurately predict storm tracks, landfalls and damage risks, researchers are focusing their attention on individual storms and past behavior to reduce the "cone of uncertainty"

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Pharyngula

to reduce the cone of uncertainty

By Larry Greenemeier

Despite advances in weather prediction technology, meteorologists must still qualify any hurricane forecasts with a "cone of uncertainty," which depicts just how far the center of a storm might deviate from its projected track. This year's hurricane season in the Atlantic Ocean, which began June 1, is expected to be less active than those recent years, but with season's peak less than a month away researchers are exploring new data-driven approaches to better warn those potentially in the path of approaching storms.



Cones of uncertainty—also called error cones—arise because forecasts become less precise the further in the future they attempt to project. The National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center (NHC) develops its tropical storm forecasts and the surrounding uncertainty cones by studying the degree to which all storms—regardless of location, intensity or other storm-related characteristics—have deviated from their projected paths over the past five years. The storm's track is represented as a series of circles connected by a line, with each circle representing a 12-hour forecast period. A cone shape forms as the circles grow and merge because of increasing uncertainty the further into the future the storm's path is projected.

A wrinkle in space-time

Math shows how shockwaves could crinkle space



University of California - Davis

Mathematicians at UC Davis have

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come up with a new way to crinkle up the fabric of space-time -- at least in theory.

"We show that space-time cannot be locally flat at a point where two shock waves collide," said Blake Temple, professor of mathematics at UC Davis. "This is a new kind of singularity in general relativity."

The results are reported in two papers by Temple with graduate students Moritz Reintjes and Zeke Vogler, respectively, both published in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society A.

Einstein's theory of general relativity explains gravity as a curvature in space-time. But the theory starts from the assumption that any local patch of space-time looks flat, Temple said.

A singularity is a patch of space-time that cannot be made to look flat in any coordinate system, Temple said. One example of a singularity is inside a black hole, where the curvature of space becomes extreme.

### Team discovers how western corn rootworm resists crop rotation

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — A new study answers a question that has baffled researchers for more than 15 years: How does the western corn rootworm — an insect that thrives on corn but dies on soybeans — persist in fields that alternate between corn and soybeans? The answer, researchers say, has to do with enzyme production in the rootworm gut.

Their findings are described in a paper in *Ecology and Evolution*.

Crop rotation declined in the middle of the 20th century as the use of insecticides and fertilizers expanded in



the U.S. Then in the 1950s and '60s, when some insecticides began to fail, growers again turned to crop rotation to kill off the rootworms that fed on corn. The method was effective for decades, but by 1995 some growers started seeing rootworm damage even in rotated fields. Today rotation-resistant rootworms are widespread in the Midwest cornbelt, where corn and soybeans dominate the landscape.



## Technology News

### AT&T Unveils Shared Data as Option, Not Mandate



*By Andrew Berg*

AT&T today followed Verizon Wireless' lead and unveiled new shared data plans, but unlike its competitor, moving to the plans will be optional.

Like Verizon's plans, AT&T's new offerings allow users to connect multiple devices to one bucket of data, with an additional per-device monthly connection fee.

However, AT&T said there are no changes to its current device upgrade policy, so customers eligible to upgrade are not required to switch plans.

That could be a major differentiator for AT&T, as Verizon currently requires customers to move to its shared plans when upgrading to a new subsidized device. Customers who pay the full, unsubsidized price for a new device can stay on Verizon's old plans.

### GPS Hijacking Catches Feds, Drone Makers Off Guard

*By Lorenzo Franceschi-Bicchierai*

On June 19, when University of Texas researchers successfully hijacked a drone by "spoofing" it — giving it bad GPS coordinates — they showed the Department of Homeland Security how civilian drones could fall into the wrong hands, exposing a potentially serious



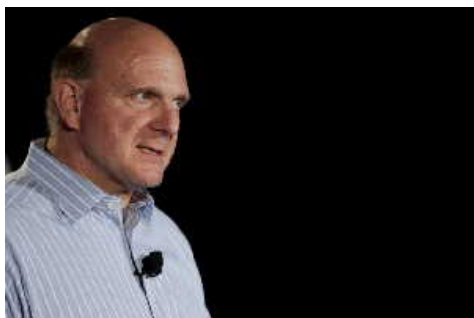
security flaw. It was exactly what Todd Humphreys, the lead researcher, anticipated in a TEDx talk in February: "You can scarcely imagine the kind of havoc you could cause if you knew what you were doing with a GPS spoofer."



On Thursday, a month after the experiment, the investigations panel of the House Homeland Security Committee held a hearing on how civilian drones could affect the security of the American airspace. "These findings are alarming and have revealed a gaping hole in the security of using unmanned aerial systems domestically," said Rep. Michael McCall, the panel's chairman. "Now is the time to ensure these vulnerabilities are mitigated to protect our aviation system as the use of unmanned aerial systems continues to grow."

Problem is, the FAA and the Department of Homeland security have yet to come up with specific requirements or a certified system to protect drones from GPS attacks. And what's worse, neither of them takes responsibility for it. "The Department of Homeland Security mission is to protect the homeland. Unfortunately, DHS seems either disinterested or unprepared to step up to the plate," said McCall, noting that representatives from the DHS declined to testify at the hearing. The FAA declined to comment on GPS security after the spoofing test.

### Microsoft's First-Ever Loss Doesn't Faze Wall Street



By Marcus Wohlsen

Microsoft chose a good time to tell the world it had screwed up. When it announced at the beginning of the month that its \$6.3 billion purchase of online advertising company AQuantive Inc. five years ago had been a near-total loss, the company was riding a wave of good will induced by its announcement of its new Surface tablet. The Surface will run Windows 8,

a drastic revamp set for an October release. From the look of the previews, Windows 8 could bring the first real changes to the operating system in nearly 20 years, a hope that analysts say has buoyed Microsoft's stock this year.

With such positive momentum, Microsoft didn't see investors flee following the news of the \$6.2 billion hit the company planned to take due to the AQuantive deal. And they weren't running away Thursday even as Microsoft reported its first unprofitable quarter in its 26-year history as a public company. Due to the AQuantive write-down, Microsoft lost a little more than a half-billion dollars during the last three months ending in June. Without the write-down, the company topped analysts' expectations, and sales nearly hit the mark.

### Google-style glasses prof turns up the heat on McDonald's

**After a pioneer in wearable computing claims he was assaulted in a Paris McDonald's, the company insists he wasn't physically attacked, but was asked to leave. He hits back again with new photo evidence.**

by Chris Matyszczyk

Here Perp. 1 struck my Eye Glass (not a direct hit like a punch in the face, but a side-swipe, grabbing motion):



Many who dream of adorning their faces with technology were stunned to hear that Google-type glasses might



near that Google type glasses might not be welcome at McDonald's.

Steve Mann, a professor at the University of Toronto, claimed that he had worn his Digital Eye Glass while ordering himself a Ranch Wrap in Paris.



He insisted that the employees did not take kindly to them. He claimed that they had tried to take them off him.

Now McDonald's has declared: "Non."

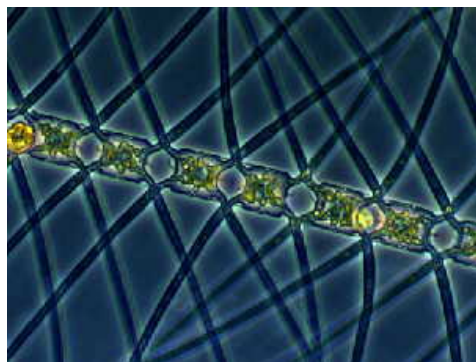
The company issued a statement, which reads in part: "Several staff members involved have been interviewed individually, and all independently and consistently expressed that their interaction with Dr. Mann was polite and did not involve a physical altercation."

No one seems to be disputing that Mann was asked to leave and that the reason for this was a potential threat to privacy. Yes, there was fear that he was surreptitiously (or not) photographing both staff and customers.

## Environmental News

### Field test stashes climate-warming carbon in deep ocean

#### Strategically dumping metal puts greenhouse gas away, possibly for good



*By Devin Powell*

Iron deliberately dumped into a patch of ocean has triggered a chain of events that pulls carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and keeps it out. An explosion of microscopic life fertilized by the metal sank to the depths of the ocean after soaking up the greenhouse gas.

Geoengineering advocates who think iron could be useful for combating climate change will probably be

heartened by the new finding, reported in the July 19 *Nature*. Carbon stuck on the seafloor tends to stay there a long time.

"Every one atom of iron removed 13,000 atoms of carbon" from the air, says Victor Smetacek, a biological oceanographer at the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research in Bremerhaven, Germany. That carbon probably settled on the seafloor, he says, "like dust collecting in the corner of the room."

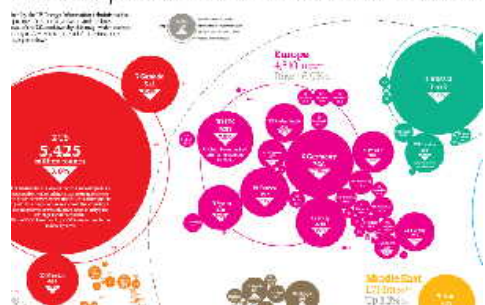
But critics of iron fertilization remain unconvinced.

## Global CO2 emissions continue to increase

### Per capita emissions in China reach European levels

European Commission Joint Research Centre

#### atlas of pollution: the world in carbon



Global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) – the main cause of global warming – increased by 3% last year, reaching an all-time high of 34 billion tonnes in 2011. In China, the world's most populous country, average emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> increased by 9% to 7.2 tonnes per capita. China is now within the range of 6 to 19 tonnes per capita emissions of the major industrialised countries. In the European Union, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions dropped by 3% to 7.5 tonnes per capita. The United States remain one of the largest emitters of CO<sub>2</sub>, with 17.3 tonnes per capita, despite a decline due to the recession in 2008-2009, high oil prices and an increased share of natural gas. These are the main findings of the annual report 'Trends in global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions', released today by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL).

Based on recent results from the Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR) and latest statistics on energy use and relevant activities such as gas flaring and cement production, the report shows that global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions continued to grow in 2011, despite reductions in OECD countries. Weak economic conditions, a mild winter, and energy savings stimulated by high oil prices led to a decrease of 3% in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the European Union and of 2% in both the United States and Japan. Emissions from OECD countries now account for only one third of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – the same share as that of China and India combined, where emissions increased by 9% and 6% respectively in 2011. Economic growth in China led to significant increases in fossil fuel consumption driven by construction and infrastructure expansion. The growth in cement and steel production caused China's domestic coal consumption to increase by 9.7%.

## Generation X is surprisingly unconcerned about climate change



University of Michigan

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—As the nation suffers through a summer of record-shattering heat, a University of Michigan report finds that Generation X is lukewarm about climate change—uninformed about the causes and unconcerned about the potential dangers.

"Most Generation Xers are surprisingly disengaged, dismissive or doubtful about whether global climate change is happening and they don't spend much time worrying about it," said Jon D. Miller, author of "The Generation X Report."

The new report, the fourth in a continuing series, compares Gen X attitudes about climate change in 2009 and 2011, and describes the levels of concern Gen Xers have about different aspects of climate change, as well as their sources of information on the



subject.

"We found a small but statistically significant decline between 2009 and 2011 in the level of attention and concern Generation X adults expressed about climate change," Miller said. "In 2009, about 22 percent said they followed the issue of climate change very or moderately closely. In 2011, only 16 percent said they did so."

### PSU study finds 'caffeinated' coastal waters

#### Possible sources include sewer overflows, septic tanks

*Washington State University*

A new study finds elevated levels of caffeine at several sites in Pacific Ocean waters off the coast of Oregon—though not necessarily where researchers expected.



This study is the first to look at caffeine pollution off the Oregon coast.

It was developed and conducted by Portland State University master's student Zoe Rodriguez del Rey and her faculty adviser Elise Granek, assistant professor of Environmental Science and Management, in collaboration with Steve Sylvester of Washington State University, Vancouver.

In spring 2010, Rodriguez del Rey and Granek collected and analyzed samples from 14 coastal locations and seven adjacent water bodies as far north as Astoria, Ore., and as far south as Brookings.

Locations were identified as potentially polluted if they were near wastewater treatment plants, large population centers or rivers and streams emptying into the ocean.

The study found high caffeine levels near Carl Washburne State Park (Florence, Ore.) and Cape Lookout, two areas not near the potential pollution sources, yet low levels of caffeine near large population centers like Astoria/Warrenton and Coos Bay.

### Medical News

#### Being in Awe Can Expand Time and Enhance Well-Being



*Association for Psychological Science*

ScienceDaily (July 19, 2012) — It doesn't matter what we've experienced -- whether it's the breathtaking scope of the Grand Canyon, the ethereal beauty of the Aurora Borealis, or the exhilarating view from the top of the Eiffel Tower -- at some point in our lives we've all had the feeling of being in a complete and overwhelming sense



in a complex and overwhelming sense of awe.

Awe seems to be a universal emotion, but it has been largely neglected by scientists -- until now.

Psychological scientists Melanie Rudd and Jennifer Aaker of Stanford

University Graduate School of Business and Kathleen Vohs of the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management devised a way to study this feeling of awe in the laboratory. Across three different experiments, they found that jaw-dropping moments made participants feel like they had more time available and made them more patient, less materialistic, and more willing to volunteer time to help others.

## New Report Describes Seven Essential Steps Toward an AIDS-Free Generation

*Harvard School of Public Health*

ScienceDaily (July 19, 2012) — The end of AIDS is within our reach. But as the authors of a new special supplement in the August, 2012 Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiencies (JAIDS) point out, new financial investments -- and renewed commitments -- from countries around the world will be critical to fully implement proven treatment and prevention tools already at hand and to continue essential scientific research.



"Only then will an AIDS-free generation be possible," write the supplement's editors -- Richard Marlink, Wafaa El-Sadr, Mariangela Simao and Elly Katabira -- in their introduction.

"Are we willing to pay the price to turn the dream into a reality?" they ask.

Entitled "Engaging to End the Epidemic: Seven Essential Steps Toward an AIDS-Free Generation," the supplement identifies the seven key areas where money and political will must be focused to end AIDS.

## Sperm analyzed, one by one

**Close look at DNA reveals basic processes of sex cell**

*By Tina Hesman Saey*



Some scientists really throw themselves into their research, but Stanford University biophysicist Stephen Quake has taken the all-in approach to a whole new level.

Using his sperm, Quake and colleagues compiled the first-ever genetic blueprint for a single sperm cell. The results shed new light on molecular processes such as mutation and recombination in humans. Ouake and



his colleagues report in the July 20 Cell.

Figuring out how often humans make mistakes in copying DNA so that single DNA units are changed, or mutated, is important for a variety of reasons, including figuring out how long ago humans diverged from other species, says Laure Ségurel, an evolutionary geneticist at the University of Chicago. "Every calculation is based on this mutation rate," she says.

In past studies, scientists estimated this rate either by comparing human DNA with that of other species to see how many changes have occurred since that species split from humans, or by studying families to see where children have different DNA than their parents. By studying individual sperm cells, Quake and colleagues calculate the human mutation rate at 2 to 4 changes per 100 million DNA units per generation. That is higher than the rate calculated by looking at families (SN Online: 6/13/11), but consistent with evolutionary estimates.

### Autoerotic Deaths Less Common Than Thought

By Linda Thrasybule,  
MyHealthNewsDaily Contributor

The number of yearly deaths in the U.S. from people practicing autoeroticism, in which the brain's oxygen supply is deliberately lowered to achieve heightened sexual pleasure, is a lot lower than previously thought, according to a new study.

Rather than the oft-cited estimate of 500 to 1,000 deaths per year, the new results suggest that the true number of yearly autoerotic deaths in the U.S. is less than 160.

People who engage in autoeroticism often use asphyxiation methods such as hanging, a plastic bag or chemical substances, and these can lead to accidental death.



The book that is the source of the commonly given estimate — "Autoerotic Fatalities" (Lexington Books, 1983) — used unpublished data from England and Canada, said study researcher Dr. Anny Sauvageau, chief medical examiner in Alberta, Canada.

### Space News

#### Enterprise Officially On Display In New York



*Lee Rannals for redOrbit.com*

The retired space shuttle Enterprise is officially on display at its new home at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum's new Space Shuttle Pavilion in New York.

The 150,000 pound spacecraft is now encased in the center of an inflatable dome, and is available to be viewed by visitors from just a few feet away.

The shuttle made its way across Coney Island and underneath the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge as it headed towards its final destination back in April. It was placed on a barge at Kennedy Airport, where it had been since it flew from Washington to New York on April 23.

Enterprise had also been docked at Port Elizabeth, New Jersey, before being lifted onto its new home on the flight deck of the Intrepid.

The Enterprise was welcomed to the museum during an opening ceremony on Thursday by NASA administrator Charles Bolden and museum president Susan Marenoff-Zausner.

### **Pioneer Anomaly: What Is It?**

*Lee Rannals for redOrbit.com – Your Universe Online*

NASA's Pioneer 10 and 11 spacecraft have apparently slowed down due to heat pushing back on the spacecraft, according to new findings.

The effect, known as "Pioneer Anomaly," takes place when heat emanates from electrical current flowing through instruments and the thermoelectric power supply.



"The effect is something like when you're driving a car and the photons from your headlights are pushing you backward," Slava Turyshev, lead author of the paper published in the journal *Physical Review Letters*, said in a prepared statement. "It is very subtle."

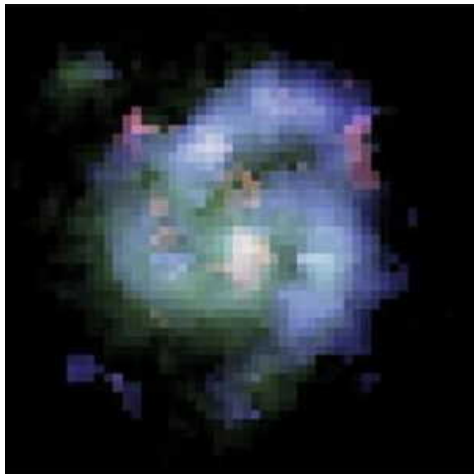
Pioneer 10 and 11 have been on an outward trajectory from our sun ever since they were launched in 1972 and 1973. Navigators in the 1980s saw a deceleration on the two spacecraft as they were approaching Saturn. They dismissed the effect of dribbles of leftover propellant still in the fuel lines after controllers cut off the propellant.

By 1998, the spacecraft kept traveling on their journey, and were over 8 billion miles away from the sun, when a group of scientists realized there was a deceleration of about 300 inches per day.

### **Primordial Pinwheel: Astronomers Spot Oldest Prominent Spiral Galaxy Yet** **Three billion years after the big bang most galaxies were clumpy and odd-**

## shaped, but at least one had already assumed a familiar form, and may elucidate how modern galaxies got their shapes

By John Matson



The early universe was a rough-and-tumble place. Galaxies smashed together with much more regularity than they do today, and the insides of galaxies were chaotic, clumpy pods of stars. It was no place for an orderly, delicate swirl of a galaxy like the Milky Way or Andromeda.

But by scanning hundreds of galaxies that existed just a few billion years after the big bang, a group of astronomers has turned up a diamond in the cosmic rough. The researchers found a rare early galaxy with

pronounced spiral arms, they reported in the July 19 issue of *Nature*. And that galaxy's unique circumstances may help explain why spirals are so rare at that epoch. (Scientific American is part of Nature Publishing Group.)

The newfound galaxy, known as BX 442, was identified as a spiral in Hubble images targeting 306 galaxies at redshifts of 1.5 to 3.6, corresponding to times roughly 9.3 billion to 11.9 billion years ago. (Redshift is a measure of cosmological distance that indicates how much an object's light has been stretched toward longer wavelengths as it traverses an expanding universe.) BX 442, the only identifiable spiral of the bunch, resides at redshift 2.18, some 10.7 billion years ago, or just three billion years after the big bang. It appears to fit the bill for a variety called a grand-design spiral, in which pronounced spiral arms lend a well-defined shape to the galaxy's disk of stars.

## Aurora Over Antarctica: a "Teardrop From Heaven"

by Jason Major

This stunning photo of the Aurora Australis, set against a backdrop of the Milky Way, was captured from one of the most remote research locations on the planet: the French-Italian Concordia Base, located at 3,200 meters (nearly 10,500 feet) altitude on the Antarctic plateau, 1,670 km (1,037 miles) from the geographic south pole.



The photo was taken on July 18 by resident doctor and scientist Dr. Alexander Kumar and his colleague Erick Bondoux.

Sparked by a coronal mass ejection emitted from active region 11520 on July 12, Earth's aurorae leapt into high gear both in the northern and southern hemispheres three days later during the resulting geomagnetic storm — giving some wonderful views to skywatchers in locations like Alaska, Scotland, New Zealand... and even the South Pole.

"A raw display of one of nature's most incredible sights dazzled our crew," Dr. Kumar wrote on his blog, *Chronicles from Concordia*. "The wind died down and life became still. To me, it was if Heaven had opened its windows and a teardrop had fallen from high above our station, breaking the dark lonely polar night."



"We managed to snap a few photos before Heaven realised its mistake and closed its doors."

## Odd News

### Judge OKs Nudity at TSA Checkpoint



*By David Kravets*

An Oregon man was cleared of indecent exposure charges Wednesday when a local judge said his protest of Transportation Security Administration screening procedures was constitutionally protected speech under state law.

John Brennan, a 50-year-old technology consultant, was charged with the infraction after taking his

clothes off at Portland International Airport in April, on a way to a business trip to San Jose.

"I was mostly motivated by the absurdity of it all. The irony that they wanna see me naked. But I don't get to take my clothes off?" he said after being cleared.

The incident began when Brennan refused to go through the so-called "nude" scanners and instead opted for a pat-down. A TSA officer detected nitrates on his gloves after the pat down. Nitrates are used in explosives.

That, Brennan said, was the last straw. He took his clothes off and proceeded through the checkpoint. He was subsequently arrested.

Multnomah County Circuit Judge David Rees said nudity laws don't apply when it comes to protest. "It is the speech itself that the state is seeking to punish, and that it cannot do," Rees said from the bench.

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**Tip Jar (30+ / 0-)**

*"Ridicule is the only weapon which can be used against unintelligible propositions." - Thomas Jefferson*

by **rfall** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:00:07 PM PDT**

**Sounds like? (16+ / 0-)**

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:07:21 PM PDT**

**John Brennan is my new hero n/t (11+ / 0-)**

*"Back off, back off, he's got his own dreams that won't come true!"- Robots*

by **satanicpanic** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:07:38 PM PDT**

**Just wait til you see some 60 year old (14+ / 0-)**

running naked through an airport. Your opinion may change.

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:08:46 PM PDT**

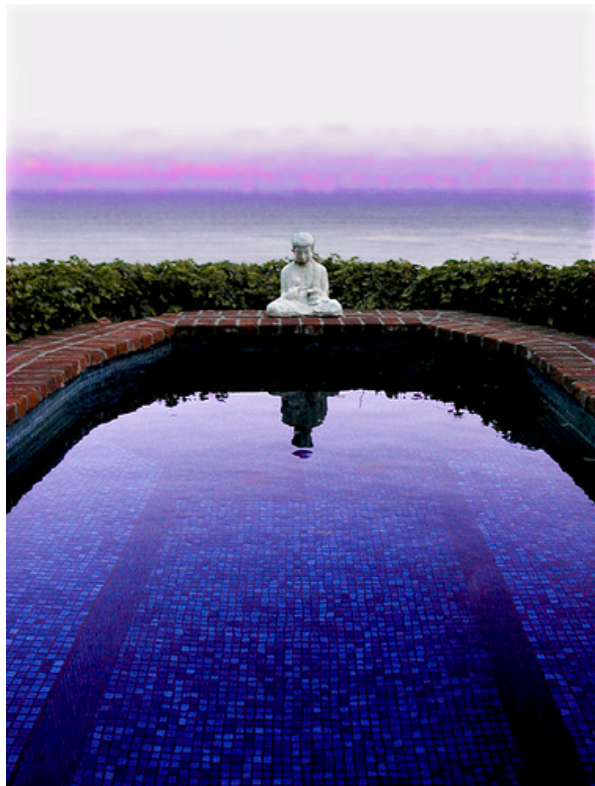
**palantir (11+ / 0-)**

At least he`s not losing 300 inches a day.

In the Pioneer Anomaly the craft was losing 300 inches per day. Do you know if that daily rate has increased, & if theoretically the heat source (the assumed cause) was shut down, would it then accelerate.

Also on a journey of already multiple billions of miles, how do they measure inches that precisely?

O0000hHHHmMMM



*I`m already against the next war.*

by **Knucklehead** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:49:14 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

**LOL (3+ / 0-)**

If shut down the craft wouldn't accelerate without another force acting upon it, like the gravity of another planet or star (or thrusters). Delta v is NASA talk for acceleration. The only significant other force currently acting on the Pioneer probes is the sun. It is an interesting subject.  $F=ma$  and all that jazz.

They measure distance by knowing the speed of light (radio transmissions). If they instructed the craft to strobe a few transmission they could pretty well time how long the transmission took to get to them. That's the hard way. The easy way is to know

how fast it is going and multiplying by the time it's been traveling.

---

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:11:39 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

---

**The easy way is, by the way, a time dependent (4+ / 0-)**

function (because of the acceleration). Laugh at me if you must, but oh I just love this stuff.

---

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:15:14 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

---

**Palantir (2+ / 0-)**

That`s why I asked You.  
Thank you.

*I`m already against the next war.*

by **Knucklehead** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 11:03:49 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

---

**Needs clarification . . . (3+ / 0-)**

If the craft is moving away from the sun but nonetheless decelerating, then the heat source causing the deceleration must be on the side away from the sun (i.e., the fore). But the side facing the sun (i.e., the rear) should be getting warmed by the sun and also impacted by the solar wind, which would both cause the ship to accelerate away from the sun. Is NASA claiming that they know the effects of solar heat and solar wind so exactly that the change in velocity can only be explained by circuit heat being emitted at the fore? How do they even know what the solar wind effect is, except by measuring the change in velocity? What am I missing?

by **Eikyu Saha** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 12:19:32 AM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**great question. off the top of my head (1+ / 0-)**

The flux of the solar wind (elemental particles & light) is a fairly well known quantity as a function of distance. So any push on the average cross-section of the Pioneers could be computed. As you say that would cause an acceleration which, since you can sum vectors, would mean the actual deceleration due to gravitation of the sun is less than without it. The anomaly is an additional deceleration. That suggests that the interior cross-section presented to the source is larger than that presented the solar wind.

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by **palantir** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 05:58:11 AM PDT**

[ Parent ]

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**Thanks. (1+ / 0-)**

I can see how the solar wind is generally well known, but given the wonderful pictures that NASA and others regularly provide of the sun belching out big storms, and the auroras on earth caused by the resulting ion gusts, isn't there just a wee bit of unpredictable fluctuation that would be very specific to the trajectory of the spacecraft? Or are they saying that this "Pioneer Anomaly" heat effect is so big that they can still calculate it despite the uncertainties of the solar wind fluctuation? Or (another possibility) did they do the calculation first, based on the heat emission, and then find confirming evidence for it?

by **Eikyu Saha** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 06:42:30 AM PDT**

[ Parent ]

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**Random events will cause random effects (0+ / 0-)**

the Pioneer effect is and has been a consistent (non-stop) observable phenomena. So it can be seen even when things like you describe happen. One can tease out such things by averaging over some length of time then comparing with the predicted value.

by **palantir** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 06:12:55 PM PDT**

[ Parent ]

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**I am on vacation with on and off (13+ / 0-)**

Wifi but my day is complete because I can read the articles in this excellent OND. Thank you rfall.

*The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it.— Neil deGrasse Tyson*

by **maggiejean** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:10:17 PM PDT**

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**Yes, great stuff rfall (10+ / 0-)**

and even better because maggiejean is here.

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:11:57 PM PDT**

[ Parent ]

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**Aw shucks, palantir. (8+ / 0-)**

Thank you but you are the person who night after night adds cool stuff.



*The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it.— Neil deGrasse Tyson*

by **maggiejean** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:37:57 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**Hope you're having (7+ / 0-)**

fun down there. Lots of fog up here.

*Ceiling Cat rules....srsly.*

by **side pocket** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:50:35 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**have you seen the sunsets? (4+ / 0-)**

the ones i've caught glimpses off are great! all of san diego should be so happy to see them!

by **jlms qkw** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:24:32 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**:-) (13+ / 0-)**

*I'm a **Silly Rabbit**.*

by **Trix** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:12:33 PM PDT**

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**"...Which Only Makes It Cold" (11+ / 0-)**

Following up on something I posted last night, here's the latest contribution to the continuing quest to learn the secrets of great sex & good hair... here's some more tidbits from women's magazines.



From **Cosmo**: "**I Ignored Your Text Because...**"

Sometimes guys can be sweet and funny when they text. And other times they crash and burn in seconds...and it's freaking hilarious.

- "U TXT LYKE DIS." —Lindsey B.
- "You've known me for three years, and you still spelled my name wrong." —Kathryn S.
- "We just met two hours ago, and I already have 17 texts from you." —Adrienne A.
- "It's 4 a.m., and you sent me a pic of your penis. And we met a week ago." —DaNisha L.
- "It was the night after I met you and you told me you 'want to take it slow.' Whoa." —Amanda C.

More towards the *Penthouse Forum* side of things, there this also from **Cosmo**: "**The Mind-Blowing Orgasm That Will Make Him Melt**"

No doubt your dude is just happy that you're naked and in his bed. But if you want to give him an orgasm he'll never forget, bust out one (or more) of these sexy little tricks and watch him melt in front of you.

- Make It Pop

When you're giving him oral, slowly slide your mouth all the way down to the base of his penis (use your hand as a mouth extension if you need some assistance). Then, make a vacuum suction with your mouth as you slowwwwwly drag yourself back up. Once you get to the head of his penis, release it from your mouth with a popping noise. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat...

- Press the Million-Dollar Point

His perineum (the spot between his balls and butt) is packed with nerves—and if you press on it, you'll give him waves of pleasure. Ride him in reverse cowgirl, so he gets the great

visual of your booty and you get to keep an eye on his boys. Watch for his testicles to begin to rise—a sign that he's about to climax—then lick your fingers and press on his perineum.

- **Get a Little Sloppy**

When it comes to a mouth-love session, saliva is your best friend. Go ahead and spit into your hand (licking your palm does the same trick and looks sexier) or directly onto his member to get everything really wet. While you're at it, make a show of spreading it around with your tongue. He'll lose it.

That last little piece of advice reminds of a diary I wrote many ages ago. The title of the diary was "**Is There Such A Thing As Bad Oral Sex?**" It was centered around a "*pie fight*" going on in blogs over whether the act of performing oral sex on a man is an inherently submissive act perpetuated by a patriarchal society, or a situation of busybodies getting upset over a sex act that consenting adults have fun doing every day?

One of the comments in the diary has always stuck with me, since it made me giggle for 20 minutes non-stop the first time I read it.

*"I love my girlfriend, but I think she really sucks at it-- wouldn't know for sure, since I've never had a "head" experience that impressed me, not with any girl I've dated. But when she heads south it's like being in a swimming pool. I dunno, does that sound sexy? I've gotten used to it, so I wouldn't know anymore. But I can tell you it's not particularly enjoyable the way she does it-- tons of saliva, while not using anything else in her mouth, then she pulls away and blows on it, which only makes it cold. After about twenty minutes of this I have to get her to stop because it's threatening to cause Seinfeld-esque shrinkage, and I wouldn't want to hurt her feelings."*

by **Rimjob** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:14:47 PM PDT**

### Use his semen to recreate a classic hairstyle (10+ / 0-)



I'm a **Silly Rabbit**.

by **Trix** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:27:31 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

### Emmys (10+ / 0-)

From the **A.V. Club**:

**Outstanding Drama Series:**

*Boardwalk Empire*  
*Breaking Bad*  
*Downton Abbey*  
*Game Of Thrones*  
*Homeland*  
*Mad Men*

**Outstanding Comedy Series:**

*The Big Bang Theory*  
*Curb Your Enthusiasm*  
*Girls*  
*Modern Family*  
*30 Rock*  
*Veep*

**Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama Series:**

Kathy Bates, *Harry's Law*  
 Glenn Close, *Damages*  
 Claire Danes, *Homeland*  
 Michelle Dockery, *Downton Abbey*  
 Julianna Margulies, *The Good Wife*  
 Elisabeth Moss, *Mad Men*

**Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series:**

Hugh Bonneville, *Downton Abbey*  
 Steve Buscemi, *Boardwalk Empire*  
 Bryan Cranston, *Breaking Bad*  
 Michael C. Hall, *Dexter*  
 Jon Hamm, *Mad Men*  
 Damien Lewis, *Homeland*

**Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series:**

Zoey Deschanel, *New Girl*  
 Lena Dunham, *Girls*  
 Edie Falco, *Nurse Jackie*  
 Tina Fey, *30 Rock*  
 Julia Louis-Dreyfus, *Veep*  
 Melissa McCarthy, *Mike & Molly*  
 Amy Poehler, *Parks & Recreation*

**Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series:**

Alec Baldwin, *30 Rock*  
 Don Cheadle, *House Of Lies*  
 Louis CK, *Louie*  
 Jon Cryer, *Two And A Half Men*  
 Larry David, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*  
 Jim Parsons, *The Big Bang Theory*

The Emmys announced their nominations Thursday morning and reaffirmed their commitment to most of the shows they already liked, at least in the drama category. *Mad Men* and *American Horror Story* led the nominations totals with 17 nominations each (a number *AHS* got to by reclassifying itself as a "miniseries," which gave it less competition), followed closely by *Downton Abbey* (now competing as a drama series, rather than a miniseries) and History Channel miniseries *Hatfields & McCoys* with 16 nominations. *Modern Family* garnered the most nominations for a comedy series with 14 nominations, while *Homeland* grabbed the most for a new series with nine nominations. HBO led for networks with 81 nominations, followed by CBS with 60 nominations and PBS with 58.

The drama series category had only slight changeover from last year, but it still marked an important milestone for the Emmys, as it's the first time no broadcast networks have received a nomination in one of the two big series categories. *The Good Wife*, last year's sole network representative, was

pushed aside by either Breaking Bad (returning to the category after a year off) or Downton. (The other series "pushed out" was the not-returning Friday Night Lights.) In addition to Breaking Bad and Downton, nominations went to Boardwalk Empire, Game Of Thrones, Homeland, and Mad Men. The comedy series category saw a significant amount of change, as three of last year's nominees—Glee, The Office, and Parks & Recreation (grrr)—were pushed aside by three HBO series: Curb Your Enthusiasm, Girls, and Veep. Curb is a perennial nominee that just wasn't eligible last year and the other two are in their first years of eligibility. The broadcast network series The Big Bang Theory, Modern Family, and 30 Rock rounded out the category.

Nearly every good show on television was nominated for at least something, however, with several bright spots in the smaller categories. (One exception: Archer, which was nominated nowhere.) Community finally broke through into a major category with a nomination for writing for its multiple timelines episode (and the comedy writing category, in general, is a stronger set of nominees than the series nominees list), while Louis CK set a new record for most nominations for an individual at the Emmys in one year with seven nominations. (The previous record, held by David Lynch in the first year of Twin Peaks, was five.) In addition, the supporting categories are filled with deserving first-time nominees, from Giancarlo Esposito and Anna Gunn of Breaking Bad to Jared Harris of Mad Men. (AMC's twin dramas broke through in a big way in the acting categories, with both receiving guest actor nominations as well, for Mark Margolis and Ben Feldman respectively.) The comedy acting categories were once again dominated by Modern Family but still made room for New Girl's Max Greenfield and Nurse Jackie's Merritt Wever.

Of course, there were curious snubs as well, including the epic Game Of Thrones episode "Blackwater" somehow missing out on directing in a drama series, and Vince Gilligan and his writing staff for Breaking Bad continuing to be unable to break through in writing in a drama series (perhaps because of the stranglehold Mad Men has on the category). The fact that Parks was unable to score a nomination for comedy series after doing so last year was enervating, as was the fact that CK could be nominated seven times but somehow not get nominated for Louie as a series. (Replace any two of Modern Family, Big Bang, and Curb with Louie and Parks, and this is one of the best Comedy Series lineups ever.) The Emmys are always going to do several bizarre things, but this year, the weirdness was very nearly matched by pleasant surprises and out-of-nowhere cool nominations, which doesn't always happen. All in all, it was one of the better years, as far as nomination lists go.

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by **Rimjob** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:39:56 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]



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**Hatfield & McCoys (8+ / 0-)**

was well executed but I never thought it particularly interesting. I think they missed the bet by rehashing a strict historical account (well for the most part).

It's an American myth and could have/should have been crafted into a more contemporary commentary. Of course, maybe it was there and I missed it.

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by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:47:03 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**You're in luck... (4+ / 0-)**

Charlize Theron is developing a **modern-day series based on the story** for NBC, which she'd apparently been pitching since before the History Channel series went into production.

*I'm a **Silly Rabbit**.*

by **Trix** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:04:41 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**This is interesting (10+ / 0-)**

Which I posted while chuggin' a brew at MB's pub tonight.

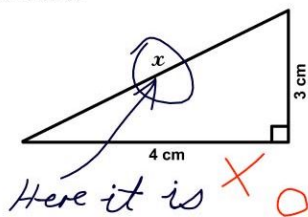
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by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:15:47 PM PDT**

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**I know! I know! (12+ / 0-)**

3. Find  $x$ .



I'm a **Silly Rabbit**.

by **Trix** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:21:33 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

**LOL! I thought of that one too (8+ / 0-)**

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:27:45 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

**"Nomenclature" (10+ / 0-)**

Anyone who's ever sat through a college **Organic Chemistry** course will know that it's a field of science with one of the most screwy & overly complicated nomenclature systems man has ever dreamed up.

There are the official **IUPAC** names for compounds, but there's also the common names which may be completely different, used more often in literature, and break the conventions of what the names' suffix/prefix is supposed to convey. And then there are the various groups of compounds that people with a hell of a lot of letters after their name thought should be named exactly the same as completely different compounds, except for the substitution of one letter.

Among the twenty amino acids, each one has a three letter abbreviation and a single letter abbreviation, which may or may not make a lick of sense for standing for that particular amino acid.

by **Rimjob** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:33:43 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

**Here's one :) (8+ / 0-)**

Methionylthreonylthreonylglutaminyllarginyl...isoleucine

189,819 letters

Chemical name of titin, the largest known protein Technical; not in dictionary; disputed whether it is a word.

It's got a nickname: Titin

**Wikipedia**

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:39:36 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**Wazzat from Cosmo? (5+ / 0-)**

science is hard and stuff.

*From those who live like leeches on the people's lives, We must take back our land again, America!...Langston Hughes*

by **KenBee** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:48:02 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**totally (6+ / 0-)**

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:49:06 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**palantir (4+ / 0-)**

And funny.

*I`m already against the next war.*

by **Knucklehead** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:57:08 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**ssssssh, don't give it away :) (3+ / 0-)**

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:12:35 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**Math shows how shockwaves could crinkle space (11+ / 0-)**

Can a StarTrek Ripoff er um homage be far behind???

Helm engage the Crinkle drive

*Not blaming Bush for the mess we're in, is like not blaming a train engineer for a fatal train wreck because he's no longer driving the train.*

by **JML9999** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 09:21:33 PM PDT**

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**Almost as funny as "The Improbability Drive". (1+ / 0-)**

*"Ridicule is the only weapon which can be used against unintelligible propositions." - Thomas Jefferson*

by **rfall** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 01:04:04 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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**Or the Mathematics of Restraunt Checks (0+ / 0-)**

<http://en.wikipedia.org/...>

The Bistromathic Drive is a starship propulsion system introduced in the novel *Life, the Universe and Everything*, the third book of the series.

The Bistromathic Drive is used in Slartibartfast's craft Bistromath and works by exploiting the irrational mathematics that apply to numbers on a waiter's bill pad and groups of people in restaurants. the novel *Life, the Universe and Everything* describes bistromathics as follows:

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" Bistromathics itself is simply a revolutionary new way of understanding the behavior of numbers. Just as Albert Einstein's general relativity theory observed that space was not an absolute but depended on the observer's movement in time, and that time was not an absolute, but depended on the observer's movement in space, so it is now realized that numbers are not absolute, but depend on the observer's movement in restaurants.

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*Not blaming Bush for the mess we're in, is like not blaming a train engineer for a fatal train wreck because he's no longer driving the train.*

by **JML9999** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 01:48:50 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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### "you people" (2+ / 0-)

You People? – What Did Ann Romney Say About Mitt's Taxes on GMA? – There's a Debate Online.

Was it – "And we've given all people need to know and understand about our financial situation and about how — you know, how we live our life."

Or was it – "And we've given all you people need to know and understand about our financial situation and about how — you know, how we live our life."

Our ruling after reviewing the original audio is that she did not include the "you."

<http://abcnews.go.com/...>

by **zqxj** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:14:00 PM PDT**

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### You people just dont get how hard it is to be rich (1+ / 0-)

All those people to fire, er hire. Worrying about where the next loaf of gold is coming from.

by **palantir** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:17:50 PM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

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### Vilsack prays for rain (2+ / 0-)

One prominent secular humanist group is upset with Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack for his rain prayer during a White House briefing.

"Praying for rain? That's not just government entangling itself with religion, that's government publicly practicing it, and wallowing in superstition," Tom Flynn, executive director of the Council for Secular Humanism, said in a statement via BuzzFeed.

At a Wednesday White House briefing about drought conditions across the country, Vilsack said that he was praying to the Almighty to make it rain.

"I get on my knees every day," the Secretary said. "And I'm saying an extra prayer now. If I had a rain prayer or a rain dance I could do, I would do it."

<http://www.politico.com/...>

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by **zqxj** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 10:21:23 PM PDT**

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### Speaking of TSA checkpoints (5+ / 0-)

I saw a piece on a news page a couple of days ago about the fellow with the largest penis on record (according to Guinness book) trying to get through a TSA checkpoint with his Weapon of Mass Conception.

Who gets to pat him down.....and how? While I have no personal prurient interest in his package, I am a student of human behavior and would have liked to see the expressions on the collective faces of the TSA staff as they tried to solve the problem.

Then there was the business traveler who prefers comfort as well as style. He likes to wear a **sport kilt** for travel. He also prefers to go regimental (aka Commando) for that extra freedom. Our guy has no use for added x-ray exposure, so he insists on the pat down. The young man who was assigned to do the pat down is required to feel the inside of the leg to look for a weapon. That went OK until the screener ran his hand up our traveler's thigh and when he got to the top, he found more than he bargained for. On examining the traveler's other leg, the now red-faced examiner only felt a couple of inches past the knee. Wish I had been there. Next time I travel commercial I may wear my kilt.

*The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand. - Sun Tzu*

by **Otteray Scribe** on **Thu Jul 19, 2012 at 11:03:46 PM PDT**

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### Utilikilts (2+ / 0-)

are also very sexy.

<http://www.kiltmen.com/...>



by **crose** on **Fri Jul 20, 2012 at 12:42:39 AM PDT**

[ **Parent** ]

[PERMALINK](#)

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