FACTORIAL! TIMES

ISSUE FIVE

FEATURING:
THE BEE MOVIE REVIEW
NASA'S WARP DRIVE
THE NEW XBOX
AND MANY, MANY MORE!
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Rick & Morty | Postmodernism ................. page 4
Hyper Realism & Existentialism

NASA's Successful Warp Drive .................. page 5

Women In STEM: Alex Huard .................. page 6

Men In The Arts: Ashley Paw .................. page 7

The Bee Movie | Review ....................... page 8

The New Xbox .................................. page 10

The Enemy Of Yosemite ....................... page 11

How To Clean a Pug’s Wrinkles ............... page 12

Campus Candids ............................... page 14
Postmodernism is a broad school of thought that came about as a rejection of modernism. Postmodernism can be best described as a rejection of or skepticism of form, grand narratives, rationality, objective truth, human nature, objective reality, etc. Postmodernism basically says that there is no objective truth or reality; no grand narrative has ever been able to fully explain anything, because there is no full explanation. Postmodern tendencies in television shows such as Rick and Morty include being self-referential, being ironic, making constant pop culture references, the use of pastiche, and the idea of moral relativism or rejection of objective morality.

Just turning on any episode of Rick and Morty, you are immediately greeted with references meant to pay homage to other pieces of work. Pastiche is defined by Fredric Jameson as “like parody, the imitation of a peculiar or unique idiosyncratic style, the wearing of a linguistic mask, speech in a dead language. But it is a neutral practice of such mimicry, without any of parody’s ulterior motives, amputated of the satiric impulse, devoid of laughter” The theme song is clearly meant to sound like the theme song from Doctor Who. The creators of the show have actually acknowledged that they wanted the theme song to sound like Doctor Who’s theme song (Carreiro). Also, the whole concept of the show and the name of one of the main characters appears to be a clear imitation of Back to the Future. An older, somewhat crazy scientist, and a younger boy go on crazy sci-fi adventures, and Morty clearly sounds like Marty, the younger boy in Back to the Future. The references take off astronomically from there. Each and every episode is full of pop culture references, sometimes blatant, sometimes more low key, sometimes critical, sometimes simply to pay homage to a piece of art that the creators of the show happen to enjoy.

Lawnmower Dog (Season: one, Episode two) appears to be mocking the movie Inception, with Rick and Morty trying to plant the idea that Morty deserves an A in math class into his head, making him think that he had a “totally original thought” and that it was his idea the whole time. In doing so, they are forced to go down multiple levels of dreams; every time they appear to be in trouble, they go into the dream of another person inside the dream they’re currently in, to buy themselves more time to come up with a solution to their problems. Eventually, they get to a point where they are stuck in what appears to be a boiler room of sorts, and Rick and Morty are again greeted with a comical and ridiculous pop culture reference; Scary Terry, or in other words, an imitation of Freddy Kruger, appears, complete with long metal swords for fingers, not knives, because Scary Terry is, according to Rick, “a legally-safe knockoff of an eighties horror character with miniature swords for fingers instead of knives.” This is also interesting because this shows Rick acknowledging that he is inside of a television show. Eventually, they manage to hide long enough that Scary Terry gets frustrated and returns to his home, where he has a wife and a child. We learn that Scary Terry is a person, just like the rest of us; frustrated with his job, stressed out being a parent, etc. Once he falls asleep, Rick and Morty infiltrate Scary Terry’s dream, to see what upsets him, and try to fix it for him, in the hopes that this will convince Scary Terry to help them out with their problem as well.
Earlier last year, NASA made major strides in developing a Warp Drive Engine and have now had their first successful test. A Warp Drive is a next generation engine that uses energy to Warp Space-time in front of and behind a spacecraft to push it forward. Warp Drives were once thought of as science fiction but have now become a reality. The model that was tested was loosely based off the 18th century concept drawings produced by Agustina Pohl. Agustina Pohl was a German scientist and engineer that was widely considered to be ahead of his time. After a close examination of Agustina’s drawings, NASA’s Gary Kennedy hypothesized that you could potentially change the Mendicant tanks that would allow the Warp Drive to work as planned.

Mendicant tanks hold the mixture of Radon gas neutrons for the Warp Drive. The original design for the Mendicant tanks was flawed, and over time, would allow the Radon gas and neutrons to leak. This becomes incredibly dangerous without a supply of neutrons to neutralize the excess energy from the Warp Field generated by the drive it will heat exponentially. The Radon gas, which is radioactive, helps to give the neutrons a positive charge. It does this by means of radioactive decay, which releases alpha and beta particles into the neutrons. In the original design for the Mendicant tank, walls were made of copper, which was a problem because the Radon would slowly corrode the copper and form small microscopic holes that the Radon gas and neutrons escape through. In the new design, walls are made from Tungsten and coated in Californium, which stops the corroding and allows the Mendicant tanks to function properly.

This Warp Drive is an incredible piece of technology and is capable of near light speed travel. With a Warp Drive like this one, NASA can send payloads to Jupiter in just under a month, making interplanetary travel a trivial task. This has also changed the game for human spaceflight; this drive can get humans to Mars in just under fifteen days. As a result, NASA has shifted its focus and altered their timeline to reflect its new goal of landing humans on Mars by 2024.

Written by Joseph Capalbo

Designed by Matthew Rice
Within our campus there are few residents that embody what SUNY Poly truly stands for: a pursuit of education, active community participation, and leadership above all else. One of the members of our community who rarely gets enough recognition is Alex Huard.

Alex grew up with his mother, father, and 113 cats. After playing games like Freddi Fish 4: The Case of the Hogfish Rustlers of Briny Gulch and Corry in the House for the Nintendo DS, Alex’s passion for games sparked. Alex set out to make games that made him feel the way those games made him feel. Alex later moved to college to set out on that goal and to impact those around him.

Alex does a lot for everyone on campus. As the Wildcat Media general manager, Alex puts on events for students, hosts the radio and TV stations, and helps DJ and provide entertainment for a wide variety of other events held on campus. The quality of the events he helps organize is greatly improved thanks to Alex. Music at every outdoor event, video game night in the pub, these events make campus more lively and exciting.

Alex is a member of the game design club and believe it or not has an extensive collection of developed games. If you haven’t played Size Cube, and Size Cube 2, I highly recommend doing so. Alex is a master at the craft. The narrative of Size Cube and storytelling have been compared to The Iliad and other masterpieces. I can’t wait for the next installment of the series or even a new series.

We as students can learn a lot from Alex: Their hard work and dedication to the students, a quest to do more and be a better person, a rational outlook on the meaning of life, and a pursuit of enlightenment.

Written and Designed
Will Ross
ASHLEY Joy Paw was born on September 3, 1997 in the small Italian neighborhood of Morris Park in New York City. From a young age, Ashley has always been interested in the arts. She identifies as a dancer and an avid theatre goer. Her parents enrolled her in dance classes at the age of 4 and she continued that for 13 years. However, her interest is not only limited to dance. The first musical she saw was Annie is a community production where her sister’s friend played the title role. From there, she tried to participate in community theater but was traumatized after auditioning for one musical where she cried publicly after singing “JERICHO” by Hilary Duff. She actually got cast in the musical, but declined the role and stuck to sitting in the audience until high school.

ASHLEY participated in her high school’s theatre troupe, the SVF players, where she acted in a musical and several plays. One of her favorite roles was the Ghost of Christmas Past in A Christmas Carol. She very much liked putting on a ghosty voice. She took dance classes multiple nights a week, silently wishing she didn’t have to spend 3 hours squishing her toes en pointe. She doesn’t dance anymore, but she still has the bruises on her feet to remind her of her pain and suffering.

ASHLEY went to high school roughly twenty blocks away from Times Square and has seen many shows over the course of her life. One of her favorite shows is Newsies, which she saw by accident one night and then which she saw 23 times after that, accidentally. She has spent too much money on the show about dancing boys that sell newspapers, but to this day, she still does not regret that decision. Nor her decision to see Once 12 times, The Book of Mormon 11 times, Matilda 6 times, Les Miserables 3 times, and Kinky Boots 3 times.

ASHLEY currently studies at SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Utica, NY. She would like for someone to sing showtunes with her. However, Ashley has still not seen Hamilton. Ashley knows all lyrics to every song on the Hamilton cast recording so she is currently accepting donations to fund her a ticket to see Hamilton the Musical on Broadway. She loves Thayne Jasperson and thought he played a great dog in Finding Neverland.

“You right, you right”
— RYAN GLOFF
Microsoft has done it again with the announcement of their new gaming console, the Xbox 420. The Xbox 420 was announced on April 1st and fans are already lining up at Microsoft stores around the nation although it's not expected to come out for another year. With the recent release of the Nintendo Switch, Xbox felt that they needed to step up their game, which is why the Xbox 420 is rumored to be one of the best consoles made thus far.

Not only are the specs of this console more powerful than any other console so far, but they have already announced a few new series of games which are set to launch with the console. Some of these games include Loaf: The Game and The Legend of Cortana. Some have been complaining that Microsoft is trying to steal ideas for games from Nintendo, but I find it to be clear that they are stealing from other companies, too! Some other games that have been announced with the release of the new console include GTA VI: Uncharted as well as Crash: Gears of War 5. Microsoft has officially run out of their own ideas, and have been looking to their competition for ideas for games. Regardless, this is not important considering that their new console is going to blow the Nintendo Switch and the PlayStation 4 out of the water, according to Microsoft.

Some fans were surprised at the announcement of the new console due to the timing of it, since Microsoft had just announced the Xbox Scorpio that is set to release this holiday season. However, it's clear that Xbox is nonstop in their production of new consoles. The Xbox 420 was not announced with a release date, but some fans have speculated that it will be coming out at the same time as the Xbox Scorpio. Some fans even believe that the scorpio and the 420 will have velcro pieces on them so that you can put them together. Microsoft has not confirmed nor denied this rumor, therefore it's probably true. With the announcement of the Xbox 420 came some specs and details surrounding the console. The Xbox 420 is announced to be something "never seen before", which is why it's almost microscopic. Microsoft patted themselves on the back during this announcement on the console being cost efficient and not taking up much space, which is why it's also as thin as a "flattened candy wrapper" as they described it. The idea for essentially being invisible came from their competitors consoles. Microsoft felt that since the Switch and PS4 were so large and bulky that it was time for a new generation of consoles that worked in the opposite direction: smaller.

Neither Nintendo nor Sony have made any statements about the new Xbox, but it's inferred that they will speak about it soon in a non direct manner, probably indirectly calling them out on stealing the titles for their games. As for backwards compatibility, as the Xbox One had recently introduced, it will be completely eliminated in this new system. Microsoft decided to not make the system backwards compatible because they are planning on stopping the sales of all games that are not for the Xbox Scorpio and the Xbox 420! In other words, Microsoft is really making a 420 for the future of their company. Microsoft also plans on getting rid of all evidence of any game that came out before the release of the new consoles. It is imperative to Microsoft to fully start over, so they will be destroying all of the physical evidence that proves that there were consoles before the two they recently announced.

The announcement of these two consoles have been in the limelight recently, which is what Microsoft had hoped for. As of right now it's nearly impossible to figure out if they are going to hold all of these promises true or not, but the future of the Xbox looks bright. It almost looks as bright as the neon yellow color that all new consoles will be, yet another announcement that they have made. Overall, Microsoft has truly delivered their announcement in a grand manner, however, the outcome is questionable.

Written: Chris Prezioso

Designed: Will Ross
Yosemite National Park collapsed into a giant sinkhole late last Friday night. Scientists have found that Global Warming can be blamed for this massive disaster. Global warming is a major problem in the world today. The massive amount of gas let off by cows all over the world causes the ozone layer in the atmosphere to thin out and sometimes even make holes. The sun’s heat then enters the atmosphere and can’t escape, much like a green house. This in turn heats up the earth to unprecedented levels.

This massive amount of heat caused all the park’s geysers to dry up leaving a massive void under the park. With nothing to support it, all 750,000 acres of park collapsed in on itself, including the 14,000 foot high peaks of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The sinkhole is just a massive hole in the ground with an unknown depth, potentially reaching all the way down to the Earth’s core. Scientists have apparently seen this coming. “We said global warming was real” one said, “Don’t say we didn’t tell you so, we said global warming was a thing but no one believed us.”

The destruction of the national park is a great loss. The home of over 255 species of birds was lost, the California Red-Legged frog is now even more endangered than it already was, and the black bears that people would flock to see are gone. “At least we can look at cool rocks”, Alex Lintbrook, renowned geologist, excitedly stated. Alex, alongside his uncle Olaf, has already formed an expedition team with the intent to explore the hole. They hope to explore the Earth’s crust, much like the characters from Jules Verne’s book, Journey to the Center of the Earth. They hope to find an underground world with wondrous plants and animals and maybe even a massive sea. Despite the massive destruction of wildlife and the loss of one of the greatest National Parks, we can still look at cool rocks.

Not everyone is bright and cheery however. There is already a cult forming around the belief that the terrifying, gaping hole is a gate to hell and a sign of the apocalypse. Scientists have denied this claim stating that the hole is just a hole and there is nothing at all apocalyptic or hellish about it. In addition, The Factory Times managed to get in touch with a very distraught Ranger Bob from the National Park Services to talk about the disaster. “This is a disaster! My beautiful Jeep Wrangler was parked by the lodge and now it’s gone! I just got new off-road tires for my baby. How am I supposed to honk and wave at other Jeep drivers without my Wrangler?” We tried asking more questions relevant to the actual event but he just continued sobbing into the phone and mourning his Jeep Wrangler, it was very sad.

If Global Warming continues, more drastic natural disasters will occur. The volcanos that originally formed Hawaii will heat up and eventually explode, destroying the beautiful island and half of the United States’ tourist economy. The ice and snow covering Canada will melt causing massive flooding as the water flows downward from our next-door neighbor into the United States. We might even have to build a wall in order to keep out the floodwaters and fleeing Canadians. The loss of Yosemite National Park is a sign that we must stop and reverse the damage done to the atmosphere that is causing Global Warming. Mainly by slaughtering all the cows in the world and eating as many burgers as we can. The destruction of the National Park might not be a sign of the apocalypse, but if we do nothing, the world as we know it will end.
The Pug breed has been growing in popularity over the past few years, not only because they are insanely adorable, but because they are loyal and friendly. They live to please their owners and visually appear upset if they were not able to do so.

The most noticeable features of a pug are their curly tails and their deep face wrinkles. While being an owner of this brachycephalic dog is extremely rewarding, caring for them isn't easy. Their face wrinkles and deep ear canals are breeding grounds for dirt and bacteria to fester. A dirty wrinkle can make the Puggy feel uncomfortable so they will start scratching at it if it's not cleaned properly. It's recommended that you clean their wrinkles and ears at least every other day, if not more often.

In order to aid in the proper clean of your pug's flaps and folds, follow these tips and tricks and you will have a happy doggo.

- Take your Puggy's cheek in your left hand and lift the folds and look for redness, moist sores, rashes, or musty smells, which may mean infection. If there is an infection, use a medicated wipe to clean their flaps

- If there is no infection, take a damp washcloth and run it through your Puggy's cheek flaps, the deep nose wrinkle, the forehead wrinkles, and don't forget about those cute little ears!

- To help keep the wrinkle clean longer, take a cotton swab dipped in petroleum jelly and run it through once or twice.
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the factory times · 14