

The January 17th, 2018 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

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Welcome to the January 17th, 2018 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

This week I have been view the latest manufactured travesty of the left against President Trump. He did or did not say a bad word in a PRIVATE meeting and the democrat Senator Dicky Durbin couldn't wait to get out and share what he heard or didn't hear with the media. Oh my God, my ears are bleeding. Oh my God this is the most terrible president ever. Not other president every used this type of salty language. Wait a second. Wasn't Lydon B. Johnson kind of famous for his salty language. The same for Harry S. Truman (my favorite president ever). Hmmm and it was in a private meeting. Isn't that kind of like an "Off the record" meeting since no records were kept. I don't know about you guys, but when I went into that type of meeting to work things out, the conversations were kept private so that everyone could speak their minds. And if anyone leaked the conversations they were ostracized from future meetings. But hey, I only worked in industry for 40 years or so.

I really guess I must hate our President because I just got a look at my 401k and it was only up around 30% for the year. Terrible. Also the economy is exploding at a record pace. Unemployment is at all time lows. And it looks like I will be paying a lot less taxes for FY18. North Korea is talking to South Korea about coming to the Olympics. And ISIS has been decimated in Syria and Iraq in 10 months instead of the 10 years President Obama said. Oil production is up at all time highs. While regulations on American Businesses are falling every day. The most important of these is the EPA getting rid of the Waters of America Regulation.

Hopefully the president can get a deal together about DACA. He says he will give the DACA recipients a green card and let them get in line for a path to citizenship. But he wants funding for the wall, an end to chain migration into the US, an end to the immigration lottery and to have a merit based immigration system for the US just like most of the other countries of the world have. Now the funny thing about the things he wants is that these 4 things were what the Democrats said they wanted for immigrants about 10 years ago. My God, how could President Trump want these outrageous things? Maybe it's because he thinks it will make this country a better place to live in? Just a thought.

Now here is the most important thing I have come to realize in the past year. These points I have gone over with you are hardly never mentioned in the mainstream media. Ninety percent of the news about the president is negative from the mainstream media so there is no doubt in my mind why he has only a 45% approval with the people in this country. The question I have is this, based on this negative attack by the media on the president, how in the hell is his approval rating so high? Is it possible that some people in this country are looking behind the curtain to see who is pulling the strings. Hmmm....

Now I know a number of you out there will disagree with me and I look forward to having a conversation with you on these subjects I brought up. But let us have a civil conversation because I am tired of the BS of people calling others racists or bigots because they don't agree with their personal beliefs. Civil discourse is what made this country great and it is time we got back to it.

So on that "thought", why don't y'all sit back and relax because here's the best in gossip, jokes and science for your reading pleasure!

Uncle Timmy

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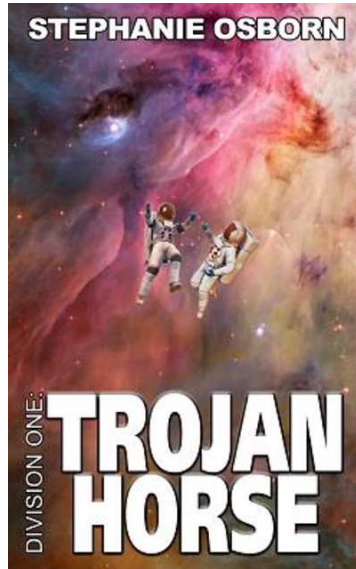
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<L>~<I>~~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

Re: The January 10th, 2018 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

From: "Ray Jones" ray.jones619@comcast.net

Trump wasn't singing along. He only knows part of the words. Watch closely his mouth during the anthem. I've watched it up close several times. Watch it yourself several times and then try to lie and tell me he sings the entire anthem. Several news media have all pointed out how he doesn't know but part of the words. Please let me know when he sings the entire anthem. Until then don't lie for him.

<U><T><'><s><*><C><O><M><M><E><N><T>

Hmmmm...sometimes when I stand for the national anthem I just listen to the people singing and enjoy it. But in my life I have never rewound a tape of DVD to

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see is someone is singing every word of a song or not. Ray, don't you think you are taking your hate for our president too seriously? Up to and including calling me a liar. (See your last line above.)UT

<T>~<H>~<E>~~~<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~~~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~~~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>

From: "Jim Woosley" jimwoosley@aol.com



<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>




PETA  @peta · 2d

Present your best argument for eating bacon.

 16.8K

 796

 1,241



Uncle Sam's Children

@UncleSamsChild

Replying to @peta

The latest study scientists have determined eating 2 slices of #bacon a day reduces your chance of being a suicide bomber by 100%

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>



<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>



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From: "Mike Waldrip" waldripk@gmail.com

I HATE MYSELF FOR SENDING THIS, BUT...

A couple lived near the ocean and used to walk the beach a lot.

One summer they noticed a girl who was at the beach almost every day. She wasn't unusual, nor was the travel bag she carried, except for one thing -- she would approach people who were sitting on the beach, glance around and then speak to them. Generally, the people would respond negatively and she would wander off. But, occasionally, someone would nod and there would be a quick exchange of money and something that she carried in her bag.

The couple assumed that she was selling drugs and debated calling the cops, but since they didn't know for sure, they decided to just continue watching her.

After a couple of weeks, the wife said, 'Honey, have you ever noticed that she only goes up to people with boom boxes and other electronic devices?' He hadn't and said so.

Then she said, 'Tomorrow I want you to get a towel and our big radio and go lie out on the beach. Then we can find out what she's really doing.'

Well, the plan went off without a hitch and the wife was almost hopping up and down with anticipation when she saw the girl talk to her husband and then leave.

The man then walked up the beach and met his wife at the road. 'Well, is she selling drugs?' she asked excitedly. 'No, she's not,' he said, enjoying this probably more than he should have.

'Well, what is it then? What does she do?' his wife fairly shrieked. The man grinned and said, 'She's a battery salesperson.' 'Batteries?' said the wife.

'Yes!' he replied. 'She sells C cells by the seashore'

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

ONE DAY, WHILE A BLONDE WAS OUT DRIVING HER CAR...

One day, while a blonde was out driving her car, she ran into a truck.

The truck's driver made her pull over into a parking lot and get out of the car.

He took a piece of chalk and drew a circle on the pavement. He told her to stand in the middle and not leave the circle.

Furious, he went over to her car and slashed the tires.

The blonde started laughing.

This made the man angrier so he smashed her windshield.

This time the blonde laughed even harder.

Livid, the man broke all her windows and keyed her car.

The blonde is now laughing hysterically, so the truck driver asks her what's so funny.

The blonde giggles and replies, "When you weren't looking, I stepped out of the circle three times!"

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

A BLONDE GUY...

A blonde guy gets home early from work and hears strange noises coming from the bedroom. He rushes upstairs to find his wife naked on the bed, sweating and panting. "What's up?" he says. "I'm having a heart attack," cries the woman.

He rushes downstairs to grab the phone, but just as he's dialing, his 4-year-old son comes up and says "Daddy! Daddy! Uncle Ted's hiding in your closet and he's got no clothes on!"

The guy slams the phone down and storms upstairs into the bedroom, past his screaming wife, and rips open the wardrobe door. Sure enough, there is his brother, totally naked, cowering on the closet floor.

“You rotten bastard,” says the husband, “my wife’s having a heart attack, and you’re running around naked, scaring the kids!”

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

Thoughts About Age

I'm 65 and I guess that puts me in with the geriatrics. But if there were 15 months in every year, I'd be only 48.

That's the trouble with us. We number everything. Take women for example. I think they deserve more than 12 years between 28 and 40. James Thurber

Problems of Growing Older

Three ladies were discussing the travails of getting older.

One said, 'Sometimes I catch myself with a jar of mayonnaise in my hand, while standing in front of the refrigerator, and I can't remember whether I need to put it away, or start making a sandwich.'

The second lady chimed in with, 'Yes, sometimes I find myself on the landing of the stairs and can't remember whether I was on my way up or on my way down.'

The third one responded, ' Well, ladies, I'm glad I don't have that problem. Touch wood,' as she rapped her knuckles on the table, and then said, 'That must be the door, I'll get it.'

'Problem with My Car

An elderly lady called, Jane, calls 911 on her cell phone to report that her car has been broken into.

Jane is hysterical as she explains her situation to the dispatcher, 'And they've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator.'

The dispatcher answers coolly, 'Stay calm. An officer is on the way.'

A few minutes later, the officer radios in. 'Disregard,' he says, 'She got in the back-seat by mistake.'

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Good and Bad News

Doctor Ryan tells his patient, Muriel, 'Well I have good news and bad news...'

Muriel responds, 'Tell me Doc. What's the bad news?'

You have Alzheimer's disease.'

'Good heavens!' exclaims Muriel, ' So, what's the good news?'

'You can go home and forget about it.' Says Dr Ryan.

My memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Senior Moment

Betty is aged 94 and she is angry and so she 'phones the newspaper office in Manchester, loudly demanding to know where her Sunday edition was.

'Ma'am,' said the employee, 'today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until Sunday.' There was a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a ray of recognition from Betty. 'I'll bet that's why no one was in church today too.'

Test for Dementia Dementia Humour

Below are four (4) questions and a bonus question. You have to answer them instantly. You can't take your time, answer all of them immediately. OK?

Let's find out just how clever you really are.

Ready? GO!!! (scroll down)

First Question:

You are participating in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in now?

Write down your answer.

Answer: If you answered that you are first, then you are absolutely wrong! If you overtake the second person and you take his place, you are second!

Try not to screw up in the next question.

To answer the second question, don't take as much time as you took for the first question.

Second Question:

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If you overtake the last person, then you are...?

Answer: If you answered that you are second to last, then you are wrong again. Tell me, how can you overtake the LAST Person?

Third Question:

Mary's father has five daughters: 1. Nana, 2. Nene, 3. Nini, 4. Nono.

What is the name of the fifth daughter?

Answer: Nunu?

NO! Of course not. Her name is Mary. Read the question again

Fourth Question:

Very tricky math ! Note: This must be done in your head only.

Do NOT use paper and pencil or a calculator. Try it.

Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now add 30. Add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000
Now add 10. What is the total?

Scroll down for answer.

Did you get 5000?

The correct answer is actually 4100.

Don't believe it? Check with your calculator! Today is definitely not your day. Maybe you will get the last question right?

Okay, now the bonus round:

There is a mute person who wants to buy a toothbrush. By imitating the action of brushing one's teeth he successfully expresses himself to the shopkeeper and the purchase is done.

Now if there is a blind man who wishes to buy a pair of sunglasses, how should he express himself?

Answer

The blind person just has to open his mouth and ask, it's so simple!

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>



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A NUMBER OF GOOD REASONS TO LIVE IN THE SOUTH!

https://www.youtube.com/embed/xKy2ILNQYrI?rel=0&iv_load_policy=3&showinfo=0

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

GENERAL GIGGLES

If we aren't supposed to eat animals, then why are they made out of meat?

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I think animal testing is a terrible idea; they get all nervous and give the wrong answers.

I was the kid next door's imaginary friend.

Right now I'm having amnesia and deja vu at the same time. I think I've forgotten this before..

Universal Truths

Triangular sandwiches taste better than square ones.

At the end of every party there is always a girl crying.

Nobody ever dares make cup-a-soup in a bowl.

You never know where to look when eating a banana.

You always feel a bit scared when stroking horses.

Its impossible to look cool whilst picking up a Frisbee.

Driving through a tunnel makes you feel excited.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

Some Great Questions Brought To You By Peter Kay

Why does your gynaecologist leave the room when you get undressed?

Why can't women put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why is it called Alcoholics Anonymous when the first thing you do is stand up and say, 'My name is Peter and I am an alcoholic'?

Why are they called stairs inside but steps outside?

Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?

Why does mineral water that 'has trickled through mountains for centuries have a 'use by' date?

Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp no one would eat?

Is French kissing in France just called kissing?

Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, 'I think I'll squeeze these dangly things here and drink whatever comes out'?

What do people in China call their good quality plates?

Why do people point to their wrist when asking for the time, but don't point to their crotch when they ask where the bathroom is?

What do you call male ballerinas?

Why is a person that handles your money called a 'Broker'?

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?

Why is it that when someone tells you that there are over a billion stars in the universe, you believe them, but if they tell you there is wet paint somewhere, you have to touch it to make sure.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

DIARY OF A SNOW SHOVELER

December 8: 6:00 PM.

It started to snow. The first snow of the season and the wife and I took our cocktails and sat for hours by the window watching the huge soft flakes drift down from heaven. So romantic, we felt like newlyweds again. I love snow!

December 9:

We woke to a beautiful blanket of crystal white snow covering every inch of the landscape. What a fantastic sight! Can there be a more lovely place in the whole world? Moving here was the best idea I've ever had. Shoveled for the first time in years and felt like a boy again. I did both our driveway and the sidewalks. This afternoon the snowplow came along and covered up the sidewalks and closed in the driveway, so I got to shovel again. What a perfect life.

December 12:

The sun has melted all our lovely snow. Such a disappointment. My neighbor Bob tells me not to worry, we'll definitely have a white Christmas. No snow on Christmas would be awful! He says we'll have so much snow by the end of winter, that I'll never want to see snow again. I don't think that's possible. Bob is such a nice man, I'm glad he's our neighbor.

December 14:

Snow, lovely snow! 8" more last night. The temperature dropped to -20. The cold makes everything sparkle so. The wind took my breath away, but I warmed up by shoveling the driveway and sidewalks. This is the life! The snowplow came back this afternoon and buried everything again. I didn't realize I would have to do quite this much shoveling, but I'll certainly get back in shape this way. I wish I wouldn't huff and puff so.

December 15:

20 inches forecasted. Sold my van and bought a 4x4 Blazer. Bought snow tires for the wife's car and 2 extra shovels. Stocked the freezer. The wife wants a wood stove in case the electricity goes out. I think that's silly. We aren't in Alaska, after all.

December 16:

Ice storm this morning. Fell on my butt on the ice in the driveway putting down salt. Hurt like hell. The wife laughed for an hour. Very cruel.

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December 17:

Still way below freezing. Roads are too icy to go anywhere. Electricity was off for 5 hours. I had to pile the blankets on to stay warm. Nothing to do but stare at the wife and try not to irritate her. Guess I should've bought a wood stove, but won't admit it to her, I hate it when she's right. I can't believe I'm freezing to death in my own living room.

December 20:

Electricity's back on, but had another 14" of the damn stuff last night. More shoveling. Took all day. Snowplow came by twice. Tried to find a neighbor kid to shovel, but they said they're too busy playing hockey. I think they're lying. Called the only hardware store around to see about buying a snow blower and they're out. Might have another shipment in March. I think they're lying. Bob says I have to shovel or the city will have it done and bill me. I think he's lying.

December 22:

Bob was right about a white Christmas because 13 more inches of it fell today, and it's so cold it probably won't melt till August. Took me 45 minutes to get all dressed up to go out to shovel and then I had to pee. By the time I got undressed, peed and dressed again, I was too tired to shovel. Tried to hire Bob who has a plow on his truck for the rest of the winter, but he says he's too busy. Lying jerk.

December 23:

Only 2" of snow today. And it warmed up to 0 degrees. The wife wanted me to decorate the front of the house this morning. What is she nuts!!! Why didn't she tell me to do that a month ago? She says she's LYING.

December 24:

6". Snow packed so hard by snowplow, I broke the shovel. Thought I was having a heart attack. If I ever catch the guy who drives that snowplow, I'll kill him. I know he hides around the corner and waits for me to finish shoveling and then he comes down the street at a 100 miles an hour and throws snow all over where I've just been! Tonight the wife wanted me to sing Christmas Carols with her and open our presents, but I was busy watching for the damn snowplow.

December 25:

Merry Christmas. 20 more inches of the !=@x<mailto:!=@x>@!! slop tonight. Snowed in. The idea of shoveling makes my blood boil. Wow, I hate the snow! Then the snowplow driver came by asking for a donation and I hit him over the head with my shovel. The wife says I have a bad attitude. I think she's an idiot. If I have to watch "It's a Wonderful Life" one more time, I'm going to kill her AND myself.

December 26:

Still snowed in. Why the hell did I ever move here? It was all HER idea. She's really getting on my !=&! nerves<mailto:!=&!%20nerves>;.

December 27:

Temperature dropped to -30 and the pipes froze.

December 28:

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Warmed up to above -10. Still snowed in. My wife is driving me crazy!!!!

December 29:

10 more inches. Bob says I have to shovel the roof or it could cave in. He's the biggest idiot I know. How dumb does he think I am???

December 30:

Roof caved in. The snow plow driver is suing me for a million dollars. The wife went home to her mother. 9" predicted.

December 31:

Set fire to what's left of the house. No more shoveling.

January 8:

I feel so good. I just love those little white pills they keep giving me. Why am I tied to the bed?

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~~<of>~<the>~~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Douglas Dudash"



**Santa's sexual harassment trial
takes a dramatic change for the worse**

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<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~~<of>~<the>~~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: Jim Woosley" jimwoosley@aol.com



<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>



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From: "Bob Bolgeo" bbolgeo@aol.com

SQUIRRELS IN CHURCH

The Presbyterian church called a meeting to decide what to do about their squirrel infestation. After much prayer and consideration, they concluded the squirrels were predestined to be there and they shouldn't interfere with God's divine will.

At the Baptist church the squirrels had taken an interest in the baptistery. The deacons met and decided to put a water-slide on the baptistery and let the squirrels drown themselves. The squirrels liked the slide and, unfortunately, knew instinctively how to swim so twice as many squirrels showed up the following week.

The Lutheran church decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creatures. So, they humanely trapped their squirrels and set them free near the Baptist Church. Two weeks later the squirrels were back when the Baptists took down the water-slide.

But the Catholic church came up with a very creative strategy! They baptized all the squirrels and made them members of the church. Now they only see them at Christmas and Easter.

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Not much was heard from the Jewish synagogue; they took the first squirrel and circumcised him. They haven't seen a squirrel since.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~~<of>~<the>~~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Ray Beloate" beerman@rittermail.com

MENSA

There was a Mensa convention in San Francisco. Mensa, as you probably know, is a national organization for people who have an IQ of 140 or higher. Several of the Mensa members went out for lunch at a local café. When they sat down, one of them discovered that their salt shaker contained pepper, and their pepper shaker was full of salt. How could they swap the contents of the two bottles without spilling any, and using only the implements at hand? Clearly, this was a job for the mighty Mensa minds. The group debated the problem and presented ideas and finally came up with a brilliant solution involving a napkin, a straw, and an empty saucer. They called the waitress over ready to dazzle her with their solution. "Ma'am," they said, "we couldn't help but notice that the pepper shaker contains salt and the salt shaker has pepper."

But before they could finish, the waitress interrupted: " Oh, sorry about that." She leaned over the table, unscrewed the caps of both bottles and switched them.

There was dead silence at the Mensa table. Kind of reminds you of the past 30 years in Washington D.C., doesn't it?

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~~<of>~<the>~~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Karen Boyd" abtales@comcast.net

JUST SOMETHING I FIND TO BE SO TRUE

While I was watching TV last weekend my wife and I got into a conversation about life and death, and the need for living wills.

During the course of the conversation I told her that I never wanted to exist in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and taking fluids from a bottle.

She got up, unplugged the TV and threw out all my Beer.

Sometimes it's tough being married to a smart ass.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~~<of>~<the>~~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Jerry Tollett" haleja@epbfri.com

KENNETH

Hillary Clinton goes to a gifted-student primary school in New York to talk about the world. After her talk she offers question time.

One little boy puts up his hand. Hillary asks him what his name is. "Kenneth," he says.

"And what is your question, Kenneth?" she asks.

"I have three questions," he says.

"First -- whatever happened in Benghazi?

"Second -- why would you run for president if you are not capable of handling two e-mail accounts?

"And, third -- whatever happened to the missing six billion dollars while you were Secretary of State?"

Just then the bell rings for recess. Hillary informs the kiddies that they will continue after recess.

When they resume Hillary says, "Okay, where were we? Oh, that's right, question time.

Who has a question?"

A different boy -- little Johnny -- puts his hand up.

Hillary points to him and asks him what his name is.

"Johnny," he says.

"And what is your question, Johnny?" she asks.

"I have five questions," he says.

"First -- whatever happened in Benghazi?

"Second -- why would you run for president if you are not capable of handling two e-mail accounts?

"Third -- whatever happened to the missing six billion dollars while you were Secretary of State?

"Fourth -- why did the recess bell go off 20 minutes early?

"And, fifth -- where's Kenneth?"

<YOU>~<>~<JUST>~<>~<CAN'T>~<>~<MAKE>~<>~<THIS>~<>~<STUFF>~<>~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Tim Bolgeo" tbolgeo@epbfi.com

Comic convention turns down christian actor Kevin Sorbo because he's pals with Hannity ... here's how we know

January 15, 2018 | [Luis Miquel](#)

http://www.bizpacreview.com/2018/01/15/comic-convention-turns-christian-actor-kevin-sorbo-hes-pals-hannity-heres-know-588657?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=BPR%20Email&utm_campaign=DMS

So much for "inclusivity."

Kevin Sorbo, best known in science fiction circles for his roles in the TV series “Andromeda” and “Hercules: The Legendary Journeys,” was banned from a comic convention for his ties to conservative commentator Sean Hannity.



Kevin Sorbo and his wife, Sam, on “Hannity.” (Photo: Screen Capture).

Cliff Galbraith, the founder and lead promoter of East Coast Comicon, posted on Facebook Friday that he “turned down” Sorbo because the actor is friends with Hannity.



Cliff Galbraith

...

Jan 12 at 6:01pm • 🌐

I turned down Kevin Sorbo for East Coast Comicon. He's pals with Sean Hannity. I just can't do it.

The New Jersey-based comic convention has previously featured guests like Danny Trejo and the cast of the TV show “Lost in Space.” This year’s lineup includes former “Doctor Who” Sylvester McCoy and Paul Michael Glaser—known for playing Starsky in the ’70s series “Starsky & Hutch.”

Sorbo is a devout Christian who has starred in and directed faith-inspiring films.

In 2014, the “Hercules” actor [blasted HBO’s Bill Maher](#) for mocking the Christian film “God’s Not Dead,” which featured Sorbo in the lead role.

Last year, Sorbo directed and starred in the movie “Let There Be Light,” which was [executive produced](#) by Hannity.

“This is a movie that offers hope, it offers light – from the title – it offers redemption,” Sorbo said in an interview. “There’s something in this movie that will touch everybody, man woman and child – there’s something in there that will move them in some way or (they’ll) say ‘I can relate to that.’”



Kevin Sorbo in 2017’s “Let There Be Light.” (Photo: Screen Capture).

“Let There Be Light” tells the story of a prominent atheist who goes on a personal journey of faith after having a near-death experience.

In the 2016 election, Sorbo voted for Donald Trump and told [“Fox & Friends”](#) his faith would not allow him to support Hillary Clinton.

“You look at Hillary,” Sorbo said. “Does Jesus, does God support lying? Does He support killing? I’m not saying she’s a killer, but she let people die in Benghazi.”

Apparently, liberals have brought back the Hollywood blacklist—only now it’s exclusively used against Christians and conservatives.

Twitter users didn’t lose time in pointing out the hypocrisy of the “tolerance”-obsessed left.

[Steve Nail@SteveNail7](#)

[Replying to @jondelarroz @ksorbs](#)

Wow! Is Comicon going to get fined \$150,000 for discrimination? Kind of like the Oregon bakers not baking a cake for religious beliefs?

[7:26 AM - Jan 15, 2018](#)

[RickN@rinln02](#)

[Replying to @jondelarroz @ksorbs](#)

Is denying someone access to a public event because if their political views the same as denying to make a cake for someone on religious grounds?

[kat kuk@mrskatkuk](#)

[Replying to @jondelarroz @ksorbs](#)

Love that liberal tolerance!

[12:04 AM - Jan 15, 2018](#)

[Tom@oban1408](#)

[Replying to @jondelarroz @ksorbs](#)

We have entered an age of Guilt by Association. Did we not learn anything from the age off McCarthyism? Obviously the Left/Liberals have not!

[5:32 AM - Jan 15, 2018](#)

[Simmiias of Thebes@SimmiiasofThebes](#)

[Replying to @Grummz](#)

How Orwellian of them, Kevin you are here by tried for wrong think!

[12:08 PM - Jan 14, 2018](#)

[WATCHMAN@vlc_jr](#)

[Replying to @Grummz](#)

The Left, the true Fascist in America continually proving that point.

[9:22 AM - Jan 14, 2018](#)

[psijac@psijac](#)

[Replying to @Grummz](#)

When are they going to ban everyone who has the slightest association with Havery Weinstein?

[12:27 PM - Jan 14, 2018](#)

Back in the old days, there was room at conventions for every type of people. Liberals, Conservative, Libertarians, Furries, etc. Hopefully you get the idea. This new breed

of Social Justice Warriors who will not converse with people who hold different opinions on religion or politics and who actively try to exclude them from conventions are running my fandom. I feel sorry for those who let the snowflakes destroy the diversity of fandom. UT

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From: "Tim Bolgeo" tbolgeo@epbfi.com

CES 2018: 5 COOLEST THINGS WE'VE SEEN SO FAR

By Brooke Crothers | Fox News

<http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2018/01/10/ces-2018-5-coolest-things-weve-seen-so-far.html>



Gary Shapiro, CEO of the Consumer Technology Association, speaks at CES in Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S. January 9, 2018. REUTERS/Rick Wilking - RC1DDA1FCC90

It's still early at CES, but there have been some exciting products unveiled, including earbuds made from illegal firearms, an electric vehicle and a robot that fetches beer for you.

Fox News has compiled a list of the five coolest pieces of tech so far at CES 2018.

EARBUDS MADE FROM ILLEGAL FIREARMS

Yevo Labs is showing off a version of its existing Yevo 1 earbuds. What's different? These are made from metal taken from illegal firearms, as part of a partnership with Humanium Metal.



(Yevo X Humanium. Credit: Yevo Labs)

Yevo Labs, a Stockholm-based "innovation" lab, announced a partnership at CES with Humanium Metal by IM, a Swedish Development Partner. The Yevo 1 is the first product to incorporate the metal into a product, Yevo noted in a statement.

"This collaboration is bigger than headphones," Andreas Vural, founder of Yevo Labs and Happy Plugs, said in the statement. "It's part of a global movement that removes illegal firearms from the streets and recycles them into a material that helps move us towards a more peaceful future, all while giving back to those affected by violent crime."

The Yevo X Humanium wireless earbuds aren't cheap, priced at \$499, compared to \$249 for the original Yevo 1 earbuds. However, 50% of the proceeds will go to the initiative, Yevo added.

WORLD'S SMALLEST USB DRIVE

Sandisk announced a 1TB USB flash drive. While not the largest capacity USB flash drive, it may be the smallest.

To keep this in perspective, laptops typically come with 256GB solid-state drives (aka, flash drives). So this is about four times the capacity of the typical laptop.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE WITH 400 MILE RANGE

The Fisker EMotion is the second act from Henrik Fisker.



(Fisker EMotion. Credit: Fisker)

His first plug-in electric vehicle company went bankrupt, but Fisker is pulling out all of the stops with his second attempt, shooting for 400-mile-plus range, 0-60 in less than 3 seconds, and falcon wing doors, similar to Tesla's Model X.

It is also slated to have self-driving capability. Production for the \$129,000 vehicle is expected in the next few years somewhere in the U.S, according to The Verge.

A ROBOT THAT FETCHES BEER, DOES CLEANING

The robot from Aeolus can recognize "thousands of items," the company said in a press release, letting the robot pick them up off the floor and put them away where they belong. It even goes as far as remembering where it saw them last to help locate lost items, the company added.

Its advanced sensory and biometric technology "recognizes and differentiates between family members."

And it can even fetch a beer from the fridge, according to one report.

NEW DELL XPS 15 HAS MAGLEV KEYBOARD

Slated to be one of the smallest and thinnest 15.6-inch 2-in-1 laptops on the market, the new Dell XPS 15 comes with a host of new features.



(Dell's super-slim XPS 15 2-in-1 will be available later this year. Credit: Dell)

It contains a powerful Intel quad-core processors and AMD graphics chips, an InfinityEdge 4K Ultra HD display and an ultra-thin 16mm (0.6 inches) form factor. It also has a keyboard built using a mechanism based on magnets. This gives the keys better haptic feedback despite being very thin.

The XPS 15 2-in-1 will come to market later this year.

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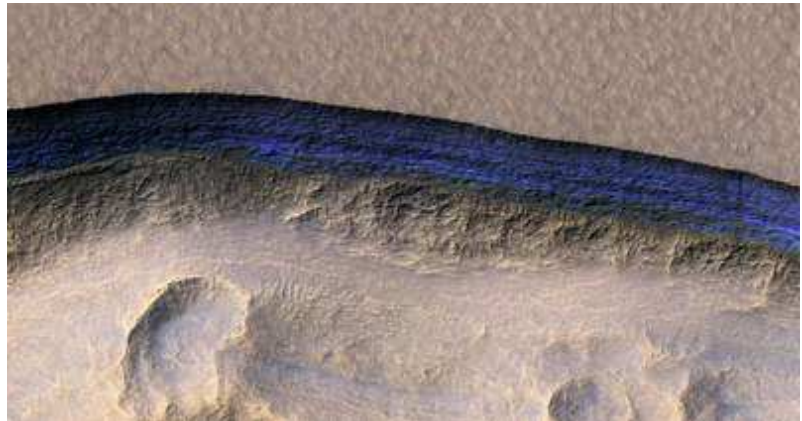
SCIENTISTS DISCOVER CLEAN WATER ICE JUST BELOW MARS' SURFACE

AUTHOR: ROBBIE GONZALEZ, SCIENCE, 01.11.18

https://www.wired.com/story/scientists-discover-clean-water-ice-just-below-mars-surface/?mbid=synd_digg

Erosion on Mars has uncovered large, steep cross-sections of clean, subterranean ice. In this false color image captured by NASA's HiRISE camera, one of eight recently discovered stripes appears dark blue against the Martian terrain.

NASA/JPL/UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA/USGS



Locked away beneath the surface of Mars are vast quantities of water ice. But the properties of that ice—how pure it is, how deep it goes, what shape it takes—remain a mystery to planetary geologists. Those things matter to mission planners, too: Future visitors to Mars, be they short-term sojourners or long-term settlers, will need to understand the planet's subsurface ice reserves if they want to mine it for drinking, growing crops, or converting into hydrogen for fuel.

Trouble is, dirt, rocks, and other surface-level contaminants make it hard to study the stuff. Mars landers can dig or drill into the first few centimeters of the planet's surface, and radar can give researchers a sense of what lies tens-of-meters below the surface. But the ice content of the geology in between—the first 20 meters or so—is largely uncharacterized.

Fortunately, land erodes. Forget radar and drilling robots: Locate a spot of land laid bare by time, and you have a direct line of sight on Mars' subterranean layers—and any ice deposited there.

Now, scientists have discovered such a site. In fact, with the help of HiRISE, a powerful camera aboard NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, they've found several.

In this week's issue of Science, researchers led by USGS planetary geologist Colin Dundas present detailed observations of eight Martian regions where erosion has uncovered large, steep cross-sections of underlying ice. It's not just the volume of water they found (it's no mystery that Mars harbors a lot of ice in these particular regions), it's how mineable it promises to be. The deposits begin at depths as shallow as one meter and extend upwards of 100 meters into the planet. The researchers don't estimate the quantity of ice present, but they do note that the amount of ice near the surface is likely more extensive than the few locations where it's exposed. And what's more, the ice looks pretty damn pure.

NASA calls the use of space-based resources "in-situ resource utilization," and the agency thinks it will be essential to survival in deep space. Of particular interest to ISRU planners is the depth of the ice, and the ratio of pure ice to that mixed in with bits of Mars regolith. The more pristine the ice, and the closer it is to the surface, the less energy it takes to extract and use.

The ice found this time isn't crystal clear. Over years, observations showed that the ice is slowly surrendering water to the atmosphere through a process called sublimation, and signs suggest that boulders and sediment are dislodging from the ice as it recedes. But some debris is to be expected. Dundas and his colleagues hypothesize that the ice originated as snow, falling in waves over millions of years. Some rocky material probably found its way in, in between snow events—but the surrounding ice, the researchers think, is relatively clean.

"On Mars, when you see something bright, it usually means ice," says Richard Zurek, chief scientist for the Mars Program Office at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, who was unaffiliated with the study. Most of the material on Mars reflects little light, "but the albedo readings on these exposed sections show that this is very bright stuff," he says. "And the spectrometer readings support that this is water ice and not ice-cemented soil, which would be much harder to convert into water as a resource."

Now, don't pack your bags for Mars just yet. The eight sites Dundas and his colleagues observed were all located at upper mid-latitudes, between 55 and 60 degrees north or south of the equator, where temperatures can drop extremely low. Most Mars missions, though, restrict their landing sites to within 30 degrees of the equator—as would future crewed missions to the planet's surface, most likely. As Zurek puts it: "If you wanna stay warm, it's better to be in Hawaii than Alaska."

But that close to the equator, warmer temperatures could drive subsurface ice reserves deeper into the ground, where they'll be harder to get to. "So that's something you'll want to follow up on and investigate before you put your base down," Zurek says.

Plans to do so are already in the works. "I'm sure we haven't found all of the exposures at this point," Dundas says, and more could certainly exist closer to the equator. NASA's Mars 2020 rover is equipped with a ground-penetrating radar that could allow it to probe the mysterious upper layers of the planet's surface. The European Space Agency's ExoMars rover, also slated for a 2020 launch, will come outfitted with a drill designed to sample geology at depths of up to two meters.

Another option: artificial meteors. Scientists imagine sending spacecraft to hitch a ride through Mars' atmosphere on larger vehicles, only to break off at low altitude and collide with the planet. They'd land with enough impact to bury themselves a few meters into the

planet's surface, detect the composition of the area around them, and relay their observations back to Earth by way of satellites in Mars orbit. "That one, the technology's not quite there yet, but it's rapidly developing," Zurek says.

Fortunately, scientists still have some time to pinpoint Mars' reservoirs of water ice. Humans will likely return to the moon before they venture into deep space. Optimistic timelines put our arrival on the Red Planet some time during the 2030s. Where we land, how long we visit, and what we bring along will all depend on the resources that await us—and how hard we'll have to work to get them.

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SPACE IN 2018: BIG ROCKETS, ASTEROID HUNTING AND A CLOSE SHAVE WITH THE SUN

Nick Lavars, January 12th, 2018

<https://newatlas.com/space-2018-rockets-asteroid-sun/52948/>



NASA's solar probe will zip around the sun at speeds of approximately 430,000 mph (700,000 km/h)(Credit: Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory)

The year just gone was a momentous for furthering our understanding of the universe. SpaceX now routinely lands its rockets, NASA's Cassini craft crashed into Saturn in a spectacular and invaluable mission finale and researchers proved once and for all the existence of gravitational waves. 2018 will also bring some landmark moments in space, beginning with the biggest bang the industry has seen in nearly half a century, the maiden launch of the world's most powerful operational rocket later this month.

SpaceX's Falcon Heavy rocket has been a long time coming. In simple terms, it is three of the company's Falcon 9 first stages banded together, with a second stage fixed to the top of the middle rocket. But as that old adage tells us, rocket science is anything but simple, and engineering challenges have continually pushed back the launch date of Falcon Heavy. Though now the stage is set.



The rocket will finally launch from Kennedy Space Center later this month, lifting off from the same pad used by the Saturn V rocket for the Apollo missions in the 1960s and 70s. Its 27 engines in all can produce a maximum thrust of 5.1 million pounds, the same as 18 747s, and CEO Elon Musk has said there is a good chance of explosions, being the first launch and all. So whether or not it is a successful one for SpaceX, the first launch of the Falcon Heavy will make for a hell of a spectacle.

MARCH

Ten years after its maiden mission to the Moon, India is set to return this year, and this time it plans to land on the surface for the first time. The Chandrayaan-1 launch in 2008 saw the spacecraft enter orbit around the Moon, and the Chandrayaan-2 mission lifting off in March will take things one step further, carrying both an orbiter and a soft lander with a rover to study the lunar surface.

All things going well, it will be joined by teams taking part in the Google Lunar XPrize, who are competing to put the first privately funded spacecraft on the Moon and explore its surface before the March 31 deadline. We've not heard a whole lot about their progress

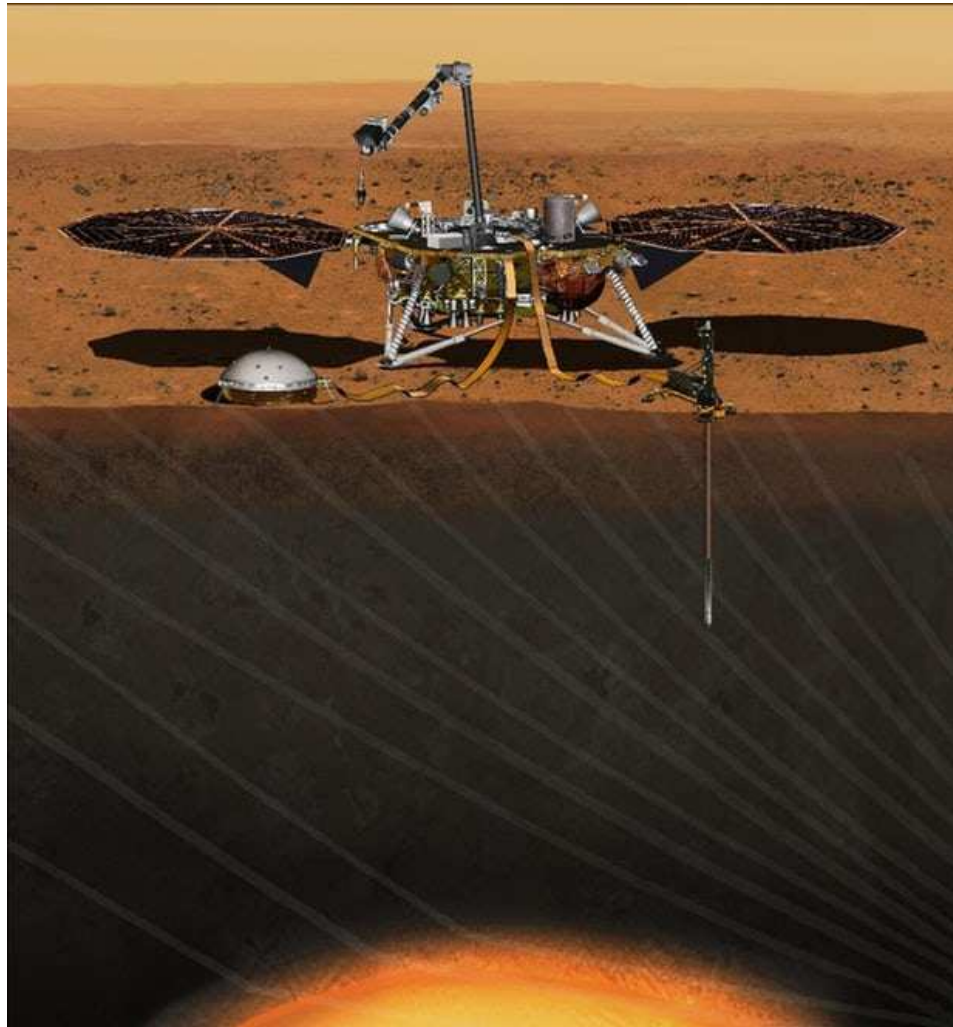
The January 17th, 2018 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

Page 29 of 44

since this delayed deadline was announced last year, however, so a near-term arrival does seem unlikely at this stage.

MAY

The launch window for NASA's Insight Mars lander is set to open on May 5. The so-called "Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy, and Heat Transport" will touch down on the Red Planet in November, and will use scientific instruments to study its deep interior. NASA plans to use Insight to go further than previous Mars landers by investigating the size, thickness, density and structure of Mars' core mantle and crust. By peering beneath the surface in this way, it hopes to learn more about the evolutionary formation of rocky planets.

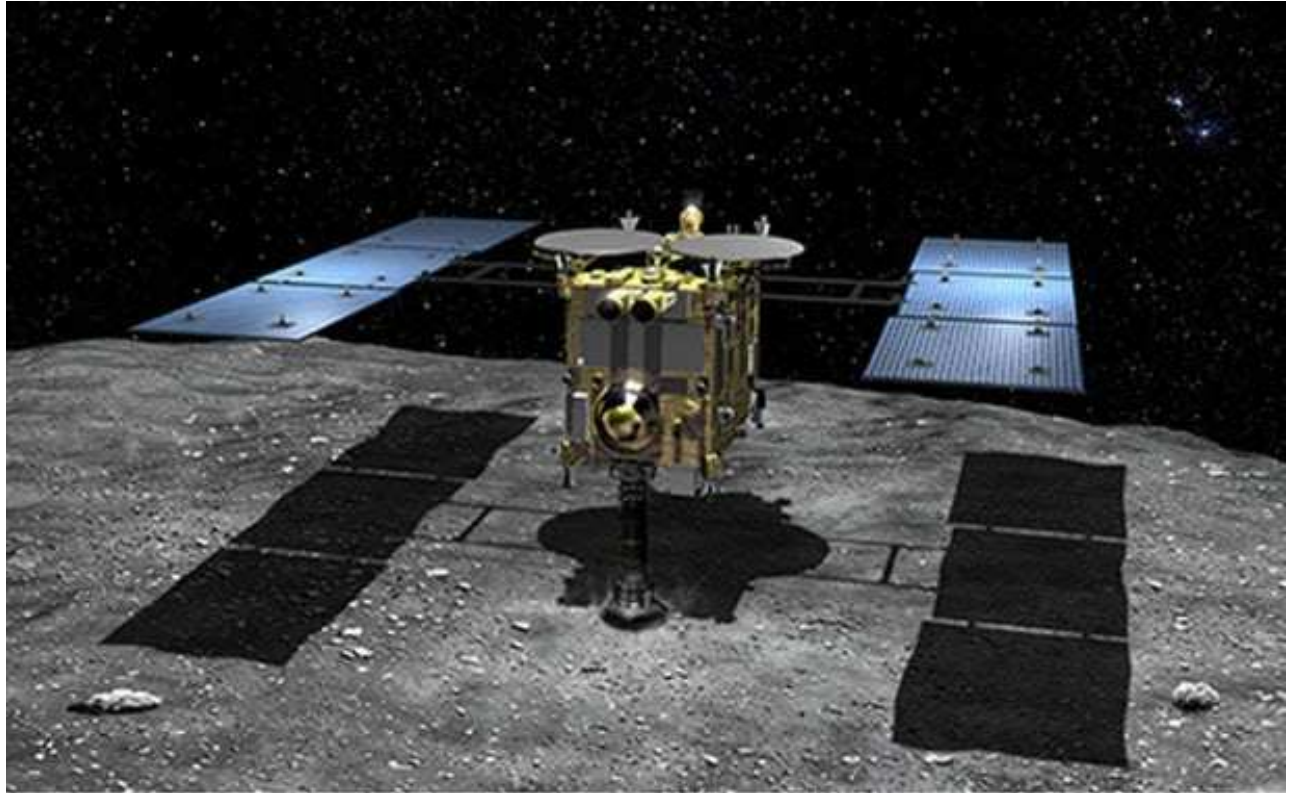


JUNE

Also aiming to touch down on the Moon is the Chinese National Space Administration, which will launch its Chang'e 4 lunar exploration mission in June. The first part of the mission involves placing a satellite beyond the Moon in order to establish a communications link with its far side. That in turn will allow it to put a lander on the far

side's surface, the second component of the mission that is slated for lift off later in 2018. Landing on the dark side of the Moon is something that hasn't been achieved before.

Three and a half years after lifting from Tanegashima Space Center, Japan's Hayabusa-2 spacecraft will finally latch onto its target, the Ryugu asteroid. There it will stay for around a year and a half, collecting valuable samples before returning to Earth in December 2020.



The year will also see a couple of new exoplanet hunting tools come online. Lifting off in June is NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS), which will live in high-Earth orbit and use a transit method similar to the Kepler Space Telescope to search for planets outside our solar system. With more powerful cameras onboard, however, TESS will study stars 30 to 100 times brighter and cover an area of sky 400 times larger than Kepler.

Also slated for lift-off sometime before the end of 2018 is ESA's Cheops spacecraft, which is designed specifically to use the transit method to study what are known as super-Earths, planets outside our solar system with a mass a few times that of our home planet.

JULY

Scientists have known for decades that the sun shoots supersonic streams of subatomic particles out in every direction, interfering with the atmosphere of our planet and that of Mars. Learning more about the mechanisms behind these solar winds involves sending a probe through the Sun's atmosphere, called the corona, and into temperatures of nearly 2,500° F (1,377° C).

And 2018 will be the year that NASA finally chances its arm. It says that advances in thermal engineering have made such a feat possible, and it will send its Parker Solar Probe

on a seven-year journey into orbit around our star. Here it will use its instruments to image and study the birthplace of the highest-energy solar particles, and where they transition from subsonic to supersonic speeds. Launch is slated for July or August aboard NASA's Delta IV Heavy rocket.

AUGUST



August will also see a rendezvous between spacecraft and space rock, with NASA's OSIRIS-REx set to arrive at the asteroid Bennu after an almost-two-year journey. Here it will map the asteroid, study its chemistry and mineralogy and grab a sample weighing between 60 g and 2 kg (2.1 to 70 oz) to return to Earth in 2023.

OCTOBER

Eleven years after receiving the go-ahead, the European Space Agency's BepiColombo mission will finally set off for Mercury. The mission had originally involved a lander touching down on the planet's surface, but that component has been cancelled due to budgetary constraints.

Two types of orbiter will instead do the mission's heavy lifting. The Mercury Planetary Orbiter and Mercury Magnetospheric Orbiter will circle the planet in polar orbit and use their scientific instruments to study its composition, interior structure, magnetic field and test Einstein's theory of relativity.

Other space adventures to keep an eye on

NASA's Commercial Crew Program will be taking some big steps forward in 2018, if all goes to plan. This is the agency's effort to tap into the private sector and use its spacecraft to carry astronauts into space.



One of these spacecraft, Boeing's CST-100 Starliner is set to undergo unmanned test flights later in the year, and then following that, a crewed test flight. This will be Boeing's first commercial spaceflight to the International Space Station and if all goes well, it will receive NASA certification and be free to regularly fly astronauts to and from the orbiting laboratory.

SpaceX, another partner of NASA's Commercial Crew Program, has a series of 2018 test flights planned for its Crew Dragon spacecraft. This starts with unmanned test flights in the second quarter of the year, ahead of its first crewed test flights later in the year. These will see two NASA astronauts travel to the ISS aboard the Crew Dragon as a precursor to routine crew rotation missions for NASA thereafter.

We can also expect some progress in the field of space tourism. Virgin Galactic is continuing with the development of its VSS Unity rocket-powered spaceplane, built to one day offer passengers a zero gravity experience. Today it logged its seventh glide test flight, which Richard Branson said will hopefully be the final glide test before progressing to powered test flights.

Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin, meanwhile, which also promises passengers a zero-gravity experience, recently flew its Crew Capsule 2.0 for the first time. With a dummy called "Mannequin Skywalker" aboard, the team was able to learn more about the capsule's capacity to carry folks to an apogee of around 100 km (62 mi) for three-minutes of weightlessness.

And rival SpaceX has made some bold claims around space tourism in 2018, namely a promise to fly people around the moon late in the year aboard its Crew Dragon spacecraft. It has been pretty quiet on this front since the announcement last February, however, so we wouldn't be surprised if these jaunts are pushed back a bit.



Back on the commercial front, the progress of New Zealand space startup Rocket Labs is also worth keeping an eye on, who bills its Electron booster as the world's first battery-powered rocket. Its inaugural test launch didn't exactly go to plan, but the company this week announced plans to fire it up again for another test launch later this month.

And then there's the slow and not-so-steady progress of NASA's Orion spacecraft, which is built to take humans further into space than they've ever gone before. The agency is aiming to set Orion off on its first mission in 2019, but will undergo its final abort system tests this year to prove its readiness for flight.

The timing of these mission launches and science goals could very well be delayed as researchers navigate the unknowns of space exploration. But even if some don't materialize, we're certainly set for an action-packed year. Keep tuning in to New Atlas throughout 2018, as we do our very best to bring you all the important developments.

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BOEING UNVEILS HYPERSONIC 'SON-OF-BLACKBIRD' CONTENDER

Jan 11, 2018 Guy Norris | Aerospace Daily & Defense Report

http://aviationweek.com/defense/boeing-unveils-hypersonic-son-blackbird-contender?NL=AW-05&Issue=AW-05_20180115_AW-05_507&sfvc4enews=42&cl=article_5_3&utm_rid=CPEN1000003019593&utm_campaign=13236&utm_medium=email&elq2=2e876d8a384f4d3692388b8714df9eb0



Hypersonic vehicle design: Guy Norris

ORLANDO, Florida—Amid continuing signs of a significant upswing in U.S. hypersonic research and development, Boeing has revealed first details of a reusable Mach 5-plus demonstrator vehicle design that could pave the way for a future high-speed strike and reconnaissance aircraft.

The sharply swept, delta-winged vehicle concept builds on two decades of Boeing's experience with the X-43 and X-51A hypersonic demonstrator programs. But it also incorporates design features from other Boeing heritage company high-speed projects including the Mach 3 XB-70 experimental bomber. Like the outwardly similar SR-72 concept revealed in 2013 by Lockheed Martin, the Boeing design also is aimed at a hypersonic successor late in the 2020s to the long-retired SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft.

“We asked, ‘What is the most affordable way to do a reusable hypersonic demonstrator vehicle?’ And we did our own independent research looking at this question,” says Kevin Bowcutt, Boeing chief scientist for hypersonics. If the concept is selected for full-scale development, Boeing envisions a two-step process beginning with flight tests of an F-16-sized, single-engine proof-of-concept precursor vehicle leading to a twin-engine, full-scale operational vehicle with about the same dimensions as the 107-ft.-long SR-71.

The concept model was unveiled at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics SciTech forum here. Speaking to Aerospace DAILY on the sidelines of the show, Bowcutt says the twin-tail, waverider configuration continues to evolve but is already representative of a feasible hypersonic design. “It’s a really hard problem to develop an aircraft that takes off and accelerates through Mach 1 all the way to Mach 5 and beyond. The specific impulse of an air breathing engine goes down with increasing velocity, so you have to make the engine bigger to get to Mach 5. But doing that means a bigger inlet and a bigger nozzle, and trying to get that through Mach 1 is harder.”

But Bowcutt says careful integration of the airframe and propulsion system through multidisciplinary design optimization (MDO), a process in which designers incorporate all relevant disciplines simultaneously, has enabled Boeing to develop a working configuration. MDO was used to finalize the design of the X-51A Waverider was the first vehicle to demonstrate sustained air-breathing hypersonic flight.

Although initially independently funded by Boeing, development of the hypersonic vehicle concept is continuing under Darpa's Advanced Full Range Engine (AFRE) initiative and a closely-related turbine-based combined cycle (TBCC) flight demonstration concept study run by the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory. Boeing's engine partner for the concept is Orbital ATK, which in September 2017 was awarded a \$21.4 million contract for the AFRE program. Boeing began work on the AFRL TBCC flight demonstrator concept study, with Orbital ATK as a subcontractor, in 2016.

The vehicle configuration is dominated by the TBCC propulsion system, which combines conventional turbine engines with dual-mode ramjets/scramjets (DMRJ). The turbine engines operate up to a sufficiently high Mach number to enable transition to the DMRJ. The engines will share a common inlet and nozzle, with the turbine cocooned after transition and then restarted once the hypersonic vehicle slows down for return to a runway landing. The inlets are divided by a prominent septum derived from the XB-70, Bowcutt says, adding that the TBCC is only one of a number of potential propulsion options. The nozzles also are separated by a prominent boat-tail divider.

"The propulsion system determines the length of the vehicle," says Tom Smith, Boeing Research and Technology chief hypersonic aircraft designer. Although Boeing declines to discuss specific aspects of the design, the broad inlets and wide lower fuselage-mounted nacelle suggest the turbine and DMRJ in each TBCC engine are housed side-by-side rather than arranged in an over-under configuration.

The inward-turning inlets are positioned to capture the initial shockwave from the nose of the vehicle, while the sharply swept forebody chines are contoured into the relatively large-span delta wing to provide waveriding capability at hypersonic speed and sufficient lift for landing and takeoff at subsonic speed. The term waverider refers to a design in which the vehicle rides the shockwave attached to the leading edge, thus benefiting from lower induced drag. "As the narrow chine transitions to the wing, that produces a good vortex, which you care about at low speed," Smith says.

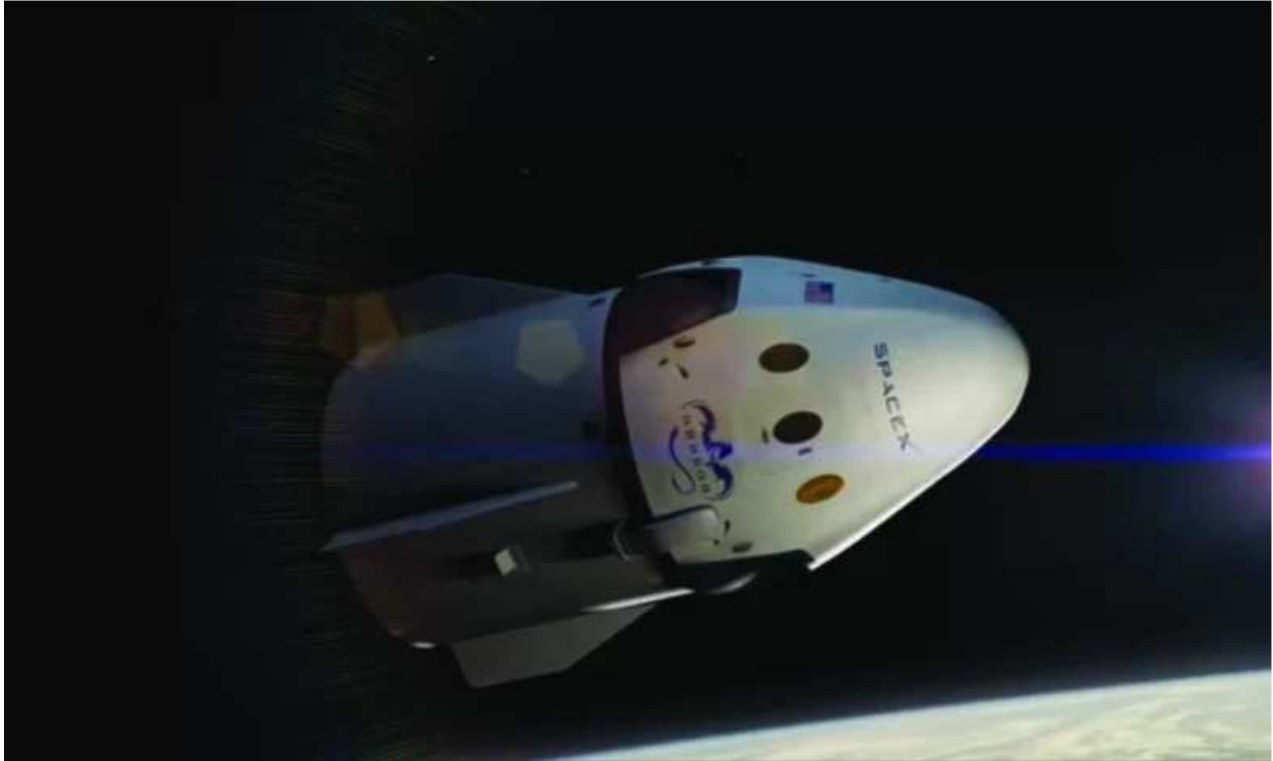
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SPACEX DELAYS COMMERCIAL CREW TEST FLIGHTS TO LATTER HALF OF 2018

By Jeff Foust, SpaceNews Writer | January 11, 2018 08:00pm ET

https://www.space.com/39365-spacex-commercial-crew-test-flights-delayed.html?utm_source=sdcs-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20180116-sdc

WASHINGTON — SpaceX has delayed its two commercial crew test flights by four months, [according to a new NASA schedule released Jan. 11](#), raising questions about whether it or Boeing will be able to send astronauts to the International Space Station by the end of the year as previously planned.



An artist's illustration of SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft. The first test flights will launch between August and December in 2018. Credit: SpaceX

The updated schedule, which NASA said represents "the most recent publicly releasable dates" for the two companies, lists an uncrewed test flight of [SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft](#) in August 2018, followed by a crewed test flight in December. The previous schedule released by NASA, in October 2017, stated those flights would take place in April and August 2018, respectively.

SpaceX spokesperson Eva Behrend, in a statement to SpaceNews, did not discuss the reasons for the delay. "SpaceX continues to target 2018 for the first demonstration missions with and without crew under NASA's Commercial Crew Program," she said.

Behrend instead focused on the progress the company has made in the development of its Crew Dragon vehicle. "In 2017, significant progress was made towards the production, qualification and launch of Crew Dragon — one of the safest and most advanced human spaceflight systems ever built — and we are set to meet the additional milestones needed to launch our demonstration missions this year."

In a Jan. 4 release, NASA outlined some of the milestones ahead for SpaceX before those test flights. They include "continued, rigorous qualification testing" of both the Merlin engines used on the Falcon 9 as well as the Dragon's SuperDraco thrusters, tests of the Dragon's parachutes, post-splashdown recovery tests, and testing of the pressure suits that will be worn by astronauts flying on the Dragon.

At the time of the release, NASA had not disclosed the latest delays, but the list of milestones suggested delays were likely. For example, NASA said that a second round of

Dragon parachute system validation tests "will be completed by mid-2018," which under the previous schedule would have been after the uncrewed test flight.

The Boeing schedule released by NASA is unchanged from the previous version, with an uncrewed test flight of its CST-100 Starliner scheduled for August 2018 and a crewed test flight in November. However, [in an interview in September 2017](#), Chris Ferguson, director of Starliner crew and mission systems at Boeing, suggested the crewed test flight could be delayed until early 2019.

At that time, Ferguson said Boeing's goal was to name the crew of that crewed test flight — one NASA astronaut and one Boeing test pilot — about 12 months before launch, but wanted to wait until the schedule was more certain before doing so. The company has yet to announce that crew.

The Jan. 4 NASA release also listed a number of major upcoming milestones for Boeing's vehicle, including spacecraft construction and testing, pressure suit tests, abort engine and thruster tests and continued parachute tests.

NASA continues to rely on Russian Soyuz spacecraft to transport astronauts to and from the ISS, but had hoped to shift those duties to commercial vehicles by the end of this year. In October, NASA exercised an option in a contract with Boeing for three additional Soyuz seats on missions in the first half of 2019, which Boeing had obtained as part of a settlement with RSC Energia. The additional seats mean NASA does not have to rely on commercial crew vehicles for ISS crew transport until the second half of 2019.

"We're still thinking about ways to buy additional margin if we have to. There's a whole spectrum of options that we are considering," said Kirk Shireman, ISS program manager, at a Dec. 11 press conference at the Kennedy Space Center. He did not elaborate on those options.

"We are going to look for options until the first rotation flight, because that's our job, to be prepared for contingencies," he added, "but I think we are absolutely progressing and look forward to demo flights in 2018."

The status of the NASA commercial crew program will be the subject of [a Jan. 17 hearing by the House Science Committee's space subcommittee](#), which the committee announced Jan. 10. Boeing and SpaceX executives are scheduled to testify, along with officials from NASA, the Government Accountability Office and NASA's Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel.

This story was provided by [SpaceNews](#), dedicated to covering all aspects of the space industry.

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From: "Jim Woosley" jimwoosley@aol.com

MYSTERIOUS X-RAY EMISSION MAY REVEAL NATURE OF DARK MATTER

By Doris Elin Salazar Space.com Contributor | Space.com

<http://www.foxnews.com/science/2018/01/05/mysterious-x-ray-emission-may-reveal-nature-dark-matter.html>



A composite image of X-ray and optical observations of the Perseus galaxy cluster. This image contains X-ray data from the Chandra X-ray Observatory (blue) of the Perseus galaxy cluster. The observations have been combined with optical data from the Hubble space telescope (pink) and radio-emission data from the Very Large Array (red) in New Mexico. If these findings are confirmed with future observations, it would signal a major step forward in comprehending the nature of dark matter, researchers said in a statement. (NASA/ESA/CXO/Oxford University/NRAO/AUI/University of Montreal)

X-ray light from the Perseus cluster of galaxies may finally reveal the true nature of one of the most mysterious substances in the cosmos: dark matter.

Dark matter is a bizarre material that does not emit light or energy, yet is thought to make up about 85 percent of the matter in the universe. Researchers use creative and indirect observations to deduce dark matter's presence, but it remains challenging to pin down solid evidence of the substance's existence. Thanks to mounting observations by NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory, a Japanese-led X-ray telescope known as Hitomi and the European Space Agency's (ESA) XMM-Newton, scientists may be on the verge of a groundbreaking discovery about the mysterious material, researchers said in a statement from the Chandra X-Ray Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The subject of study is the Perseus cluster, a dusty region of galaxies gathered together 250 million light-years from Earth. Scientists estimate that the Perseus cluster is 11.6 million light-years across and that it may contain a whopping 660 trillion times the mass of the sun.

In 2014, an unusual spike of intensity in X-ray wavelengths caught the attention of researchers using the XMM-Newton space observatory. The waves were coming from heated gas in the Perseus galactic cluster, near the center. Researchers also found

that this same wavelength of radiation, known as an emission line, was coming from 73 other galaxy clusters, according to the statement.

That 2014 observation showed radiation emanating with 3.5 kiloelectron volts (keV) of energy, and a new analysis detected an absorption of X-rays — also at 3.5 keV — surrounding a supermassive black hole at the center of the Perseus cluster. Researchers have found it nearly impossible to explain why that particular wavelength is being emitted and absorbed, and because previously-seen astronomical objects don't seem to reveal clues about the wavelength emission, they suggested dark matter could be the cause.

"We expect that this result will either be hugely important or a total dud," said Joseph Conlon of the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom, lead author of the recent study. "I don't think there is a halfway point when you are looking for answers to one of the biggest questions in science." The new paper describing the team's results was published in the journal Physical Review D on Dec. 19.

If dark matter caused the atypical emission and absorption lines at that wavelength — both giving off and absorbing X-rays within the collection of galaxies — further observation could teach researchers more about the mysterious substance, the scientists said.

Fortunately, powerful X-ray telescopes currently being developed will let scientists make more-precise observations of these fascinating X-ray emission lines.

Original article on Space.com.

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From: "Richard Groller" richard.groller@gmail.com

WHAT HAPPENED TO ZUMA?

Something appears to have gone seriously wrong with the secret government mission, codenamed Zuma, that SpaceX launched Sunday night.

Exactly what, however, is far from clear. But if SpaceX keeps launching in the days and weeks ahead, we will be fairly sure Falcon 9 isn't to blame for what went wrong.

The Wall Street Journal, citing unnamed industry and government officials, reported late Monday that the payload "is presumed to be a total loss after it failed to reach orbit atop a [SpaceX] rocket." Many took that to mean SpaceX's first outing of 2018 was a bust. SpaceX, however, says Falcon 9 performed as expected during the classified mission and several independent analysts corroborate that assertion.

Nobody at the Pentagon or at Northrop Grumman — which provided the payload and its adapter — would comment, citing the sensitivity of the classified mission. SpaceX President and COO Gwynne Shotwell put out a statement Tuesday saying Falcon 9's part of the mission went off as planned. "After review of all the data to date, Falcon 9 did everything correctly on Sunday night," she said. And she noted that any reports that the rocket failed are "categorically false."

Shotwell said preparations for SpaceX's upcoming launches remain unchanged, another suggestion SpaceX doesn't have concerns about its rocket's performance Sunday. "Falcon

Heavy has been rolled out to launchpad LC-39A for a static fire later this week, to be followed shortly thereafter by its maiden flight. We are also preparing for an F9 launch for SES and the Luxembourg Government from SLC-40 in three weeks."

"I think we will know if it was an issue with the Falcon 9 because SpaceX would need to delay other launches to look into the issue," Space expert Todd Harrison of the Center for Strategic and International Studies tweeted Tuesday.

Satellite tracker Marco Langbroek posted an image of a spectacular green-blue "spiral" taken by an airline pilot that "almost certainly" shows the Falcon 9 upper stage dumping fuel about 2 hours and 15 minutes after launch and prior to its planned reentry, suggesting nominal Falcon performance.

Space analyst Brian Weeden of the Secure World Foundation said "the most plausible explanation based on what we know is that the upper stage and payload didn't separate fully, and the fuel dump/de-orbit burn by the upper stage either brought it back down, or put it in an orbit that's too low."

"We know the [18th Space Control Squadron] did indeed catalog an object from the launch, which they say was the payload," Weeden told SpaceNews. "So unless that was itself a big mistake, something ended up in orbit for at least a brief period of time. And according to the 18 SPCS, that object is still on orbit (it hasn't been marked "decayed" yet), although again they might not be as quick to make that change for a classified payload."

Jonathan McDowell, an astronomer who tracks satellite launches, made similar points, noting that the government's Space-Track orbital registry lists Zuma as USA 280 and gives it a formal catalog number, suggesting it spent at least a short time in orbit.

"Conflicts with [Wall Street Journal] story that payload failed to separate from second stage (which is believed to have deorbited itself)," McDowell tweeted Monday. "Consistent with SpaceX claim that rocket behaved correctly."

McDowell, like Weeden, said it's plausible Falcon 9's second stage reentered as planned after 1.5 orbits, unaware that the payload was still attached. While that would normally point to a SpaceX problem, McDowell noted — as has been reported elsewhere — that Northrop Grumman "provided its own payload adapter, so separation may be [Northrop Grumman's] problem and not SpaceX's problem."

Those of us without the proper clearances may never know what happened to Zuma, but if SpaceX doesn't break cadence in the weeks ahead, we'll at least be reasonably sure Falcon 9 isn't to blame.

As for those inclined to believe this whole incident is just an elaborate smoke screen, McDowell has an answer for that, too:

"I see a lot of people suggesting that the loss of Zuma is a front, a cover to hide a successful insertion in a secret orbit or some other scam. This is JUST NOT PLAUSIBLE for many reasons. I am confident other experts on the subject will agree with me."

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The January 17th, 2018 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!

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ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE CENTER AS YOU CAN GO!

From: "Tim Bolgeo" tbolgeo@epbfi.com

VIDEO: FACEPALM FOR TRUMP ACCUSERS AFTER RAND PAUL REVEALS WHAT POTUS DID FOR HAITI

January 15, 2018 | [Luis Miquel](#)

http://www.bizpacreview.com/2018/01/15/facepalm-trump-accusers-rand-paul-reveals-potus-haiti-588754?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=BPR%20Email&utm_campaign=DMS

Forget the "racism accusations"... President Trump has done more for Haiti than the Clintons.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., defended the president on the Sunday edition of NBC's "Meet the Press." The lawmaker dismissed charges of racism and revealed that Trump financed a medical mission in which Paul performed surgeries on 200 Haitians.

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Yea, Trump must be a racist MO'FO' for donating money to allow Haitian's to see again. RIGHT. UT

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Jesse Jackson praises and thanks Donald Trump for a lifetime of service to African Americans in 1998

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5lcART6TTE>

<U><T><'><s><*><C><O><M><M><E><N><T>

Leopards do not change their spots. And people who support the African American Community for most of their lives do not become Racists over night. Think about it. UT

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From: "Jim Woosley" jimwoosley@aol.com



<C><E><N><T>E><R>

North Korea and South Korea
begin their first talks in years,
following a Trump tweet that the
media claimed could end the world



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Carpe Donktum ♦

@Carpedonktum

The day that Trump made the left spend 24 hours saying how beautiful and successful the Shithole countries are, thus negating their argument that illegals can't go home because their home country is a Shithole.

7:08 PM · 11 Jan 18

486 Retweets 111 Likes

<U><T><'><s><*><C><O><M><M><E><N><T>

I listened to what Trump was suppose to have said in a PRIVATE meeting. It was obvious to me that he was talking about countries and not the people from those countries. If you live in a shithole country, of course you are going to try to get out and go to a better place. Duh. It is not racist to call a terrible place a shithole. But it is bigoted to call a person who tells the truth about a terrible place a racist. Because a man might use salty language in a private meeting does not make him a racist or a bigot. What makes him a racist or a bigot is his actions. To this date, I haven't seen the President of the United States perform any action that would qualify him as a bigot or a racist. UT

DOUBLE STANDARD: MEDIA SILENT WHEN OBAMA CALLED LIBYA A "S**" SHOW**

BY CHRIS GOLDEN, JANUARY 13, 2018 AT 6:53AM

[HTTPS://CONSERVATIVETribune.COM/DOUBLE-STANDARD-MEDIA-OBAMA/?UTM_SOURCE=EMAIL&UTM_MEDIUM=NEWSLETTER&UTM_CAMPAIGN=WEEKLYAM&UTM_CONTENT=CONSERVATIVE-TRIBUNE](https://conservativetribune.com/double-standard-media-obama/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=week1yam&utm_content=conservative-tribune)

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