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TRIVIA

How much horsepower does a single horse have?



Answer:

A single horse has a peak power output of 14.9 horses!

FEBRUARY IS CANNED FOOD MONTH!

In honour of canned foods everywhere, we decided to look for the geekiest canned food available....There was more than we bargained for...



- Tac Bac—Tactical Canned Bacon. “Delicious canned bacon lasts over 10 years.”

- Canned Dragon Meat—”Pre-cooked for instant victory feasting. Red dragon meat is the tastiest and most tender.”

- How about R2-D2...in canned goods.

- Canned Unicorn Meat—For only \$9.99/can you could get your own ”Magic in every bite!”

- Chocolate-Covered Edible Bugs Gift Pack—3 different bugs (scorpions, superworms, and silkworms), each in their own tin.

- Officially-Licensed Star Trek Tea—No replicator required.

- Christmas Tinner—Too busy gaming to cook your holiday meal? This 9 layers of canned Christmas. Top layer is scrambled eggs & bacon, then 2 mince pies, followed by turkey and potatoes, then a layer of gravy, followed by bread sauce, cranberry sauce, then your choice of brussel sprouts with stuffing or broccoli with stuffing, then roast carrots and parsnips, all followed by Christmas pudding.



OVEREAT? NO PROBLEM:



Large family gatherings no longer grip you with fear of having to secretly unbutton your pants after the meal.

Revealed at the [Consumer Electronics Show](#) in Las Vegas, new French startup company [Emiota](#) has created a new “smart belt” that ensures you never get caught with your pants down again! ‘[Bely](#)’ has an electric-powered motor in its buckle that senses when you could use a little extra eating room, or when it needs to tighten up.

BUT, it’s not just for family gatherings, it “ensures that your preferred level of comfort throughout the day by automatically loosening the belt as you sit or tightening the belt as you stand.”

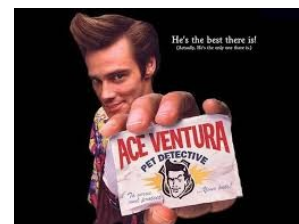
You had me at large meals! However, Bely can help you reach your fitness goals too! This multi-functional belt, can communicate with you, and (upon your request) Bely will nudge you if you are inactive for too long. The Bely App “utilizes all data collected by Bely to provide activity and inactivity summaries, such as the number of step taken per day, amount of inactivity per day, and waistline trends.” It then will suggest subtle life-changes you could make in order to reach your fitness goals.

To check out Bely, go to: www.emiota.com.

QUOTES FOR GEEKS, BY GEEKS

“If I’m not back in five minutes, just wait longer.”

Ace Ventura,
Ace Ventura, Pet Detective



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HIDDEN DASH CAM FOOTAGE SHOWS POLICE OFFICER ROCKING OUT TO 'SHAKE IT OFF'

The Dover Police Department out in Delaware is trying to improve their public image.

Dover Police Department's patrol cars have dash cams focused on the inside of the patrol cars. This is to ensure the safety of the police, and the alleged criminals in the back seat.

However, The police department has stated that due to the cameras they've seen some, uh, interesting behavior from the police that drive these vehicles.



The Dover Police Department has thus released "Dash Cam Confessions". A series of videos, documenting this very "un-police-like" behaviour.

One of those videos shows bald, burly Officer Davis lip-syncing to Taylor Swift's "Shake It Off" with unexpectedly spunky energy, punctuated by sassy hand waves and eye rolls. He even fluffs his imaginary locks while singing about "the fella over there with the hella good hair."

Check it out: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XFBUM8dMqw>

VIDEO GAMES HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH

Paramedics rushed to a Taiwan internet café after a body is slumped over a desk. A 32-year old man was found dead after a 3-day gaming binge in an internet café.

The man, known only by his surname Hsieh, was rushed to hospital, where he was pronounced dead from cardiac failure. Police believe that Hsieh likely died several hours before his body was discovered by an employee.

According to police spokesperson Jennifer Wu, other gamers in the café continued as if nothing happened as paramedics loaded the body onto the stretcher. Wu states "the CCTV footage from the internet café showed that Hsieh had a small struggle before he collapsed motionless."

Employees of the café report that Hsieh "was a regular customer" who often played for consecutive days and "when tired, he would sleep face down on the table or doze off slumped in his chair."

Hsieh's death is the 2nd to occur in a Taiwan internet café this year. Earlier, a 38-year old man was found dead in an internet café in Taipei, apparently after playing video games for 5 days straight.

Internet cafes in the region offer extended gaming sessions at low prices. 8 hours can cost as little as \$2.

FAMOUS STAR WARS QUOTES



...THAT WERE NEVER SAID

Famous movie quotes get repeated so often that, through a process of cultural broken telephone, the often become altered and mis-remembered.

In the case of Star Wars, it's actually the mis-quotes that are remembered the most, and have become engrained in popular culture. The 3 most famous Star Wars quotes, are actually not what you think...

1. "May the Force be with you."

This is probably the most famous of the 3 misquotes. This quote is frequently misattributed to Obi-Wan Kenobi in "A New Hope". Here's what Obi-Wan actually did say about the Force:

- * "The Force will be with you...always."
- * "Luke, the Force will be with you."
- * "Use the Force, Luke."
- * "Remember, the Force will be with you always."

2. "I'd rather kiss a Wookiee!"

Han and Leia's rocky relationship gave us some good one-liners, but this wasn't one of them. The actual exchange went like this:

- * Han Solo: "Afraid I was gonna leave without giving you a goodbye kiss?"
- * Princess Leia: "I'd just as soon kiss a Wookiee."
- * Han Solo: "I can arrange that. You could use a good kiss."

3. "Luke, I am your father."

This is undoubtedly the most famous quote in all the Star Wars movies, and captures that iconic moment when Vader reveals the truth about his history, right? Wrong. The exchange actually went like this:

- * Darth Vader: "Obi-Wan never told you what happened to your father."
- * Luke Skywalker: "He told me enough! He told me you killed him!"
- * Darth Vader: "No. I am your father."

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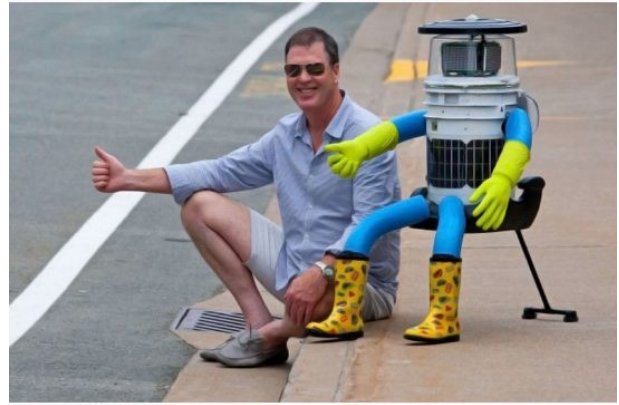
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HITCH-BOT GIVES THUMBS-UP TO GERMANY



A Canadian-made hitchhiking robot “[hitchBOT](#)” won the adoration of hundreds of Canadians as it [talked & tweeted](#) its way from Halifax to Victoria last summer. It also talked & tweeted its way through the Rockies, crashed a wedding, and was bestowed with an honorary name at a powwow on Manitoulin Island. It’s now gearing up for its next quest: thumbing its way through Germany.

The robot was created by a hitchBOT team, which was a collaboration of students and researchers from Ryerson University and Hamilton’s McMaster University.

The robot wears gum boots and rubber gloves, has an LED panel of lights for a face and a plastic bucket for a torso. It hitches rides with random road-trippers. The robot is programmed to explain itself to the people who pick it up, and asks to be plugged in to keep its battery charged. The robot also offers regionally specific tidbits of information that it picks up with its built-in WiFi, and can also take part in idle conversation.

Throughout its journey, the robot takes pictures, and periodically provides updates on [Twitter](#) and posts its location to [Instagram](#). An on-board GPS allows people to follow its progress online.

HitchBOT is planning its next trek...to Germany. The upcoming German expedition is set up in partnership with a local TV show *Galileo*, a prime-time science program with more than 2 million “likes” on [Facebook](#). The show is hoping to set up “challenges” for the German public, like “who can take hitchBOT to the top of the highest mountain in Germany”.

Frauke Zeller, Ryerson University professor and hitchBOT creator, states that unlike the Canadian trek which focused on a specific destination, the goal of the German trip is to criss-cross across the whole country. Zeller states that although the TV show is involved, and they “want to try to follow it”, the journey won’t be scripted or carefully planned.

The hitchBOT team is working around the clock to update the robot’s language software, essentially teaching it to speak German, before it begins its German trek. Zeller states “We will translate German comments for the English community and vice versa.”

HitchBOT will begin in Munich on Feb. 13, 2015. It is hoping to travel for approximately 10 days, and trek through Berlin, Gortitz, Munchen, Koln, and Sylt.

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CRYPTOWALL/CRYPTOLOCKER MALWARE SOFTWARE USER-FRIENDLY

CryptoWall, formerly known as CryptoLocker, was already a diabolical piece of malware: Once it's inside your computer, it adds a layer of nearly unbreakable encryption to all your files. Holding everything of value hostage, it then demands an initial ransom of \$500. This ransom doubles after 7 days.



The most common method of infection: phishing. People receive infected email attachments. Once opened, the attachments download the malware which infects their systems.

Dell researchers believe that more than 80,000 victims around the world have been infected by CryptoWall, with more than \$1 Million ransom collected.

When you think of CyberCriminals, what comes to mind? A lone slimy guy, living in his mom's basement, hacking away, upping the asking price when his initial ransom is met. That image, though popular, couldn't be farther from the truth.

According to Stu Sjouerman, CEO of KnowBe4, reports "cybercrime has gone pro." "Criminals have a reputation to keep up: If word gets out that those encrypted files don't get returned, no one would ever pay."

The infamous loss of a [New Hampshire town's](#) entire municipal computer network only happened because the town refused to pay, and because they didn't have backups.

The CyberCriminals behind CryptoWall are the best and the brightest in their field, and extremely well-funded. In fact, CryptoWall is being updated every couple of months, and working to make ransom payment and decryption process quicker and easier.

To protect its creators from being tracked down by law enforcement, ransomware payments have previously been routed through the private and encrypted TOR network, which required victims to download special software.

To make payments easier for their not-so-tech-savy victims, the latest CryptoWall edition works on a standard Internet browser (ie Chrome, Firefox, or Explorer). Victims just have to click on a link (ironic, since that's how they got into this mess) in the ransom note, and without realizing it, they are routed through another private network: the "Invisible Internet Project" or I2P. Their preferred form of currency remains Bitcoin, however.

Their "service" speed has also increased. People that have made ransom payments recently, have had the decryption start within the hour.

Currently there are 15 versions of ransomware out there (not all by CryptoWall's creators) for everything from smartphones to PCs, Macs, and even versions that detect and work differently on 34-bit vs. 64-bit processors.

GANGNAM STYLE STILL TOPS

Psy's song "Gangnam Style" is still the most liked and most viewed video in the history of Youtube. It's about to pass the 900 million views, and has downloaded (legally) by 3 million people on iTunes alone.

Needless to say, the song is a massive global phenomenon. Even if it is annoying to the point where you want to stuff your ears with playdough.

But, with Youtube and downloads (both legal and illegal), how much has Psy actually made with this 1-hit wonder song?

Psy has actually only sold 100,000 physical CDs. But he's still made millions off the song. His fortune is a modern marvel that couldn't have existed just a few years ago.

Only a tiny fraction of Psy's millions has come from sales of actual CDs. It wasn't released as a CD in the US, and has only sold 100,000 copies in his native South Korea. Instead, he earns money from several different sources that didn't exist a few years ago.

The first is Youtube revenue sharing: the video was viewed 900 million times, and his account was viewed 1.3 billion times. Every time someone watches his video, or visits his account, they are shown ads. Psy gets a percentage of that ad revenue. By the end of 2012, Psy earned approximately \$1 million from his Youtube revenue share.

The next major source is iTunes, where Gangnam Syle has been purchased by 3 million people. This translates to roughly \$2.6 million for Psy (after Apple takes their 30% cut).

The 3rd source of coin for Psy is from streaming plays on platforms like Pandora and Spotify. These sites only pay fractions of pennies for each play, so Psy's total take from worldwide streaming is a mere \$200,000.

Finally, Psy makes money through endorsements. It's estimated that Psy has made \$5 million from deals such as Samsung and LG.

However, Psy is not the only one in his family cashing in from Gangnam Style. His father and brother run a publicly traded South Korean semi-conductor company called DI Corp. Prior to the release of Gangnam Style, stock price of DI Corp was sitting at an all-time low of \$1.20/share. After Gangnam Style's rocket-like release, shares of DI Corp skyrocketed with it—to an all-time high of \$5.8/share. This translates to both Psy's brother and father having a net worth of \$18 million and \$12 million, respectively.

Psy's management company has increased their networth by more than 30%, which translates to and increase of more than \$200 million.

In short: that's \$8 mill for Psy, \$30 mill for his family, and \$200 mill for his manager.

Makes you want to break out in a dance, and put it on Youtube, doesn't it?

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