As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to grow worse each day and places are returning to stricter lockdown measures, a major hope in slowly spreading the surge of coronavirus is near completion. After years of intense research, testing, and clinical trials, several vaccines have become feasible candidates for providing immunity against COVID-19.

The two vaccines that show the most promise come from different partnerships: one from pharmaceutical company Pfizer and German company BioNTech, the other from biotechnology company Moderna and the United States National Institutes of Health. After Phase III of clinical trials and thousands of volunteers, the Pfizer vaccine shows at least 95% efficiency in creating immunity, while the Moderna vaccine shows 94%. In another major success, Pfizer's vaccine finally received emergency authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and will see distribution and administration can begin immediately without risking any new safety reviews before hand. Millions of dedicated hard work will soon culminate to show the impact of these historic scientific achievements.

Additionally, researchers have made sure that this faster manufacturing does not jeopardize vaccine safety and effectiveness. Breakthroughs in COVID-19 analysis allowed faster development early on to give time for clinical trials, and numerous checks and rechecks of data continue even in the final weeks of decision making. Also, in awaiting approval from the FDA, millions of vaccine doses were already prepared and on standby so that distribution and administration can begin immediately without risking necessary safety reviews before hand. Months of dedicated hard work will soon culminate to show the impact of these historic scientific achievements.

All that we can hope for now is that the coronavirus vaccines continue their shown benefit for the immune system when upscaled and given to millions, eventually billions, of people. Cleaning and safety measures brought on by the pandemic will still continue for months, scientists are still uncertain as to how long immunity will last, but in the end these vaccines have become a major turning point for the world.

The Possibility of Protection

Coronavirus Vaccinations Now Underway

William Shakespeare, 81, was the second to receive the authorized vaccine.

Image courtesy of CNN/Getty Images.

Colin Leach
Rose News Editor

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Other vaccine candidates are also showing potential, but are being met with uncertainty too. Pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca (partnered with the University of Oxford) has seen upwards of 90% effective immunity from its vaccine trials, but its results are clouded by dosage errors. Volunteers given the standard dose and one-month later booster dose saw only 60% effectiveness, while some mistakenly given a half-dose first saw the greater immunity likelihood. Even though the AstraZeneca vaccine plans to be cheaper and easier to store, the FDA is uncertain whether the irregular trial gave enough successful evidence. Additionally, Rus sia and China have already begun giving their own vaccines to citizens, but other nations are skeptical that the two countries followed all precautions and verifications during development.

In any case, the vaccine development process has been rapidly sped up to combat the pandemic (referredenced by the U.S. plan “Operation Warp Speed”), which makes some people worried that proper procedures were skipped. But great success has already come in less than a year, and in the U.S. especially, researchers have made sure that this faster manufacturing does not jeopardize vaccine safety and effectiveness. Breakthroughs in COVID-19 analysis allowed faster development early on to give time for clinical trials, and numerous checks and rechecks of data continue even in the final weeks of decision making. Also, in awaiting approval from the FDA, millions of vaccine doses were already prepared and on standby so that distribution and administration can begin immediately without risking necessary safety reviews before hand. Months of dedicated hard work will soon culminate to show the impact of these historic scientific achievements.

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Lifestyle

Warner Bros. Trades 17 Movies to HBO Max

Jonathan Kawauchi

World News Editor

After settling negotiations with Warner Bros., HBO Max recently announced that they're planning to stream seventeen films simultaneously as they release in theatres in 2021. The deal initially began with plans for Wonder Woman 1984, which was planned for a simultaneous release on Christmas Day, where HBO agreed to pay Wonder Woman star Gal Gadot and director Patty Jenkins more than $80 million for streaming rights after considering what they would have made had the sequel been released in a traditional manner outside of a pandemic.

Last week, a WarnerMedia executive announced that 17 more Warner Bros. movies would be released on HBO Max in a similar manner to Wonder Woman 1984, however the plans to simultaneously release 17 movies with theaters throughout 2021.

HBO plans to simultaneously release 17 movies with theaters throughout 2021.

Image courtesy of Business Insider

Like Denzel Washington, Margot Robbie, Will Smith, Keanu Reeves, Hugh Jackman and Angelina Jolie were upset that their clients had the sequel been released in a traditional manner outside of a pandemic. Some voice actors, like Denzel Washington, Margot Robbie, Will Smith, Keanu Reeves, Hugh Jackman and Angelina Jolie were upset that their clients were not given the same treatment and deal as Gal Gadot. The situation has circulated throughout the Directors Guild of America, with plans for a boycott of the studio.

For the longest time, Warner Bros. has been known as the best home for talent, and that has been a significant competitive advantage.”

Michael Nathanson, a founder of the Motion Picture Association research firm, said in a phone interview.

“With this move, they alienated the firm, said in a phone interview. "They have been producing and distributing their own films well before the pandemic. This move by Warner Bros. can simply be seen as keeping up with the times."

Cyberpunk 2077 First Impressions

Aidan McIndulay

Editor-in-Chief

Two years ago, I wrote a review about Red Dead Redemption 2 for the Thorn. I praised the game for its attention to detail in all aspects of the game. In 2020, Polish developer CD Projekt Red has given us a new breath of life into a role-playing game on the same scale as Rockstar Games’ western masterpiece: Cyberpunk 2077.

Easily the most anticipated game of the year, Cyberpunk had a less than stellar launch last week after a series of recent delays. The game released on last year’s current generation consoles, with different, optimized versions for each revision of said consoles, as well as on PC. “Optimization” sounds great, but apparently there's only so much that can be done for the now-ancient base models of the Xbox One and the PlayStation 4. However, I'm not covering the backlash for those poorly running versions of the game. I'm intending to give a first impressions review of Cyberpunk 2077 after playing 24 hours on PC.

I'll start with the bad stuff, since there's honestly not that much, contrary to popular belief. It's true: there are a large number of bugs in this game. It's not unexpected for an ambitious game to have accumulated bugs during its many years of development, but Cyberpunk's bugs unfortunately tend to break the player's immersion. Some are charming in the same way that many of Skyrim's bugs were (and continue to be, 9 years lat-ter), but others completely break the player's immersion. There are visual problems where characters' clothes and skin will rapidly change through different textures for no reason, or some generic NPCs will move unnat-urally around an environment. In other or cases, voice lines will play with no facial animation, or both audio and the animation will fail to play, result-ing in weird, awkward silences that last as long as the character was sup-posed to talk. Vehicle physics are broken, and enemies sometimes make nonsensical actions in combat situa-tions.

Now, don't get me wrong, these bugs aren't indicative of laziness or a lack of ability. The bugs are the result of making an absolutely massive game that is far more complicated than any of CD Projekt’s previous undertakings. When there are no bugs currently wreaking havoc on your save file, the visuals are abso-lutely stunning. Path traced lighting is absolutely unbelievable technol-ogy, and Cyberpunk is absolutely one of the best looking games I've ever seen, so long as it’s on the highest settings with Ray Tracing features turned on. In addition to the beauti-fully rendered world, character ani-motions, car and motor- cycle you have access to looks and even sounds unique, right down to the dashboard.

Another standout part of the game is the story and the lore behind it. Cyberpunk envisions a near-future Californian metropolis in an alternate reality where capitalism is akin to law. The streets of Night City are lined with vibrant, absurd, and often intrusive advertisements, and many aspects of modern life that would be considered controversial and illegal are the norm. For example, sexual free-dom and expression are encouraged, and there are next to no regulations on the sale and ownership of fire-arms. Every question is compelling and interesting, and it seems like your choices actually matter for each arc in the story. Some characters are so interesting that I almost wish they had their own game. Keanu Reeves' character, Johnny Silverhand, is prob-ably the most interesting I mean, can you imagine being a rock superstar but also a terrorist at the same time? Overall, Cyberpunk 2077 is a game that you should play. The bugs are everywhere, yes, but not playing it means missing one of the most unique adventure experiences you can simply be seen as keeping up with the times.

Johnny Silverhand, Keanu Reeves' character in Cyberpunk 2077

Image courtesy of Sideshow

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Priorities in Politics

Colin Beach
Rose-News Editor

Politics continues to be come less of what it stands for every year. While the differences may be more apparent as I get older and pay more attention, there have definitely been changes more recently than before that reflect poorly on those in politics.

Is it still “of the people?” Mostly... better representation of the country progresses every election, but a disproportionate amount of those in high positions make it difficult for others to be heard. Financial, and social impact of the pandemic are suddenly out weigh them selves. Claims of “necessary for national functioning” and “keeping those in high positions safe” definitively demonstrate that politics is no longer “for the people.” Over 600 vaccine doses will be given to people who have had months to act on the pandemic and have failed at doing so time and time again, instead of healthcare workers putting their lives at risk every day because they actually want to make a difference. Safety precautions have been pushed aside, benefits for the country have been replaced by benefits for the few, and yet they who fail to recognize the physical, mental, emotional, financial, and social impact of the pandemic are suddenly important enough to be vaccinated and continue on as if everything is alright. Their actions and beliefs are reflected in their support, and it seems truth and hard work have been smeared in indignity and ego.

Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a hope for the better, with nothing more coming from it. People are being left to die, some without even knowing they were infected. Why must now always be between the lesser of two evils? Where has civility and respect gone? If ever there was a time for politicians to show understanding of the individual and each other, it is now. But, like much else involved, it is probably only a
WACKY QUOTES

“So we can rank people by importance, and eliminate the ones that don’t matter.”
- Dr. Bryan

“I am legally required to not laugh at what you just said”
- Learning Center Tutor

“This is music history. Here we go: Porky the Pig”
- Dr. Chapman

“Failing a class means something different when you're a prof.”
- Dr. Sid Stamm

Did your prof say something hilarious or just great out of context? Did you hear something confusing or funny on your jaunt about the fine halls of this institution? We want to hear about it! Send your quotes with who said it to suppmg@rose-hulman.edu or fill out this nifty google form: https://goo.gl/forms/bB339sx6GHohggYt1

Top Ten
To Burn off Those Pesky Holiday Calories

1. Run away from your responsibilities
2. Carrying a team project
3. Spinning really fast on a swivel chair
4. Wii Fit
5. Light the leftovers on fire and literally burn the calories
6. Sit down and vigorously watch TV for an entire day
7. The Peloton bikes
8. Throw virtual hands in a Zoom meeting
9. Do a single barrel roll
10. Finally fold your laundry instead of letting it sit in the same place for two weeks

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer Comes Clean
After Years of Silence!!

Everyone knows the fun and happy story about Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. He’s a reindeer that is picked on by his peers for having a glowing nose. Jolly good Santa only does something to help his reindeer pal when Christmas comes along.

Rudolph, on his last visit to the continents, reached out to me, an investigative reporter in all things fairytale, and we set up a meeting via Zoom. He told me he wanted to clear the air on what his childhood was like and why its not what you think.

The deer began the meeting by covering his glowing nose with a piece of fabric as he sat down at the North Pole's library. He explained that since his nose starting lighting up, Mr. Claus would keep him in sight and close to his house. Santa didn't want other fairytale heroes sneaking in and stealing Rudolph's gift.

Rudolph talked quickly, as if scared of being caught and revealed the real reason he wanted to meet. He told me that most reindeer today don’t have lights because they’ve been broken by Claus’ violent outbursts. He explained that his had been turned red due to the blood and is now stained that way. He says these episodes can last an entire summer.

After telling me the gruesome details, he reached into his bag and pulled out a drawing (see below) depicting the horrific actions taken against him. This shook me to my core. Santa Claus been tainted beyond belief for young minds everywhere and reindeer all used to have lights. This revelation would surely turn the Christmas spirit quite sour, yet my readers need to know the truth about the so called Saint Nick.

Meme of the Week

If you have any strong opinions on this meme or if you would like to send me a meme to put on here, read the thing at the bottom to figure out my email, then email me that meme and I will probably put it on here. Thanks in advance. *If you are reading this and want to earn a prize, find the hidden meme within LAST ISSUE ‘s page and email me. Hint: It's not a fun aerobic capacity test*

This is not the first time a story has broken regarding the treatment of Santa’s reindeer. Last year it was found that the reindeer themselves cannot fly. Instead they need a dose or two of cocaine, which mixes with the hormones in their fur and gives them the ability to soar through the air. That discovery didn't stop billions around the world from celebrating so I doubt this discovery will either.

I said it once somewhere but I’ll say it again: Fairytale heroes are frauds. Just wait till I expose the Easter Bunny.