



SPOTLIGHT

A Nation of Sloths

By Dale M. Glading

I read an article the other day that listed the most dangerous animals as well as the friendliest ones. Alligators, hippos, and water buffalos topped the list of the most aggressive and therefore, most dangerous. Conversely, among the animals that wouldn't hurt a fly (in most cases) were dolphins, pandas, otters, and sloths.

What do the latter four animals have in common? Two of them spend their days eating and playing and the other two pretty much sleep 24/7.

Especially the sloth.

And that, my friends, is the perfect segue to today's topic of UBI, otherwise known as Universal Basic Income.

UBI is "all the rage" these days, being pushed by such luminaries as former Secretary of State James Baker, former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, former Labor Secretary Robert Reich, podcast host Joe Rogan, current NYC mayoral candidate Curtis Sliwa, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, and former presidential candidate Andrew Yang. Also on board are multiple tech titans and leading entrepreneurs including Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, Larry

continued on page 4

Things That Creep Me Out

By Dale M. Glading

No, I'm not talking about snakes, spiders, or the prehistoric-sized palmetto bugs we have here in Florida. On the contrary, I am simply referring to a few stories that came across my news feed over the past 24 hours... all of which I found to be rather disturbing (if not downright frightening).

The first involved the Walker S2 robot, made by the Chinese company UBTECH. It stands 5'3" tall and weighs 95 pounds, about the size of a small human. The Walker S2 can stand for four hours or walk for two hours on a single charge, which is pretty remarkable, but here comes the freaky part.

When its power supply starts running low, the Walker S2 can change its own battery, meaning that it can operate indefinitely.

I watched a YouTube video of the Walker S2 switching out the depleted battery for a fresh one and instead of thinking "How cool is that!", I came away with an uneasy feeling in the pit of my stomach that told me that I had just looked into the future.

Not just any future, but one dominated by robots and other technology whose original purpose was to serve mankind and make our life easier. Only now, having advanced far beyond their human creators, they have

decided to "flip the script".

Which brings me to Item #2 on this week's Creep Out Hit Parade...

The AtCoder World Tour Finals is one of competitive programming's most exclusive events, inviting only the top 12 programmers worldwide based on their performance throughout the previous year. Conducted by AtCoder, a Japanese platform that hosts competitive programming contests and maintains global rankings, the competition required contestants to solve a single complex optimization problem over 600 minutes.

O.K., I don't know about you, but I'm already confused.

I will spare you the details except to say that of the 12 contestants, 11 were human and one was an advanced AI model from OpenAI. Once the 10-hour marathon competition was over, OpenAI had defeated all but one of the human programmers. The lone survivor was a Polish programmer named Przemysław Dębiak, whose nickname was "Psyho" when he previously worked for Open AI.

Debiak's narrow victory left him physically and mentally exhausted. "I'm barely alive," the victorious programmer said.

Posting on X, Debiak eerily foreshadowed the future when he wrote, "Humanity has prevailed (for now!)"

continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE...



The Death Pill Dilemma...See page 2

The Death Pill Dilemma

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The halftime score of Super Bowl LI was Atlanta 21 - New England 3. Midway through the third quarter, the Falcons were up 28-3, a seemingly insurmountable 25-point lead... and as the fourth quarter began, Atlanta still held a commanding 19-point edge over the hapless Patriots.

At that point in the game, Las Vegas oddsmakers gave the Falcons a 99.8% chance of winning. All head coach Dan Quinn and his NFC champion Falcons had to do was hang on for 15 more minutes and the Lombardi Trophy was theirs.

Victory was so assured that Falcons owner Arthur Blank, co-founder of Home Depot, left his private box and made his way down to the sidelines, preparing to participate in the postgame celebration. Sadly for Blank, it never came as the Patriots - led by quarterback Tom Brady - scored 19 unanswered points to tie the game with just 58 seconds left in regulation, sending it into overtime.

New England won the coin toss and promptly marched down the field. A pass interference call put the ball at the one-yard line from where Pats' running back James White punched the ball into the end zone for the biggest comeback victory in Super Bowl history.

I share this story from the world of sports to highlight the danger of premature celebrations.

On June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its landmark decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. By a 6-3 vote, the high court overturned

a lower court ruling, thereby upholding the constitutionality of Mississippi's Gestational Age Act - a law banning most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy with exceptions for medical emergencies and fetal abnormalities.

By a 5-4 majority vote, SCOTUS also overturned two earlier abortion decisions: *Roe v. Wade* (1973), and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992); thereby concluding that the U.S. Constitution does not protect the right to an abortion. In doing so, the Supreme Court left the abortion question for individual states to decide as per the 10th Amendment.

As you can imagine, pro-lifers everywhere (including yours truly) rejoiced while pro-abortion advocates lashed out angrily or went into mourning, depressed and distraught over the thought that they could no longer murder their own preborn children indiscriminately. However, the more diehard and devious abortionists did not despair... they just switched gears.

Instead of making an appointment at the local Planned Parenthood clinic every time they experienced an inconvenient and unplanned pregnancy, they simply visited their local pharmacy or logged onto their computer and ordered a two-drug regimen that causes a chemical abortion. The first pill, mifepristone, blocks progesterone, the hormone needed to support a pregnancy; and the second, misoprostol, causes cramping and bleeding to empty the uterus.

According to the Cleveland Clinic's website, "It's a safe procedure that works by stopping the growth of the pregnancy and then causing the uterine lining to shed. The mifepristone and misoprostol regimen can be used up through 12 weeks for an at-home abortion."

Safe for whom? Certainly not for the preborn baby, whose life is snuffed out before it has had a chance to grow inside the womb and live outside of it. And neither is it safe for the mother, with studies now showing that 11% of women who use this deadly two-drug regimen experience serious health complications, mostly while they are alone at home and far from emergency medical care.

Thinking that it is safe and believing the lie that their preborn child is nothing but a lump of inanimate tissue, pregnant women are taking these life-extinguishing drugs in record numbers. So much so, in fact, that the number of abortions in America have increased since *Roe v. Wade* was overturned. Of the more than 1 million abortions last year, an estimated 63% were chemical abortions. That's 630,000 preborn babies murdered in their own mother's womb by a chemical cocktail.

Sensing yet another way to pad its pockets, Planned Parenthood embraced the two-drug regimen with open arms. Just be sure, they advise on their website, to stock up on "maxi pads, food, books, movies, or whatever you like to help pass the time" while your preborn baby is expelled from your body. What, no popcorn?

And yet, it gets even worse.

"It's normal to see large blood clots (up to the size of a lemon) or clumps of tissue during the abortion," PP's demonic website says. "But the pregnancy [they mean your precious preborn baby] itself is very small - at 8 weeks, an embryo is about ¼ to ½ inch long.

Gruesome to the max!

continued on page 3

Things That Creep Me Out

continued from page 1

The third and final - for now - entry in our Creep Out competition is the not-so-cryptic messages being sent by the Trump administration as far as cryptocurrency is concerned. What seemed like a passing fad or a financial boondoggle gone bust just a few years ago has all the makings of going global within a few years.

Going global as in replacing paper money. Going global as in a one-world electronic currency manipulated and controlled from a centralized location.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent tipped his hand this week with yet another shot across the bow of the Federal Reserve Bank, suggesting that the Fed undergo a top to bottom review.

"What we need to do is examine the entire Federal Reserve institution and whether they have been successful," Bessent said during an interview on CNBC. "Has the organization succeeded in its mission? If this were the [Federal Aviation Administration] and we

were having this many mistakes, we would go back and look at why has this happened."

Bessent's comments come hot on the heels of the GENIUS Act, the passage of which sets up a regulatory framework for payment stablecoins and establishes the ominous sounding Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC).

The signing of the GENIUS Act marks a key milestone for the industry, as the "first step of the U.S. government really regulating cryptocurrency," said Rob Nolan, a partner at Duane Morris and a member of the law firm's digital assets and blockchain group.

"This is just the first little bite at the apple because it really is a small portion of cryptocurrency assets," Nolan added, perhaps unwittingly referencing Genesis 3:6.

"It's a big deal because when you have a law ... it essentially gives a Good Housekeeping seal of approval to the industry," said Ian Katz, managing partner at Capital Alpha. "You now have Congress and the president of the United States signing off on the legitimacy of this industry."

"You can interpret the legislation as encouraging the activity," Katz added. "To a lot of people, this is the sort of thing you need to really get an industry to take off."

Under the Biden administration, the Securities and Exchange Commission brought numerous enforcement actions against crypto firms. By contrast, President Trump has embraced the industry in his second term, naming David Sacks as artificial intelligence (AI) and crypto czar, inviting crypto leaders to the White House, and signing an executive order to create a strategic bitcoin reserve and digital asset stockpile.

Bye-bye, greenbacks, Hello, government-issued debit cards, which will contain all your financial data on a single microchip and without which you will not be able to complete a single financial transaction. And of course, since debit cards can be easily forged or stolen, the logical next step will be to embed that microchip under your skin.

Welcome to the Book of Revelation.

(If you really want to be unnerved, read Chapter 13:16-18... and don't say I didn't warn you.)

The Death Pill Dilemma

continued from page 2

In the aftermath of the Dobbs decision, more than two dozen states passed pro-life legislation to safeguard and protect the lives of precious preborn children. Now, pro-abortionists are circumventing those laws, aided and abetted by the U.S. Postal Service and other package delivery services, which are delivering abortion death kits to front doors across America. And so, the Family Research Council and others are asking the Trump administration to stop this trafficking in

death by (1) Restoring and strengthening FDA safety protocols for mifepristone; (2) Directing the FDA to reevaluate the drug's approval altogether; and (3) Instructing the DOJ to enforce the Comstock Act to protect states' rights to uphold pro-life laws. Meanwhile, pro-life advocates can go to www.frc.org and sign their online petition asking President Trump to stop this chemical genocide in its tracks.

In 1675, France and Germany met in Strasbourg and agreed to prohibit the use of poison bullets. Sub-

sequent chemical and biological weapon bans were adopted in 1874 and 1899. Finally, after some 124,200 tons of chlorine, mustard gas, and other chemical agents had been released during World War I - causing more than 90,000 soldiers to suffer painful deaths and leaving almost a million others blind, disfigured, or with debilitating injuries - the Geneva Protocol was passed in 1925, banning the use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons in war.

If only the same protocol applied to preborn babies in the womb.

A Nation of Sloths

continued from page 1

Page (co-founder of Google), Tim Cook (CEO of Apple), Jack Dorsey (founder of Twitter), and Sam Altman (CEO of Open AI).

That's some kind of clout... and the political power and financial resources to make it happen. Or, at the very least, to make it a front burner issue for years to come.

The driving force behind this push to pay people to sit home on their behinds is artificial intelligence, which is expected to eliminate millions of labor-intensive jobs over the next few decades. The rationale is that it's not the fault of workers in soon-to-be obsolete sectors of the economy and so, they should be compensated by the federal government (i.e. taxpayers) for their misfortune.

To which I say, hogwash.

I am not saying that I don't sympathize with hard-working (and unsuspecting) humans who will soon be given a pink slip by their employers, only to be replaced by a robot, a computer, or a new software program. I get it, truly I do. What's more, I hate it.

But as AI technology continues to outpace our ability to control it, American workers must start planning ahead now so that when the inevitable arrives, they are prepared. That means saving more than you're spending and if your job is expected to be on the chopping block in the not-too-distant future, getting the necessary training now to make a lateral (or upward) move to a different position.

Back in the 1960s, American economist Milton Friedman proposed a negative income tax which basically meant that workers earning above a certain threshold paid federal income taxes and those below it received a government stipend. I don't like it, but I suppose I could live with such a system as long as the recipients were working full-time and not sitting at home watching TV and playing video games.

Likewise, I could also go along with a federally subsidized job training program for workers displaced by AI. However, as the Apostle Paul said in 2 Thessalonians 3:10, "If anyone is unwilling to work, he shall not eat" and so, once you graduate from said program, all work-related federal benefits cease and you're on your own to fend for yourself.

In other words, put on your big boy pants and report to work, even if it's not your dream job or you have to moonlight to make ends meet. And yes, I am speaking from personal experience, having worked three jobs simultaneously to put food on the table for a family of five, pay a mortgage, and cover three college tuitions.

As long as an American adult is able-bodied and healthy, he should be required to be a productive member of society. No free lunches and no free rides... period.

Dolphins, otters, and pandas, maybe. But we cannot afford to become a nation of sloths, rewarding indolence in lieu of industry.

Want more?

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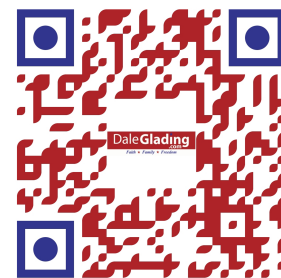
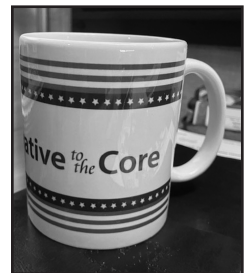
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