

THE PAMPHLETTE

Only giving about 87% since 1987

Vol. 14, Issue 4

PORTLAND • [RED CELESTIAL BODY] • CRUNCHY LEAF PILE

September 28, 2015

Poor Timing of Blood Moon Prevents Its Use As An Excuse

Once again, the celestial bodies have aligned and the Earth has cast its shadow on the moon, causing it to redden in the night's sky. Large hordes of Reed students have gathered outdoors to watch the moon change in color, and generally do things that moons are not meant to do. Sophomore and older students may remember such an event also occurring at the beginning of last year as well. However, there is one major difference between this Blood Moon and last year's: this one just had to happen at a reasonable hour at night. Which means that it's that much harder to use as an excuse to tell yourself that you aren't a bad person for failing to make it to morning classes.

Seriously, the moon kinda dropped the ball on this one. Last year it showed up at 2 am, which was a much better time to have a cool lunar phenomenon, because then your failure to make it to Hum lecture totally wasn't your fault, it was the fault of the celestial bodies. But 9 pm means that your decisions to stay up the entire night, eat Ben and Jerry's from Homer's, and stare at the night sky is entirely your fault, and thus isn't a valid reason to skip your 9 am classes. In short, screw you moon, no one likes giant rocks that show up early.



So uncool, man. So uncool that we're not even going to show off your nice red color with our black-and-white printing.

by RS

NASA Reveals "Major Science Finding" (Spoiler Alert: Not Aliens)

CW: psychedelic drugs

Conspiracy theorists, science fiction fanatics, and young children all got their hopes up when NASA announced that they would be holding a press conference revealing a "major science finding" about the planet Mars. "Mars Mystery Solved," the headlines read. Soon every social media site was buzzing with excitement about the possibility of extraterrestrial life. It has to be aliens, I could almost hear in a horror-movie-style whisper every time I opened Facebook.

Even the more reasonable sources suggested that the announcement would most likely confirm that there are flowing bodies of liquid water on Mars, which is really just a fancy way of saying there's life. Because if there's water, there has to be life, right? Duh. It's not like when it happened on our planet it was some crazy chemical fluke. Even the most skeptical of Real Smart Scientists expect at least some chance of organic matter.

But at the press conference today, NASA dropped a bombshell that was as unexpected as it was mindblowing. The news was disappointing to some, but outright thrilling to many.

"We have received fascinating data from our probe MAVEN, and we are excited to share our findings with the public," the spokesman began. "At first we were sure it had found a body of water, and began to cheer. But as we continued to watch the footage as it performed some advanced chemical testing, we became confused, and then shocked as the sheer enormity of what had just occurred hit us. This was something we had never considered, were never prepared for. Yes, there is liquid on Mars. But it's not water."

A series of gasps and murmurs flowed through the crowd. Not water? But what could it be?

"It would appear that Mars contains a vast source, indeed a veritable sea, of lysergic acid diethylamide."

The crowd was stunned into silence, but after a moment it sunk in and everyone spoke at once. Reporters from every news source hounded the spokesman with incoherent questions. It took several minutes for the press conference to resume, as the reporters asked NASA about the implications for the drug industry and speculated about "interplanetary trafficking."

The spokesman was rather cagey about how NASA intends to proceed. Many bloggers and op-ed writers are already theorizing that NASA itself will transport and sell the illegal substance on the black market to make up for drawing the short straw in government funding.

"NASA has struck a goldmine," reads a post on a sketchy website that will remain unnamed. "They can basically do whatever the hell they want now and the government can't even stop them. Sure, it would be a massive fuck-you to Washington, but who even cares anymore? In fact, I wouldn't be surprised if Obama ends up secretly endorsing the operation. LSD for everyone!!!1!"

So far, nothing has been heard from Washington on the subject. I bet Joe Biden is tripping balls right now.

by ER

Pumpkin Spice-Flavored Things I'd Buy If My Pride Allowed It

It's officially fall, the days are getting shorter and colder, and many people are swarming to partake of the sweet nectar of Pumpkin Spice--but not me. I am above the pull of that sweet ambrosia, too lofty to be tempted by its fragrance. I have observed the weak-willed purchasing many pumpkin spice products, from candles to lattes to bagels, but I have restrained myself from such debasement. I have, however, composed a list of ideas for pumpkin spice-themed items I would stare at longingly before pulling myself away with a haughty laugh.

Pumpkin Spice Body Jewelry. You could carry around that blissful aroma in your septum clicker or your nipple piercings--sadly I cannot, for I have neither of those piercings and am also confined by the sacred duty of being a more interesting person than you.

Pumpkin Spice Soup. Like a pumpkin spice latte, but thicker and in a can and maybe with some celery or something. Perhaps it can nourish you back from your moral feebleness.

Pumpkin Spice Dog-Shit Key Hider. You know those things that look like a pile of dog shit, but are actually a place to hide an extra house key? It's one of those, but releasing the gentle caress of pumpkin spice, as if your dog ate some of that pumpkin spice soup. Even your imaginary dog is weak. For shame.

Pumpkin Spice Latex-Free Gloves. For surgeons trying to cover up the odor of flesh with something infinitely more pleasing and significant, or for whatever it is you sinful kids are doing with gloves these days.

Pumpkin Spice Flea Collar. Watch the fleas run in fear to that nostril symphony that is pumpkin spice. You monster.

Pumpkin Spice Combination Phone Charger and Air Freshener. Exactly what it sounds like: a phone charger that is also one of those outlet-mounted air fresheners, but only releases pumpkin spice scent. This is the sort of thing your mother would mail you in a package with no explanation, for she knows not what she has done.

Pumpkin Spice Duvet. Imagine, late at night, wrapping your body in the tender embrace of pumpkin spice... and by imagine, I mean "you imagine," for my mind is too pure to be tainted by such sinful fantasies.



Only God can have mercy on your nutmeg-filled soul.

by FS

Bernie Sanders' Popularity Assures Nation Democrats Aren't Above Voting for Old White Man

The nation breathed a collective sigh of relief today after seeing Bernie Sanders' surging poll numbers.

"We were pretty worried for a while there white men might be on their way out, but then this guy comes out of nowhere and just takes the cake!" said House Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

"I mean, first there was a black guy for 8 years, and then it was starting to look like we were gonna have a lady as president! Can you even imagine??" said local hedge fund manager Chris Michaels. "I'm just so glad to see that, as things stand right now, there will definitely be another old white guy in the White House come 2016. Frankly I couldn't care less if he was a socialist or some kind of maniac like Trump," he continued, "just as long as he looks like me."

Sanders, who surged in front of Hillary Clinton in the last week as the Democratic frontrunner, insists he owes his popularity to the people: "What we're seeing is that people are sick and tired of the old white men running our country right now. They want a new old white guy, a good old white guy; and I believe I am that old white guy."

At press time, Sanders was reportedly trying to hush a supporter talking about reverse racism.

by JG