

The Observer

Weekly

Cloverleaf Inside and Out

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Finding Bigfoot: Fact or Fiction?

By *Shelby Dearth*

For over hundreds of years, people from all areas all around the world have made reports of seeing a large, hairy, man-like creature roaming in the wilderness. Some people discover them by pure chance, and others make it an expedition to go out looking for the creature. Either way, reports of these ape-like men are still being made today, and these accounts have many believing in the existence of Bigfoot.

Bigfoot is described as a large, hairy ape, ranging from six to ten feet tall, and up to five hundred pounds in weight. The creature is covered in black, brown, or reddish hair, and many report a strong odor when encountering it.

Many report the creature to have large eyes and a rounded, crested head similar to the sagittal crest of the gorilla. Other sources believe the Sasquatch is omnivorous and mainly nocturnal.

“Bigfoot is real,” said senior R.J. Bechtel. “I saw him in Canada.”

The legend of Bigfoot and stories of ape-men date back to some of the first recorded people to inhabit the Pacific Northwest. However, not all stories come from North America. Similar legends were documented on every continent except Antarctica.

One of these legends came from the Lummi community that once lived in what is now Washington. This Native American tribe believed in the *Ts'emekwes*, a nocturnal creature similar to recent accounts of what we call Bigfoot.

Other Native American tribes had different interpretations of Bigfoot. Some tribes believed that Bigfoot

was a cruel, evil monster that should be feared. Others saw the creature as harmless, but mischievous and stealthy.

“I think Bigfoot would be harmful,” said senior C.J. Martin. “He’s a big, hairy, and scary beast. I wouldn’t mess with that.”

As documented by Paul Kane in 1847, one Native American tribe saw Bigfoot as this harmful, scary beast that many of us perceive the creature as today. They called these Sasquatches *skoocooms*, a race of cannibalistic and supernatural giant men that would kill a human if he or she were in the woods at night.

On the other hand, as reported by Reverend Elkanah Walker in 1840, another tribe from Spokane, Washington believed that giant men lived up on the mountain peak away from civilization and stole salmon from the fishermen’s nets.

Despite the interpretations, the legend and accounts of Bigfoot have carried on to modern times. Although there are many avid believers, scientists and skeptics have continued to provide explanations to try to prove these encounters false.

“I don’t think he’s real, because if he was real, I would’ve seen one by now,” said sophomore Freddy Wells.

“I think they’re real; we just haven’t found a body yet,” said senior Sam Borchart. “Maybe they bury their dead, who knows.”

Skeptics usually point to misidentification of other animals as the main reason for the sightings. Many people believe they are seeing a Bigfoot, when really they are witnessing a bear or other wild animal. Also, many people claim to have seen Big-



A very common photo that many avid believers use to prove the existence of Bigfoot. *Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia*

foot simply for attention from the media and other recognition.

However, there are many organizations and television programs that document their search for these creatures. Shows like “Finding Bigfoot” and “Monsterquest” look to capture Bigfoot on camera to show the public their findings. Organizations such as the Bigfoot Field Research Organization (BFRO) has an internet database with multiple photos, documented stories, and blogs for skeptics and believers to chat about their thoughts on the topic.

Whether you are a die-hard believer or a firm skeptic of the legend of Bigfoot, evidence and accounts continue to be found. Until the creature is captured or until credible video footage is recorded, we can only rely on individual experience and faith that Bigfoot is not a fake, but a real being.

LeBron James or Kevin Durant: Who is #1?

By Brandon Johnson

The biggest debate in the NBA: Who is the better player, LeBron James or Kevin Durant?

So many different people have different opinions about this question.

LeBron James is a two-time MVP, and Kevin Durant is a three-time scoring champion. These two players are arguably the two most dominant players in the NBA.

Sophomores Dillon Mullins and Connor Ploucha say Kevin Durant is way better than “The King” LeBron James. Clifford Collyer and Andrew Jarret disagree and say LeBron is the better player.

“LeBron is better because of his defense; he is way stronger, and he is an all-around better player, while Durant is just mainly a scorer,” said Collyer.

This question was asked to seniors Trevor Morrison, Zack Miglich, CJ Martin, and teacher Chris Lantz.

Zack and CJ both agree that Kevin Durant is far better than LeBron.

In Zack and CJ’s words, “Durant is better because he did not leave his hometown and did not let down his fans. He is overall better and he is simply just DURANCHULA.”

Lantz has a very strong opinion that LeBron is the for sure the better player. No doubt in his mind that LeBron is by far an overall better player than KD.

“LeBron is just an all around player, unlike Durant. Durant is the better scorer, but other than that, LeBron’s stats proves that LeBron is the better basketball player,” said Lantz.

Lastly, the question was asked to Morrison. He also said that LeBron is

the best player by far and nobody can be ranked any better. In NBA ESPN rankings, LeBron does stand in the #1 position with Kevin Durant right behind him at #2.

“LeBron is THEE closest thing to Micheal Jordan; he is overall way better than Durant in every category except scoring. The scoring doesn’t matter at all compared to the way LeBron can pass and rebound the ball any day. He gets triple doubles any day he wants and that’s something Kevin Durant cannot do! For people that believe that KD is better, they are crazy for real. This question isn’t even a competition,” said Morrison.

This debate is an ongoing opinion and will always be a question every year in the NBA this season, and for many, many years to come.

High Expectations for *The Devil Inside*

By Nate Sanford

There are high expectations for the new movie, *The Devil Inside*. The project is expected to outsell *Paranormal Activity*.

The hit movie stars Fernanda Andrade and Simon Quarterman. The running time for the movie is 87 minutes.

This movie was the lowest budget movie of the New Year. In 2012, the only other movies that were good so far were *New Year’s Eve* and *Mission Impossible*.

The main storyline is a woman in Italy is involved in multiple exorcisms after trying to discover what happened to her own mother, who murdered three people in her own exorcism.

The Devil Inside was released on Friday, Jan. 6. This past weekend was full of packed movie theatres and scared victims.

“I am really scared to see the movie and it looks so real to me. I don’t know if I’m able to go unless I go with friends,” senior Kayla Estes said.

The thriller is projected to be one of the biggest deals for the horror genre. Later in the year, there are great movies coming out in theatres though that might give it some competition.

One that might give *The Devil Inside* a run for its money for the top spot will be the new *Batman* movie.

“I’m excited for the new *Batman*, but I think that *The Devil Inside* is going to be the best movie in 2012,” junior Rebecca Simpson stated. “I’m just more into the Disney movies that’s all.”

The main plot for the movie is about exorcisms and how the devil

and all the sins are in the people. People have to have someone specially come in and perform an exorcism which is what happens in this movie.

While the main character’s mother is under an exorcism, she ended up murdering three people, supposedly, and she is getting to the bottom of it all.

“I don’t even believe in any of that exorcism and devil stuff, so I’m not too excited about seeing the movie but I’ll go anyway just to see what all the hype is about,” senior Tony Giatchetti said about the new horror film.

Everyone go and get your tickets and see the new movie, *The Devil Inside* and see for yourself.

Editor-in-Chief
CJ Martin

Managing Editor
Shelby Dearth

Advisor
Mr. John Carmignano

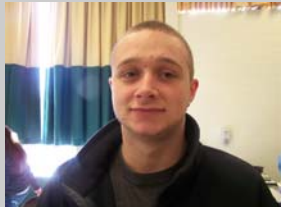
Quiz & Quotes

Why are you excited for new *Jersey Shore* season?



Mike Wendell and Paul Hissong (12)

“We love the women in money.”



Garrett Norris (11)

“Snookie is hot!”



Emily Peterson (10)

“Because, I’m a Guidette myself.”



Tori Meece (9)

“To see Mike and Snookie fight.”

Alabama vs. LSU Rematch

By Freddy Wells

It’s the rematch everybody has been talking about since Nov. 5 when LSU squeaked past Alabama 9-6 in OT. While Oklahoma State fans may not be thrilled about these two teams playing each other for a second time, the rest of the country is gearing up for a game that could be an instant classic.

The number one-ranked LSU Tigers and the Number two-ranked Alabama Crimson Tide are scheduled to play the BCS National Championship game tonight at 8:30 p.m. in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The expectations for this game are very high and these two teams are looking to meet these expectations.

Cloverleaf senior Austin Vaughn said, “I expect it to be a great game, and I am hoping Alabama end up on top,” when asked about his expectations of the National Championship

Last time these two teams played, neither team reached the end zone and making field goals seemed to be a challenge as well.

Many fans are wondering if the rematch between these teams is going to be such a low scoring defensive battle like the first game between these two teams.

Cloverleaf junior JD Schleich thinks, “The rematch between these two teams is going to be another low scoring game because both teams’ defenses are so good, and the offenses will not be able to put points up.”

These two teams both had a player qualify for the Heisman voting. Alabama’s powerful and quick running back and LSU’s playmaker on defense, Terrence Matthews, also known as the honey badger. These two players are looking to lead their team to victory tonight.



Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia Commons

Whichever team’s Heisman qualifier plays better may be the winning team at the end of the game.

Cloverleaf sophomore Jacob Scott said, “Terrence Matthews will lead the LSU defense and LSU will come up on top.”

Both Alabama and LSU are great and they proved that during the regular season. LSU went undefeated in the regular season and had convincing victories over West Virginia, who put up 70 points against Clemson in the Orange Bowl, and Oregon, who beat Wisconsin in the Rose Bowl, and, of course, pulled off a victory against Alabama.

Alabama only had one loss and beat many conference foes including Auburn and Arkansas.

Both teams are looking to play strong and end the season as National Champions, but only one of the wonderful teams can win, so get ready to watch a game for the ages tonight.

Assassin's Creed: Revelations Review

By Jackson Keller

How much you enjoy *Assassin's Creed: Revelations* is going to depend on how much you liked *Assassin's Creed II* and *Assassin's Creed: Brotherhood*, because *Revelations* is almost the exact same game.

If you've never played an *Assassin's Creed* game, then you should start with the first or second one and not even think about *Revelations* until you've tried them. If you hated the previous games, then you should just stop reading now because there isn't anything in *Revelations* that is going to change your mind.

But for the rest of us, *Revelations* continues the ongoing story of Desmond Miles, a man caught up in an ancient ongoing war between the Assassins and the Templars. He uses a device called an Animus to relive the memories of his ancestors Altaïr Ibn-La'Ahad and Ezio Auditore da Firenze.

But if you're still reading this, you already know that. You already know how the series is a historical sandbox game set in both the Holy Land during the Third Crusade and Renaissance Italy. You know the gameplay is about killing guards, leaping from buildings, and doing quests in an open world environment. You're wondering if *Revelations* is even worth playing.

The answer to that question depends on what you're looking for in an *Assassin's Creed* game. If you play the games for the story, then *Revelations* will leave you satisfied for the most part.

Revelations' multi-layered narrative mostly focuses once again on Ezio Auditore, embarking on a



A screenshot of the game. Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia Commons

journey to 16th century Constantinople to search for the keys to open his predecessor Altaïr's secret library. His quest for knowledge gets him caught up in the Ottoman Empire's political affairs, dealing with the ascension of the next sultan.

The narrative is dual layered, with much of the focus on Altaïr in the past and his story of keeping the Assassin order together after the death of its corrupt leader. Both stories are interesting, although Ezio's can feel a little needlessly long at times, and if you're playing to see the story continue then the resolution to the tales of two of gaming's greatest heroes will likely please you.

The story is a little weaker in Desmond's frame narrative. Despite what the title says, *Revelations* doesn't really reveal anything about his story. Those who played *Brotherhood* and are expecting an explanation to its shocking cliffhanger are likely to be disappointed.

So that's the story, if you're into the series for the gameplay it's a bit trickier to answer.

For better or for worse, *Revelations* is identical to *Brotherhood*, which in turn was identical to the second game. The only new mechanics *Revelations* brings to the table are a small tower defense mini-game that only happens one time throughout the whole game, and bomb crafting, which isn't very useful as Ezio already has plenty of weapon variety.

So yes, it's *Assassin's Creed II* again, whether or not that's a good or bad thing is up to you. Personally, I found *Revelations'* plot to be much better than *Brotherhood's* and the gameplay was still fun to me. I can totally understand why someone might say the series has gotten stale, but I would recommend fans to play it anyway. Basically, if you plan on playing this game, expect the same caliber of quality Ubisoft always brings, but not anything revolutionary.