

INTRO

- IT'S SATURDAY; DECEMBER 11TH; 2021
- EPISODE 0 - 6 - 9
- YOU ARE ABOUT TO GO DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE WITH JOE AND BRIAN
- I'M BRIAN
- WITH ME AS ALWAYS; IS MY GOOD FRIEND JOE ...

DRINKS

STORIES

JOE

[Tyson Automating Meat-Processing Plants, Reducing Labor Costs, Improving Efficiency](#)

Tyson Foods is planning on investing over \$1.3 billion over the next three years in new automation capabilities, according to an announcement on Thursday, as part of the company's efforts to improve savings and reduce labor costs.

Tyson, the largest American meat company by sales, said that it has invested around \$70 million this year and will invest more than \$500 million in 2022 as it automates many labor-intensive sections like deboning chicken products. This investment is equivalent to replacing 2,000 jobs, according to David Bray, group president of Tyson's poultry division.

Pandemic-related restrictions and employee shortages have left many meat processors unable to fulfill demand as the economy starts reopening and customers like restaurants and grocery chains demand a regular supply of protein.

"We are not servicing our customers to the degree that they expect us to," said Bray, to Reuters. Bray added that the company is looking at slaughtering 47 million birds a week in the near future from the 37 million in 2021, which is only 80 percent capacity utilization. "Demand is outpacing supply."

"Automation will help us increase volumes, improve reliability and reduce cost over the mid to long term," King said on the call. "We plan to use automation to reduce the number of hard-to-fill roles."

BRIAN

[Octopuses, crabs and lobsters to be recognised as sentient beings under UK law following LSE report findings](#)

Octopuses, crabs and lobsters will receive greater welfare protection in UK law following an LSE report which demonstrates that there is strong scientific evidence that these animals have the capacity to experience pain, distress or harm.

The UK government has today confirmed that the scope of the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill will be extended to all decapod crustaceans and cephalopod molluscs.

This move follows the findings of a government-commissioned independent review led by Dr Jonathan Birch. The review drew on over 300 existing scientific studies to evaluate evidence of sentience in cephalopods (including octopuses, squid and cuttlefish) and decapods (including crabs, lobsters and crayfish).

Dr Jonathan Birch, Associate Professor at LSE's Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science and Principal Investigator on the Foundations of Animal Sentience project, said:

"I'm pleased to see the government implementing a central recommendation of my team's report. After reviewing over 300 scientific studies, we concluded that cephalopod molluscs and decapod crustaceans should be regarded as sentient, and should therefore be included within the scope of animal welfare law.

"The amendment will also help remove a major inconsistency: octopuses and other cephalopods have been protected in science for years, but have not received any protection outside science until now. One way the UK can lead on animal welfare is by protecting these invertebrate animals that humans have often completely disregarded."

JOE

[Germany warns Russia will pay a price if it enters Ukraine](#)

PARIS -- Germany's foreign minister warned Russia on Thursday that it would pay a “high political and economic price” if it makes any militaristic moves against neighboring Ukraine.

Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock emphasized the need to coordinate a common European position when dealing with hostile neighbors such as Russia, which has amassed troops near the border with Ukraine.

“The territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine aren’t up for negotiation for us,” Baerbock said in Paris while making her first foreign trip, a day after taking office. She added that the highest priority must be to avoid a military escalation.

“Russia would pay a high political and economic price for a renewed breach of Ukraine’s statehood,” Baerbock told reporters during a joint news conference with French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian. “We can only find solutions down the diplomatic route, and we are both ready to become personally deeply engaged (on this matter).”

Russia insists it has no plans to invade Ukraine unless it is “provoked.”

Clip: Russia Ukraine 1.mp3

Clip: Russia Ukraine 2.mp3

Clip: Russia Ukraine 3.mp3

JOE

CEO fires 900 people on Zoom call

Clip: CEO fires 900 people on Zoom call.mp3

MID-SHOW BREAK

BRIAN

[META WANTS YOUR NUDE PHOTOS SO THEY WON'T SPREAD ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM. YES, REALLY](#)

Preventing revenge porn by sending your nude photos to someone else is probably not the way most of us would handle the issue, right? Well, Meta has come up with a “brilliant” idea to prevent your nude content from spreading across Facebook and Instagram. The company has launched a tool that lets you submit your explicit photos to a hashing database so that they can be recognized and removed from the platforms in the future. Needless to say, this has raised some concerns in the community.

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This will require you to submit photos or videos that show you nude or semi-nude, engaged in a sexual act, and so on. Naturally, the public hasn't accepted this very well, considering that Meta is involved. We all know that it's not exactly a synonym for privacy protection.

Still, the company claims that you have nothing to worry about. Once you submit your case, you'll be asked to select the circumstances under which the content was filmed or photographed. Then you'll get to upload it – but it will never leave your computer. It will only be used to generate a “digital fingerprint” that assigns a unique hash value to your image or video. Then, all the tech companies involved in StopNCII.org will receive the hash and they can use it to detect if someone has shared or is trying to share your private content on their platforms.

BRIAN

[UPenn transgender swimmer speaks out... Female teammates break their silence...](#)

- *Dude broke the women's record by 38 seconds.*
- While University of Pennsylvania transgender swimmer Thomas, who spent three years at the Ivy League school swimming as a male, has been busy smashing female pool records, friction has been building within the team.
- For that reason, OutKick is granting teammates anonymity to speak out.
- Thomas' latest round of swimming record destruction came at a three-day meet in Akron, Ohio where numerous pool, meet and program records weren't just destroyed but lowered to a point where they may never be broken. Friday, the Ivy League 500 freestyle record was broken. Saturday, Thomas set the nation's best time in the 200 freestyle, which also destroyed pool, meet, and Penn program records.
- In the 1650 freestyle final, Thomas didn't just win and set new program, pool, and meet records. It was total annihilation. Penn's Anna Kalandadze finished in second place — 38 seconds behind Thomas.
- "Pretty much everyone individually has spoken to our coaches about not liking this. Our coach Mike Schnur just really likes winning. He's like most coaches. I think secretly everyone just knows it's the wrong thing to do. When the whole team is together, we have to be like, 'Oh my gosh, go Lia, that's great, you're amazing.' It's very fake."
- "On paper, if Lia Thomas gets back down to Will Thomas' best times, those numbers are female world records. Faster than all the times Katie Ledecky went in college. Faster than any other Olympian you can think of. His times in three events are female world records."
- The second female Penn swimmer to speak out, who was granted anonymity due to what is viewed as threats from the university, wants people to know that Penn swimmers are "angry" over the lack of fairness in the sport as Lia Thomas destroys the record books and brings fellow teammates to tears.
- "They feel so discouraged because no matter how much work they put in it, they're going to lose. Usually, they can get behind the blocks and know they out-trained all their competitors and they're going to win and give it all they've got," the source said. "Now they're having to go behind the blocks knowing no matter what, they do not have the chance to win. I think that it's really getting to everyone."
- "Usually everyone claps, everyone is yelling and cheering when someone wins a race. Lia touched the wall and it was just silent in there," OutKick's source said during a phone interview.

- “When Penn swimmer Anna Kalandadze finished second, the crowd erupted in applause.”

Clip: Lia Thomas Interview.mp3

JOE

[Jussie Smollett guilty verdict latest in polarizing case](#)

CHICAGO (AP) — Jussie Smollett’s conviction Thursday for lying to police about a racist, homophobic attack came nearly three years after his report of a horrifying hate crime quickly became part of a polarized political landscape, with people — including the president of the United States — weighing in from all over.

A prosecutor said the verdict was “a resounding message by the jury that Mr. Smollett did exactly what we said he did” — recruit two brothers to fake an attack so it could be recorded by a surveillance camera and posted on social media for publicity.

The brothers testified that the former “Empire” actor paid them \$3,500 for the hoax and gave them lines to yell, including about “MAGA country,” an apparent reference to then-President Donald Trump’s “Make America Great Again” slogan.

The report made headlines around the world and prompted a massive manhunt in Chicago, with roughly two dozen police joining the investigation. It also drew criticism from Trump, who called the police department’s handling of the case “an absolute embarrassment to our country.”

“Not only did Mr. Smollett lie to the police and wreak havoc here in the city for weeks on end for no reason whatsoever, but then he compounded the problem by lying under oath to a jury,” special prosecutor Dan Webb said after Thursday’s verdict.

Smollett, who is Black and gay, maintained throughout the nearly three-year legal battle that he was attacked in downtown Chicago in January 2019 by people who yelled racist and anti-gay slurs and put a noose around his neck.

His attorney declared Smollett’s innocence again Thursday after the jury found him guilty on five of six counts of disorderly conduct for lying to police. Nenyé Uche said Smollett would appeal the conviction, and is “100% confident” his name will be cleared by an appellate court.

“Unfortunately we were facing an uphill battle where Jussie was already tried and convicted in the media and then we had to somehow get the jury to forget or unsee all the news stories that they had been hearing that were negative for the last three years,” Uche told reporters after the verdict.

The jury convicted the 39-year-old on five counts of disorderly conduct — for each separate time he was charged with lying to police in the days after the alleged attack. He was acquitted on a sixth count, of lying to a detective in mid-February, weeks after Smollett said he was attacked.

SHENANIGANS & SKULDUGGERY

[Bomb squad rushes to hospital after WWII-era shell found in man's rectum](#)

An army bomb squad rushed to a English hospital after a man was admitted with a WWII-era munition shell stuck in his rectum, according to local police.

The Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal team rushed to Gloucestershire Royal Hospital following “a report that a patient had with a munition in his rectum,” police told The Sun on Thursday.

“The item had been removed prior to police arrival and the Army’s Explosive Ordnance Disposal team were contacted,” said authorities, who confirmed that the round was not live.

The incident was confirmed to the outlet by the UK’s Ministry of Defense.

Sources told The Sun that the man said he had “slipped and fell” on the 2.2-inch shell, typically fired from WWII anti-tank artillery guns. The round was reportedly from his own personal collection of military memorabilia.

A hospital spokesman told the paper “As with any incident involving munitions, the relevant safety protocols were followed to ensure there was no risk to patients, staff or visitors at any time.”

He is expected to make a full recovery, The Sun reported.

OUTRO

WELL THAT BRINGS US TO THE END OF TONIGHT'S SHOW.

JOE; DO YOU HAVE ANY [BIG|FUN|ETC.] PLANS FOR THE WEEKEND?

[BRIEF BANTER]

JOIN US HERE NEXT WEEK WHERE WE WILL CONTINUE OUR NEVER-ENDING QUEST TO SOLVE THE WORLDS PROBLEMS ... ONE DRINK AT A TIME.

TAKE CARE!