

Space is vast. It may be brimming with life or it may be desolate, dangerous, and lonely. We may never know but, as Carl Sagan once said, "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence." Evidence suggests that life would be difficult due to many dangerous objects in space. Despite this evidence, there is a huge argument over the possibility of extraterrestrial life in the universe. But we may resolve this argument soon, because scientists are researching new technology to find these hidden E.T.s.

Space is full of dangerous objects. Black holes are incredibly dense objects. They are formed when a large star explodes. If you were able to survive the crush of a black hole, you would start to experience time slowing down. The area in which this happens is called an "event horizon." But if you couldn't survive, you would die an incredibly painful and gruesome death.

There is an everlasting argument because of this question "Are we alone in the universe?" Less than half of the United States' population says yes. According to the Drake Equation we have galactic company. But two ways to think about this are (a) The universe is so vast, there are definitely other life forms out there, or (b) life is a mistake.

Scientists use different tools to search for extraterrestrial life. One tool is the radio telescope. It can receive and transmit messages. When you watch T.V., some of the signals

go off into space. You can send messages with  
your T.V.

I know. Space is a mind boggling thing.  
And those are just the basics. But we need to  
be prepared. For if a war-like race comes,  
we must fight back, not stare in disbelief as  
they destroy everything.

## THE FUTURE OF GOVERNMENT

The Empire. Throughout history the Empire has overwhelmed its opponents. At times of great threats, and devastating civil disorder there has been the Empire. In Rome 450 years of rule under a Republic it turned to the Empire. In Greece the Athenians who prided themselves on their democracy turned to the Empire. Even through much of the 1900's the Empires were nations of power.

Three great threats to modern Democracy came from the Empires of Japan, Russia, and Germany. In the 1000 year period known as the Middle Ages the most powerful nations were Empires like the Holy Roman Empire, England, and Spain.

Even in the legendary age of rebirth, the Renaissance the nations that spanned the world were the colonial Empires of Spain, Portugal, France, and England.

Throughout history the key to expansion has always been, and will continue to be, the Empire, and to survive, one

must expand.

Does this mean that democracy cannot survive, could the unthinkable happen, and turn the bastions of liberty into an Empire? Throughout history many civilizations have proclaimed Democracy or Republic. In almost everyone of these states they became an Empire.

I draw one conclusion from this analysis:  
The Empire will come again.

# America's Pastime

By: Carson

Baseball has been around a long time. Baseball is a part of America's heritage, for many of us America's pastime. According to MLB.com "baseball was a development from an older game that was made popular in Great Britain and Ireland." It became a popular sport during the American Civil War. "Baseball will always be America's favorite sport. Abner Doubleday created baseball, and some people think it is the best sport ever invented. There are many famous baseball players, such as: Jackie Robinson, Honus Wagner, and of course Babe Ruth. Like Ruth always said, "Baseball was, is and always will be to me the best game in the world." (The Babe Ruth story written by George Callahan.)

## How To Play The Game

Baseball is a similar sport to Basketball, Rugby, and Soccer. They may seem different, and not related. They all have things in common to make up the sport. They involve running, strength, endurance, and most important team work. Baseball is a 9 on 9 sport. There are three outfielders a Right Fielder, a Center Fielder, and a Left Fielder. Six people make up the infield a Pitcher, Catcher, First Baseman, Second Baseman, a Shortstop, and a Third Baseman. A batter steps

up to the plate. The pitcher has to throw the ball in the strike zone. According to strike zone MLB "the strike zone is from midpoint, meaning chest to beneath the kneecap. If the pitcher throws the ball in the strike zone and the batter swings it is a strike. You get three strikes before your out. If the pitcher throws and the ball is not in the strike zone, it is a ball. You get four balls you advance to first base. If there is a player already on first the player advances to second. If the pitcher throws the ball outside of the strike zone but the batter swings, it counts as a strike. However if the batter hits the ball he has to get to first base without the ball getting there before him. However, if the batter runs to second they have to get the ball and tag him. It is like this for every base except first. If the batter hits the ball and the infield or outfield catch it, it is considered an out. The object of the game is to get the runner to home plate, by getting hits and driving the runner in to score. The infielders and outfielders make it harder to score. Whoever has the most runs by the end of 9 innings wins. There are four bases in order for a player to score he must touch all four bases.

## Equipment

The Equipment plays a big role in the game of baseball. Without equipment there could be a lot of injuries. You need a helmet, a bat, cleats, mouth guards, and a jersey. These things are small, but play a big role in the game. According to Baseball safety tips "some pitchers at high school level throw fastballs that reach up to 80 mph." "Most injuries occur from wild pitching to running in the wrong way." These things can hurt players careers. In the MLB pitchers can pitch 90 mph and above. If it hits you in the head who knows what could happen.

## Conclusion

Baseball is a great sport, some say the best ever invented. People live to play the game. Baseball is a lot of things but it is certainly America's pastime.