The Final Big Class Discussion
on whether advanced robotics will end life as we know it, oh my!

We will use a talking ball. To talk, you raise your hand, and whoever has the ball, when they are done talking, will throw you the ball. Or maybe just toss the ball; make sure the other person can catch the ball, OK?

This is not a debate, but a discussion. There are no teams, and no winners or losers. There's just sharing, listening, thinking, evaluating, possibly changing your mind, or at least shifting how you understand something.
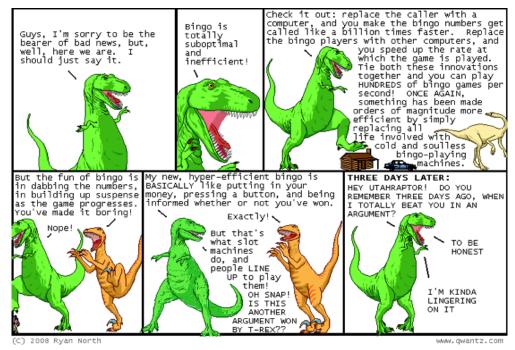
On grading

At the very **minimum**, you must make this many comments to receive the following grades (to receive a point, the comments must be true, relevant, and they must contribute to the discussion): 8 (A), 7 (A-), 6 (B+), 5 (B), 4 (B-), 3 (C+), 2 (C), 1 (C-).

The Questions

(1) What is strong AI? What are the main obstacles to creating strong AI?

(2) Should we be worried about the development of ASI?

(3) Why a defecating duck?

(4) Should we encourage the development and use of social robots for taking care of the sick and elderly?

(5) Can machines ever become conscious? Why or why not?

(6) But why a duck?

(7) What is the difference between a person and a human being? Is this difference important?

(8) To what extent, if any should autonomous machines be used in warfare and/or policing?

(9) To what extent, if any, should we arm the ducks?

Come prepared to discuss!