



March 12th - March 19th



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PICTURE OF THE WEEK: Robot Legs Walk for You

If you're running a mile, aching legs and an annoying stitch in your side might thwart your steps. You may wonder when the torture will end. When? The answer can be found in Berkeley, California where new robotic legs have been developed.

BLEEX, Berkeley Lower Extremities Exoskeleton, makes walking or running amazingly easy, even with a heavy burden. Imagine being able to walk around carrying 170 pounds and not even feel it! This exoskeleton can revolutionize rescues and the military. Firefighters and disaster crews would be able to carry heavy loads, like a human, for long distances without feeling tired.

An exoskeleton is a skeleton that is on the outside of the body. Human skeletons are inside the body, but some animals, like lobsters and crabs, have exoskeletons--their shell. BLEEX is an extra exoskeleton for humans that is powered in a backpack and has leg braces that attach to boots. The leg braces are flexibly attached to the outside of the person's legs and have many sensors that adjust the weight, so it can respond quickly just like normal walking.

Next time you have to run that mile, remember that BLEEX would make it much easier.

--Written by [Katheryn Troyer](#)

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