

WHAT'S COMING IN 2010

Comics, Video Games, Toys
NEST, Animated, Wreckers and More!

IN THIS ISSUE

2 - BITS FROM A BOT

Silverbolt's Valentines Day Guide to True Love

3 - NEWS BLURRS

2010: What's Ahead? The UK's seen it!

4 - REFLECTOR'S PHOTO ALBUM

EVERYONE has a Bludgeon but me.

5 - SLOG'S GALLERY

A selection of Customs, some most unusual!

6 - KUPS WARSTORIES

Your cellphone is ringing...

7 - MORE THAN MEETS THE ALLSPARK

Heinrad introduces Pretender Weremole!

8 - SHORTROUNDS TOY REVIEW

Phillister's Showing Off Long Haul!

9 - LIVE FROM POLYHEX

Vector Prime arrives from the future to tell us about 2010!

10 - INTERCEPTED TRANSMISSIONS

Three Minicons, V is for Megatron, and stickers for Ravage!

Welcome to the Insider!

Man did you see that War for Cybertron trailer? That was frikken sweet! I've always wanted to see big ol' epic TF fights like that. Ok, Bay, your turn. TOP IT! And did you hear? Animated Arcee is on shelves! FINALLY! Toys R' Us here I come! And holy cow, look at that Power Core Combiner! Rumor has it they can all combine into bigger figures... woah! Starscream's becoming Alternity, and darn it looks good! And did you read Last Stand of the Wreckers? NO? Well then get up and go read it! Yes you! RIGHT NOW!

Every time it looks like Transformers is getting a little dull, something new comes out for me to get excited about again. If you are feeling some in-between-toy blues, well hold on. Big things are in the works! Enjoy this issue of the Insider!

-Master Fwiffo, Editor



Bits From a Bot

By Silverbolt

How to Win Her Heart

People often ask me how I was able to find such true love in the most unlikely of places. For, as you can guess, a Maximal wooing a former Predacon is no easy task! But with perseverance, dedication, and most importantly, chivalry. In these chaotic days, with Minicons and Michael Bay and Power Core Combiners, chivalry has been called a dying art. And indeed, the practice has been on the decline. But this is no reason to abandon the most sacred art of wooing! If anything, this should lead to a revival of art, as when a woman is finally given the respect she, and all femmebots, deserve, her heart will all but be yours. But this is only the beginning of your adventure, of the incredible wondrous journey that is true love. Together, you and your beloved will set out to experience the world, as you never have before, a shining knight and his fair maiden, out to right the wrongs of the world and conquer the entire world with endless power of true love. As you set out on your journey together, perhaps a song would be an appropriate place to start. Perhaps some romantic disney melodies, or some Beatles songs, but it must express...

ALLSPARK STAFF AND CONTRIBUTORS

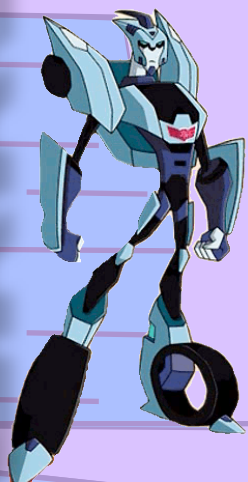
Kalidor • Bainreese • Wheelimus • Cheetimus Primal • Nightviper
Mouth04 • Lonegamer • Ursa Magnus • Mr. Blud • Devcon
Galenraff • Master Fwiffo • ChessPieceFace • Stormrave
Powered Convoy • Dr. Fang • Might Gaine • Daytonus
Guest Contributors: Phillister, Silverbolt, Vector Prime
And all the members of the Allspark!

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TOP NEWS



•Whats Ahead for 2010?

Toyfair UK shows of Seaspray and Power Core Combiners, and more!

•How Awesome is Last Stand of the Wreckers?

•WAR FOR CYBERTRON: The Trailer. Your Mind Will be Blown.



Blink And You Might Miss It

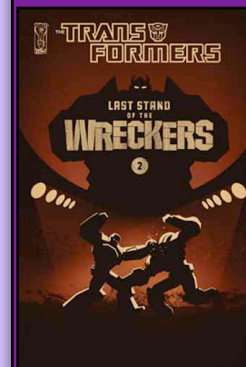
- **Michael Bay:** Scoping Japan, Ruining Childhoods, Scouting for TF3, and Supporting Haiti! **Please Donate!**
- **Cyber Missions:** Bludgeon Vs Ironhide!
- Whats coming in Nefarious?
- The Sound of Revenge
- Dion comes with Cop-Tur!
- Optimus Sides with Conan!
- Hasbro TV Named: The Hub is coming!



IDW Comic Releases January 2010



Last Stand of the Wreckers #2
Bumblebee #3
Transformers #4
Transformers: Movie Collection Volume 1



TOYWATCH

NEW IN SIGHTINGS



Animated TRU Exclusive Arcee and Ratchet
ROTF Scout Wave 5: Sonar, Wideload, Breakdown
ROTF Human Alliance Wave 4: Barricade
ROTF Walmart Legends Class Combiner
ROTF Walmart Scout 2-Packs: Windy City Chase, Road Rival Showdown
ROTF NEST Battlepack: Soundwave vs Bumblebee

The Japan Corner - Takara News

TAKARA TOMY



- A smorgasbord of Newness! Alternity Starscream and Skywarp, Disney Label Buzz Lightyear, Device Label Cheetor and Blaster not Canceled!
- What Could Have Been: A look at 'Heroes'
- Animated Japan: Shiny Toys, Web Pages, Legos
- Unite For the Universe: Jetpower Prime!
- Dark Skyfire wants your soul!

Speeding To A Toystore Near You

- War For Cybertron Optimus Prime and Megatron!
- New Power Core Combiner!
- Bumblebee Blitz: 'Leader' Cyber Ops and War for Cybertron Toy!
- 'Constructicon Warrior' Long Haul Repaint
- In Package NEST Alliance Figures
- Is the US getting Device Label?



PHOTO BLOG



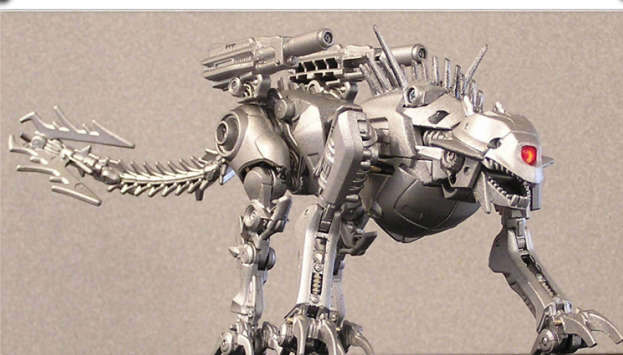
FOOL! TO A MASTER OF METALLIKATO, YOUR SHALLOW SWORDPLAY IS ALL FLASH AND NO SUBSTANCE!

GHRPK--!

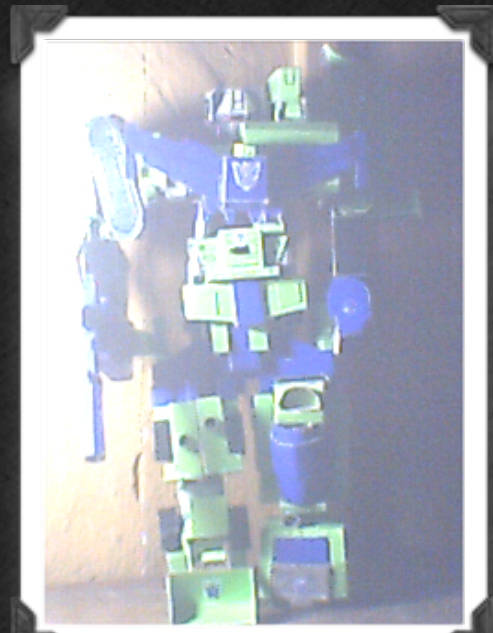
REFLECTOR WANTS YOU!
Take pics of your toys and post them in
[THE NEW Transformers Pictures Thread!](#)



Today, unusual and unique toys we have!
By paper, Tin, and other toys, combined
and mixed to create new things, things
you might not expect! See them and
marvel, at what creative hands have
wrought! Visit lacon to see more, and links
in the titles lead to more images! See and
appreciate!



Gunmetal Ravage
By Pun 3-X



Papercraft Devastator
By Optimus Convoy



Comic Movie Bludgeon
By Jim Sautome



Tin Optimus Prime
By Dangerous



Dreamwave Movie Fallen
By Frenzy Rumble

Now listen up you shine-flicking youngsters, 'cause my stories might do you some good. I've been collecting them, and only the best get added to my collection. The Tales of the Intermezzo are short stories that expand the Universe. Dvandom has a story here that send chills up your spine... - And it's not what you would expect!

"I remember when, I remember I remember when I lost my mind..." the cellphone sang, somewhat tinnily, breaking through the rustling sound of the maple leaves that were starting to fall.

"Yo, Ellie here," the phone's owner said as she thumbed "talk". It was about time to change the ringtone...Gnarls Barkley was getting played to death lately.

For a moment there was nothing, and Ellie was about to write it off as butt dialing, but then there was a faint, "...hello?"

"Yes? Who...wait..." she trailed off. The voice sounded familiar. Impossibly familiar. The dead place where she'd buried her hopes sparked to life. She stopped walking.

"...El...?" the faint voice asked, and she pressed the phone against her hear to try to block out the suddenly way-too-loud sounds of Maine in the autumn.

"Bri? Is that you?" she asked desperately, but all she heard was the distinct change in background hiss that indicated the connection had dropped.

"Ellie, I know you want to believe he survived the crash," Maggie shook her head, "but they

found his DNA in what little the fire didn't get. Brian's been dead for almost two years now, you need to move on!"

"Yeah, yeah..." Ellie sighed, staring at her phone as if her will alone could make it ring again. November 4, 2004...the worst day of her life. It had been raining, Brian was driving at night, his car went through a guiderail and down a steep hill, hitting the propane storage tank of someone's vacation cabin. Whole place burned down despite the rain. Not even enough left to bury, an empty casket at a funeral that took place at the church where they'd planned to get married once Brian finished his degree.

"I remember wh...."

Ellie fumbled the phone open. "Brian?"

"...no," a woman's voice replied. "Is this a bad time?"

"Er, no, ma. It's just been a weird day."

"You've got to change that ringtone!" Maggie whispered, and Ellie rolled her eyes.

"If I lay here, if I just lay here, would you lie with me and just forg..."

Ellie finished digging the phone out of her too-tight pants pocket and opened it. "Ellie here."

"El...they...did...me..." Brian's voice rasped, the words disjointed.

"Who? Did what? Who is this?" Ellie demanded, her voice rising until she was practically screaming at the phone, heedless of the stares she was drawing from the other people in the coffee shop.

She glared at the phone, the caller ID was 000-000-0000, which was her phone's way of saying it couldn't figure out the ID. While she glared at it, the caller hung up.

"El, I'm not supposed to do this without a warrant," Rod protested. "And right now, it's just a few prank calls. Really TASTELESS prank calls, but the ones you copied to voice mail didn't sound threatening. Just... creepy."

"Rod, Brian was your friend. Hell, he told me you were his first pick for Best Man. If this is a prank, you owe it to his memory to find out who's doing this and stop it. But if..." she paused, a lump suddenly blocking the words from coming out.

"But if it's really him, we really need to find him," Rod nodded. "El, I pushed every contact I have in the FBI...which ain't much, I'll admit...to see if there was any way that wasn't him. For a while I even thought he'd been stuck in witness protection for some reason, but I'm pretty sure the reason I never found anything was that there wasn't anything to find. Car accidents happen. Sometimes they're as spectacular as you see in the movies, but Brian didn't have a stunt double."

Ellie put a hand on Rod's shoulder. "I know, I know...I'm sorry I have to rip open all your emotional scars too, but even if this is just some sick bastard playing games with me, we need to find out where the calls are coming from. And you have the tools for the job, even if it's bending the rules a little."

Rod snorted. "More than a little. This isn't 'go to jail' level, but it could still cost me...ah, hell. Okay. I'll set it up. Just promise me you won't trigger the trace on anyone BUT our mystery caller, okay?"

"Promise."

HEY! The Story Ain't Over! Read the shocking conclusion [HERE!](#)

SUB GROUP: **PRETENDER**PRETENDER
SHELL**BIO**

Before the Great War, the Autobot known as Weremole was not well-known as a builder: he was leagues behind Grapple for ingenuity, and the Constructicons had surpassed him by parses in terms of volume, but he enjoyed his job. To create and construct: those were his passions. Unfortunately for him, his passions and his orders didn't always coincide. Relegated to the dregs of duty -- waste extraction pump maintenance and salvage -- once the Cybertronian Civil War began, Weremole found his true calling: rescue work. Using his electrum-plated, energon-fueled drill, he found that he could pierce almost any surface, including the neutronium lined bunker walls of Decepticon stockades! The Autobot command structure realized he was more than just a build-bot, and sent him away to the heavens beyond. However, his self-confidence proved to be his undoing, and he sat and languished, with nothing inspiring him to greatness. For centuries, he toiled, unaware of even his own capabilities, your average, do-nothing Autobot drone. But then chance would provide him a new use for his drill! His squadron captured the Decepticon Swindle, and as Weremole eavesdropped on an interrogation session (the only thing he could do to keep his malaise from overwhelming him), he learned of the existence of what Swindle called "Pretender" technology. He had to have it. Some new force began to drive him, and he purchased a map to the technology's location, for the price of ten thousand Cybertron credit chits: Weremole's entire life savings and an advance on his next hundred paychecks. Wasting no time, Weremole struck out for the planet Gurgann V and claimed the Pretender -- an odd-looking anthropoid mammal construct that was apparently meant to serve as some sort of armor. But the suit didn't work as expected: a prototype, the Pretender armor caused more problems for Weremole than it solved: hoping the suit would provide him some advancement among the Autobots, all he could manage were bizarre fits of compulsive digging. Fortunately for Weremole, as he dug, his tunnels made their way beneath the enemy, collapsing the very ground beneath them. His commanders were pleased by his unintended strategy. Weremole, always the misfit at the back of the crowd, was now at the forefront, much to his own consternation.

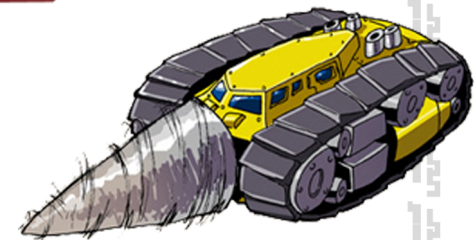
WEAPONS/ABILITIES

His electrum-plated drill can bore through almost any material, allowing Weremole access to even the most strongly fortified of underground locations. In his Pretender form, Weremole's digging claws are neutronium-lined, making them extremely dense but surprisingly lightweight melee weapons. Due to their usage, both the Pretender shell and Weremole's vehicle mode are heavily armored and not easily damaged.

WEAKNESSES

Weremole's greatest weakness is his lack of self-confidence. This, coupled with his gloomy position in life, has made him a reticent procrastinator, incapable of meeting deadlines. His vehicle form's resemblance to the Technobot Nosecone, and the subsequent confusion as to his identity, has also damaged his ego, causing him to withdraw even further. He is often sarcastic and gloomy. Due to its primary function as a subterranean construct, the Pretender shell's visual acuity is very dim, as the sensory formatting for it is better-suited to audio and vibrational reception.

"Weremole" created by Daniel Olsén.
Text by Daniel Olsén and Bill Heaston.
Art by Daniel Olsén.

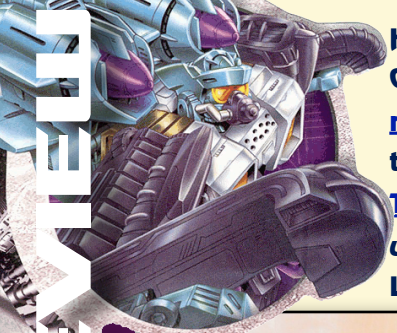
// **ALTERNATE MODE** //**Drill Vehicle**

WEREMOLE
"GO, ME!"

PRIMARY FUNCTION:
SUBTERRANEAN CONSTRUCTION



MORE THAN MEETS
THE ALLSPARK



Hey everybody, Shortround here!
Once again I'm searching the
[review forum](#) for awesome new
toys! Today Phillister from
[Transformers-Universe.Com](#) brings
as a comprehensive look at ROTF
Long Haul!



[Click Here For
 More Great
 Images!](#)

Robot Mode:
 The first thing Long Haul reminded me off in robot mode was the Incredible Hulk. He's big, green, bulky, and powerful-looking.

You wouldn't like him when he's angry, but since he's mostly bitter, that's okay. Anyway, Long Haul is a very cool-looking robot with lots of sculpted details. At first glance the amount of kibble he carries around with him might seem bothersome, but it's not really a big problem. The halves of the truck front wrapping around his upper thighs don't hinder his leg posability at all and the huge amount of kibble on his back isn't in the way, either, though it does tend to come loose now and then.

Speaking of posability, Long Haul is a bit of a mixed blessing here. The legs are fully posable and even feature double knee joints, so he can either walk in a humanoid fasion or, if you want, adopt the bird-legged stance typical for so many Movie-style Transformers. The arms are another matter, though. Oh, they're very posable as well, don't get me wrong (they even have working pistons as added detail), but because of the



design it can be awkward to move them in certain circumstances. Can't really explain it and it's not a big thing, but you will know what I mean when you try to pose your Long Haul's arms.

In terms of weapons Long Haul carries to flip-out swords that emerge from the big kibble on his forearms. The swords bear more than a passing resemblance to those of Optimus Prime, but they're clear plastic here. Long Haul has no dedicated ranged weapons, but it's easy to imagine the wheels on his shoulders to be cannons of some sort or for some of the sculpted details on his chest to be missile tubes, so no complaints about that.

All in all a very good, posable, and nicely sculpted robot mode. A great addition to the ranks of the Decepticons.

Alternate Mode:
 Long Haul transforms into a giant dump truck, the type usually seen only on big mining or excavation sites. It has a working truck bed and very nice detailing around the front of the vehicle, especially that safety railing. One thing I have to mention



here, though: The railign is made of very thin plastic and you almost inevitably pull on it during the transformation, resulting in stress marks. I have to remind myself to be careful here, otherwise I fear pieces of the railing will break off sooner rather than later. Not too much more I can write here. Long Haul's vehicle mode is solid, realistic-looking, and has no real flaws.

Remarks: Long Haul was among the Constructicons who dove into the ocean to recover the remains of



Megatron and brought the Decepticon leader back to life. Later in the Revenge of the Fallen movie he took part in the battle in Egypt. He did double duty, in fact, once as a part of Devastator (who was blasted apart by a human-built rail gun) and once on his own (to be blasted apart by an Air Force strike). So either way, he's probably dead. A Constructicon looking very much like Long Haul also appeared in IDWs Tales of the

Fallen comic books, where he aided the Fallen in his plan to destroy the other Primes. He died there, too, being taken out by Jetfire. No wonder Long Haul is so bitter.

It's become something of a trend for Transformers toy lines to have its best figures in the Deluxe-class, but ROTF has clearly turned that trend around and put the Voyager-class first, especially when it comes to Decepticons. Long Haul is yet another example of a first-rate Voyager-class figure in the ROTF line-up and I certainly do not regret buying him. His only downsides are the somewhat awkward posability of his arms and the fact that he can't combine with the other Constructicons into a truly supreme Devastator combiner robot. Apart from that, though, very nice. Fully recommended.

Rating: A-





A Look Into the Future: Vector Primes Preview of 2010

Grand Slam: Thank you for gracing us with your presence!

Vector Prime: You are welcome, oh tiny recording ones. I wish to thank you for this opportunity. I shall do my best to live up to your expectation.

Grand Slam: Very well. Being the master of time and space, can you tell us what awaits in 2010?

Vector Prime: I cannot tell you everything, as that would ruin the many surprises which 2010 holds. But I can impart some things!

Grand Slam: And please do!

Vector Prime: Where shall I start?

Grand Slam: How about Power Core Combiners?

Vector Prime: They will be cool.

Grand Slam: And?

Vector Prime: Very cool.

Grand Slam: O...k...

Vector Prime: Very Very Cool.

Grand Slam: All right, then discuss the War For Cybertron.

Vector Prime: It was a terrible event, full of death and destruction. Many good friends were lost in-

Grand Slam: I mean the game.

Vector Prime: Ah, yes! The game! It will be very cool.

Grand Slam: Really now?

Vector Prime: What?

Grand Slam: Ok, ok, the new Cartoon!

Vector Prime: Very cool!

Grand Slam: Universe 3.0?

Vector Prime: VERY COOL.

Grand Slam: I'm sensing a pattern. Can you tell us anything useful?

Vector Prime: Nope, sorry.

Grand Slam: WELL WHY NOT?

Vector Prime: I am afraid I am beholden to a power far greater than mine. Hasbro NDA.

Grand Slam: And that's all we have time for. Thanks a lot.

[Http://www.allspark.com](http://www.allspark.com) • Page 9



ACTIVE CHATTER

TOP THREADS

Repaints that will Never Happen

Animated Arcee as Override. Now.

Animated Arcee and Ratchet OUT?

You know you want them.

Would you want an Army Builder for Classics 3.0?

How many seekers does a guy need?

Just For Fun

The iPad Thread

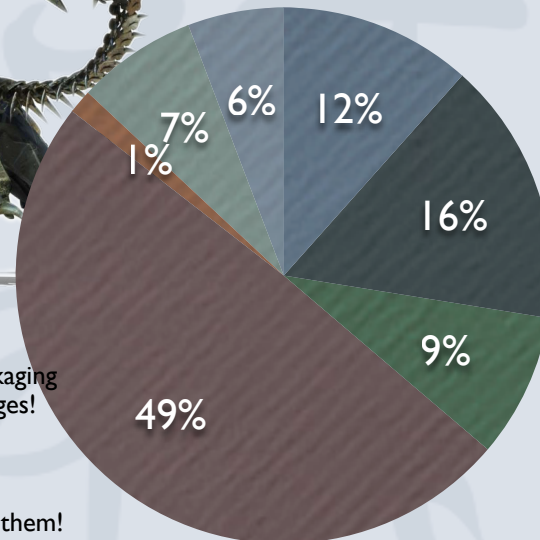
Love or Hate Apples New Toy?

The Non-TF Toy Picture Thread

You collect more than just Transformers, don't you?

Ravages HARD DATA

What will you do with your extra NEST stickers?



- Trash Bin Time!
- Leave with the Instructions and Packaging
- Buy Extra NEST sets for more Ravages!
- What Stickers?
- Going with my Sticker Collection
- Using them as decorations!
- My Autobots would look great with them!

Frenzy's Favorite Captions

From the Allspark Caption Contest



• "They don't look like Presbyterians to me." - Comrad Question

• Sadly, the rap group known as "The Notorious S.A.P" only lasted one recording session. A breakup fueled by jealousy and heroin soon followed, leaving Sky Blast in Debt, and Payload in rehab. Astroscope has not been seen since this picture was taken, and could not be reached for comment. But could a reunion be on the horizon?

Next, on Behind The Music. - Prime 2.0



• "PROMOTIONS!" - Cybersnark

• Megatron wins the all predacons RISK tournament. "Whooh! In your face Tarantulas!" - Sage of Lightning

• "Tarantulas & Waspinator: "..."

Megatron: "...I'm not actually wearing anything under here, am I?" -LBD Nyttetrayn