

## Is Skynet real?

It started like any other morning, only it wasn't. It was one of those very peculiar "high gravity" days, the ones where the facts aren't supported by real science, but you know, for sure, that there really are days when it's a lot tougher climbing than others. For everyone. Today was one of those days. Just four of us; myself, Kevin (pilot), Chris & Todd. The other Kevin (my son) couldn't ride because he had an appointment with a surgeon that required no food or water 12 hours prior, and it's not really a good idea to do a 30 mile ride without anything to drink (although, ironically, I don't think I drank anything on this morning's ride). Thankfully, this was the preferable "universal" high gravity day, not the sort that seeks out an individual target (which, unfortunately, I am victim of far too often).

But what a beautiful morning to ride. Again. A bit foggy at the start, but clear up on Skyline (again), and it seemed like we were literally chasing the receding fog ahead of us as we sped down the west side of 84 towards Old LaHonda.



Final shot of V1 Kevin, shortly before surgery. Version 2 is apparently of great concern to Fat Frog!



V2 Kevin, with scars showing where electronic implants have been installed. He is now one with the Borg.



Kevin just hours after his electronic implant, already connected to the 'net. Today's story is mostly about Kevin though (my son, not the pilot) who started out a normal 19 year old guy this morning, and ended up directly connected to Skynet. Or so it seems in the third photo above; this is a mere 4 hours after finishing surgery that implanted something called a Vagal Nerve Stimulator into his body & brain. He just couldn't wait to get connected to the hive, the collective master brain that is otherwise known as MMPG (massively multiplayer game). I had no idea it would happen so fast.

The hopeful side-effect of this hard-wiring to his brain will be a reduction, perhaps even an elimination of his epileptic seizures. This implant has been a long-time coming; he first had to fail 7 or 8 different meds that are normally effective, but in Kevin's case haven't completely controlled his seizures. We've got great hopes for this electronic gadget! --MIke--