With my parents being from England, various things prominent within British culture were exposed to me from an early age. From as early as I can remember I was watching soccer matches or “football” as my dad says. Due to my early exposure to soccer I grew incredibly fond of the sport and began playing at a very early age. Soccer is a team sport played all around the world where 11 players from two teams take the field which contains one ball and two goals. During the match the objective is to score more goals than your opponent to win the game. A goal is scored by legally putting the ball into the other team’s net. Soccer is the largest sport in the world with tournaments like the World Cup and the Champions League along with leagues all around the world getting an incredible number of viewers. As I have grown up I have continued to watch and play the sport as it provided a creative outlet that I believe I could not find in any other sport or hobby. I enjoy the style of this sport because you always must be ready for any situation that is thrown at you. There are so many different skills that can be used in different scenarios which makes no two games alike.

For the majority of soccer’s history the people in charge of deciding the rules of the game have tried to rule out the use of most forms of technology in order to keep the game from changing too much from when it was founded. However, within the past few years there has been an uproar within the community to help the referees of the game really detect when the ball has gone in the goal in close situations. Goal line technology is a system that was proposed to put multiple cameras around the field to track the position of the ball and a sensor in the ball to track where the ball was in relation to the goal. If the ball went past the line and into the goal, even just in to the millimeter, the referee would be alerted that it was a goal. With the game growing and the rewards for winning getting higher and higher it is essential that the results be as fair as possible. In an interview with the New York Times, Peter
Walton, a former professional soccer referee, he stated how in this incredibly competitive game “anything that will assist a referee in getting decisions correct has got to be looked at” (Das). The introduction of this technology was not easy as there was a large amount of dispute from different sides of the argument. The system would be expensive and might take away from the game. But after a refereeing mistake in the World Cup surrounding the controversy of goal line technology, the decision was made. As a result, this system has found a great deal of success. In a match between two British teams Bournemouth and Liverpool one example of its success was seen. In this match the ball appeared to be in however in replay it was seen to be kept out by just mere millimeters (Whaling). Multiple examples of this have been seen throughout the few years since its introduction. With the problems being limited to the cost of implementing the technology, the pros in this situation really outweigh the cons. As this system moves forward I believe is will positively affect the sport by creating a more trustworthy decision-making system. Another way this could affect the sport is by opening more technologies to be implemented into the game to further increase the accuracy of calls. Although this may take the game further away from its roots, I believe this will be a positive change as the games will be given as fairly as possible to the team who played better on the day as apposed to the team who got a lucky break.

Soccer has been one of my greatest hobbies and passions which I have had throughout my life. The game offers me an outlet for creativity and a place I can go to get away from other problems in my life. Throughout the years the increase in technology has not affected the sport too much, however, recently the introduction of goal line technology has changed the game in various ways. The referee doesn’t have to worry about making big decisions on whether the ball went in the goal or not. Instead, this technology allows for near perfect accuracy. This system could be a pioneer for many other technological advancements in soccer within the next few years.
My favorite show of all time is without a doubt Friends which I watched this past year and found to be incredible. This show is a sitcom from the 1990s which followed the lives of 6 best friends aged 20-30 who lived in the same apartment in Manhattan, New York. Ross, Chandler, Joey, Rachel, Monica, and Phoebe are an incredibly interesting group of people with diverse personalities and interests. In this specific episode Ross is reflecting on his past when he begins to recollect on his days of playing the electronic keyboard. When the others say they want to hear what he can play he runs into his room and pulls it out of its grave. When he plays he has a very interesting style which to everyone except Phoebe sucks. When he finishes the group gives him praise to be nice, however, he takes it a little too well and decides to play for the local coffee shop.

The piece of technology which I will be focusing on is this electronic keyboard which Ross was playing throughout this episode. This is no crazy piece of technology which will not be around for some years. Electronic keyboards have been around for many years and were even around during the filming of the show in the 1990s. These are not limited to people of power or great intellect as one of these will cost you about $100 or more in most music or electronic stores from my research. These keyboards are limited on how much they can really affect the world in a positive or negative way. Through the combination of notes one can create either beautiful or very bad music for others listening. I do not believe this keyboard was created with the goal of solving large scale problems, but it does work in a way that a lot of instruments work which is by providing a creative outlet for one to express themselves. I the show Ross found an incredible amount of happiness through going back to using the keyboard. As it is a piece of technology it is programable. Ross used various programs with different noises for the
keys to fully express himself creatively. This is the same for people in the real world who have this piece of technology. It is not only a way for people to make a living by utilizing it to improve their music skills, it is also a tool to express yourself. And other than the people who did not enjoy Ross’s music, I believe there are no real negative outcomes of this technology. In the show this technology is positive for Ross as it brings him back to his old days when he used to play. He uses this to gain confidence and go play at the coffee shop where he finds an incredible amount of joy. The negative side of this would be people who do not enjoy the music created by the technology. Outside of Ross and the show I could see this technology serving the same purposes of being a creative avenue where people can grow as musicians especially with the possibilities this technology provides. With these positive factors of the technology I believe there really is no argument on whether this is ethical. Although it could be of annoyance like in the show, this technology really has much more benefits than problems which it causes. As this technology has grown it has become more and more advanced. In the next 5 to 10 years this technology will continue to grow into more complex electronic keyboards. Currently many musicians use a type of electronic board which is far advanced from the one seen in Friends. This machine is completely touch screen and can detect finger pressure to make changes to the notes being pressed. As stated in a Wired article by Rene Chun that this keyboard is the “key to electronic music’s future” (Chun). I believe this technology will continue to grow and evolve to be an instrument which works seamlessly with music performers as it can be very customizable and easy to use.

As seen in the 1990s sitcom Friends, Ross’s fascination with an electronic keyboard gives him a creative outlet to gain confidence while annoying the other members of the friend group. This piece of technology has been around for some time and continues to evolve to maximize its efficiency and possibilities. This technology works as being incredibly customizable as seen by how Ross used it to
produce an incredible amount of different noises. The electronic keyboard is a great instrument in order
to express oneself and grow as a musician.
Work Cited

