Stem cell work in limbo awaiting court’s decision

By John A. Hawkinson

Many stem cell researchers have been left uncertain about their own future and the future of their field as they wait for a federal judge to decide whether to allow the NIH to fund human embryonic stem cell research, within and without of its walls.

A recent federal court injunction barred NIH labs from performing human embryonic stem cell research, and also stopped the NIH from funding grants that supported such research. The judge is currently considering an emergency stay which would temporarily allow the NIH to continue its research and to continue funding research.

The NIH has interpreted the court order to bar work with any human embryonic stem cell lines, but the plaintiffs in the case say they only meant to roll back the additional stem cell lines allowed by the Obama administration in 2009. Those plaintiffs, James L. Sherley and Theresa Deisher, said in a court filing Friday night that the Court’s ban does not apply to research approved under the Bush administration’s stem cell guidelines in 2001. The judge, Royce C. Lamberth, is expected to rule early this week on the emergency stay, quite possibly as early as today.

The case is Sherley v. Sebelius until last week, the judge said in a court filing Friday night that the Court’s ban does not apply to research approved under the Bush administration’s stem cell guidelines in 2001. The judge, Royce C. Lamberth, is expected to rule early this week on the emergency stay, quite possibly as early as today.

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Flows in Pakistan hold the seeds of upheaval

THETA SIAL, PAKISTAN — When the governor of Punjab province arrived recently in this small town with truckloads of relief goods for flood victims, his visit was as much a political signal as an act of public service. His message to those who had been displaced or so displaced people gathered under an awning was that the government was there for them.

There have been angry accusations from politicians and flood victims that officials have guided relief to their own party’s constituents. The authorities insist that thousands of the landlord’s parishes diverted floodwaters to protect their own farmland, or that they did nothing to prevent the floods.

Most political commentators say the president and his government are safe for the time being, if only because no one has proof that the military is responsible for the crisis. And the main opposition leader, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, does not appear ready to test his party in national elections.

— Carlotta Gall, The New York Times

For nine years after the attacks of Sept. 11, many American Muslims made concerted efforts to build re- lationships with non-Muslims, to make it clear they abhor terrorism, to educate people about Islam and to participate in interfaith service projects. They took satisfaction in the observations by many scholars that Muslims in America were more successful and assimilated than Muslims in Europe.

Now, many of those same Muslims say that all of those years of work are being rapidly undone by the fierce opposition to a Muslim cultural center near ground zero that has unleashed a torrent of anti- Muslim sentiments and a spate of vandalism. The knitting of a Muslim cab driver in New York City has also alarmed many American Muslims.

“We worry. Will we ever be completely accepted?” said Farahnkah, an Orthodox spine surgeon in Cin- cinnati and the father of two young girls. “In no other country could we have such freedoms — that’s why so many Muslims choose to make this country their own. But we do wonder whether it will get to the point where people don’t want Muslims here anymore.”

— Volkan Firtat, a founder and direc-
tor of Interfaith Youth Core, a Chi-
ica-based community service pro-
gram that tries to reduce religious conflict, said, “I am more scarred than I’ve ever been — more scarred than I was after Sept. 11.”

That was a refrain echoed by many American Muslims in inter-
views last week. They said they were scared not as much for their safety as to learn that the suspicion, igno-
rance and even hatred of Muslims is so widespread. This is not the tra-
jectory toward integration and ac-
ceptance that Muslims thought they were on.

Some American Muslims said they were especially on edge as the anniversary of 9/11 approaches. The attack on a small church in Florida has promised to be a gift of Quanis that day. Muslim leaders are telling their followers that the stunt has been wildly condemned by Christian and other religious groups and should be ignored. But some said you American Muslims were questioning how they could simply sit by and watch the promised desecration.

They like their situation to that of other scapegoats in American history: Irish Roman Catholics be-
fore the nativist riots in the 1880s, the Japanese before they were put in internment camps during World War II.

Muslims sit in their living rooms, again as pawns assert over and over that Islam is not a religion at all but a political cult, that Muslims cannot be good Americans and that mosques are fronts for extremists jihadis. To address what it calls a “growing tide of fear and intoler-
ance,” the Islamic Society of North America plans to convene a sum-
mit of Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders in Washington on Tuesday.

Young American Muslims who are trying to figure out their place and their goals in life are alike per-
haps, but people close to the Tea Party Tea Party enthusiasm with con-
cerns about Tea Party extremism.

— Kate Zernike, The New York Times

In Europe’s debt crisis, lending was still strong

Even as Europe’s sovereign debt crisis intensifies early this year, banks continued to lend up on debt from Greece and oth-
er countries with the most acute fiscal problems, according to a report released Sunday.

The report suggests that the European Central Bank inad-
vertently encouraged institutions to increase their risk as it tried to stabilize the banking system.

Banks increased the amount of credit they extended to gov-
ernments and the private sector in Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Spain by 4.3 percent, or $109 billion, in the first quarter of 2010 compared with the previous quarter, the quarterly report from the Financial Stability Board, which includes four of the African credit banks’ total exposure to those countries to $1.4 trillion, according to the board.

A group of at least six armed men, some of them rigged with explosives, attacked a rear gate at the base, the headquarters of Iraq’s 11th army di-
vision, which houses the command responsible for security in the part of the capital east of the Tigris River and a federal police brigade, as well as American advisers and the sol-
diers who protect them. None of the Americans were reported hurt.

The insurgents detonated a ve-
cile outside the base, killing the driver, while another suicide bomb-
ested a coordinated attack on one of the main military bases in Bag-
dad on Sunday, briefly drawing fire from American soldiers, an event that underscored the ambiguity of the American military role in Iraq after the declared end of its combat operations.

The attack punctuated a sharp rise in violence as the United States declared an official end to its combat mission last Wednes-
day.

At least 12 people were killed, at least four of them soldiers, officials said, and 36 others were wounded. None of the Americans were reported hurt. The Baghdad Operations Command said that all six insurgents had been killed.

A spokesman for the American military in Baghdad, Lt. Col. Eric Bloom, confirmed in a statement that American soldiers had joined the defense of the compound, pro-
viding “suppressive fire” while Iraqi Army troops counterattacked.

As has often been the case in at-
tacks, the American military also had helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles providing surveillance, and was “carrying out a fore-
nsic examination of the attack.”

The attack was a reminder — un-
necessary to Iraqis — that the shift in the American mission did not por-
terior. It also underscored the ambigu-
ous and still-dangerous position for Americans in their role as advisers to Iraqi beleaguered security forces, who face almost daily attacks from insurgents.

A civilian official who works in the command, which includes the division’s budget office, witnessed American troops inside briefly shooting at the two insurgents who had entered the building and began firing on Iraqi and American soldiers and commanders.

Baghdad attack highlights still dangerous role of U.S.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

By Steven Lee Myers

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ous and still-dangerous position for Americans in their role as advisers to Iraqi beleaguered security forces, who face almost daily attacks from insurgents.
The unexpectedly deep plunge in home sales this summer is likely to force the Obama administration to choose between stabilizing current homeowners and current owners, and a predication of shock therapy to shore up an endangered market.

Over the last 18 months, the administration has rolled out just about everything imaginable to avoid the need to pressure-steam the market by creating the elusive stability the housing sector needs to go back to.

Now that prices are lower, these experts argue, buyers will pour in, forcing the elusive stability the government has spent billions upon billions upon billions to achieve.

But if that housing needs to go back to “reason levels,” said Anthony B. Saunders, a professor of real estate finance at Georgia Mason University.

“If we try to stimulate the market, that’s the definition of insanity.”

And further, the market descends, however, the more miserable one group — both politically and economically — will be the tens of millions of home owners who have already seen their home values drop an average of 30 percent.

“Sure, those owners feel, the less likely they will indulge in the sort of consumer spending the economy needs to recover. If they see an identical house down the street the sort of consumer spending the economy needs to recover. If they see an identical house down the street, that’s the definition of insanity.”

In denying Soares’ motion to dismiss the suit, the judge, Gregory A. Presnell, used biting language to criticize Soares, saying he had made a name for himself around the state by investigating top New 

employment and drug operations, and in 2005, he was appointed to the Florida attorney general.

Coulson, who was appointed editor of The News of the World in 2003, of The News of the World in 2003, is the former Home News editor, Clive Goodman, and an assistant chief of the Associated Press.

In 2006, prosecutors had on Signature Pharmacy in Orlando, Fla., which prosecutors had

Coulson, who was appointed editor of The News of the World in 2003, said that he had no knowledge of the housing backlog and that it was an isolated incident.

The Guardian news of the World said Thursday that a series of phone messages between the two men were not seen.

**The New York Times**

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While Karachi slowly burns

U.S. foreign policy must work around Pakistan rather than it

By Keith Yost

In the game of geopolitics, Pakistan was dealt a terrible hand. It began its existence situated next to an aggressive and mortal enemy who, both in population as well as sheer size, outnumbered it by multiples in the hundreds. Time has done nothing to improve this situation. Civil war, secession, and economic mismanagement on the Pakistani side have left India with an advantage in men and materiel of nearly seven to one. The addition of nuclear weapons to the submarine-only have continued to raise the stakes.

In this context, the United States and Pakistan should be natural geopolitical allies. In an unequal confrontation between rival states, the weaker side typically has two options: use for peace or find a strong ally to counterbalance the disparity. Pakistan’s opportunities for partnership are limited — China, despite its sometimes tense relationship with India, has little to gain in the long term from a partnership with Pakistan. Similarly, Russia has demurred as a partner, with Vladimir Putin going so far as to publicly state Russia’s preference for India over Pakistan. Nearby Muslim states are either unwilling or unable to offer support — Saudi Arabia largely follows the U.S. lead on relations with Pakistan, and Iran, too troubled a country to provide meaningful assistance anyway, doesn’t appear ready to add India to its long list of enemies.

The United States is more than just the last unpaired girl at the dance — in many ways, especially where the War Formerly Known as the War on Terror is concerned. Pakistan is uniquely positioned to aid U.S. interests. It is hard to imagine a stable Afghanistan without significant effort from Pakistan, and we rely upon their implicit support to conduct military operations against Al Qaeda. Much as it was during the Cold War, a U.S.-Pakistan strategic partnership is rich with opportunities for mutual gain.

Unfortunately, today’s partnership between Pakistan and the U.S. is weak and ambivalent. Neither we nor the Pakistanis have been willing to invest the substantial human and financial resources necessary to forge an enduring relationship. Pakistan, unfortunately, views us as a potentially dangerous partner, too willing to embrace us, and too able, our would-be partners are toostrategic myopic to embrace us, and too able, our would-be partners are toostrategic myopic to embrace us, and too able, our would-be partners are toostrategic myopic to embrace us, and too able, our would-be partners are toostrategic myopic to embrace us, and too able, our would-be partners are too

KEITH IN BRIEF

Sixteen hundred dead

A full fifth of the nation submerges

The human toll in flood-stricken

Pakistan demands that we, as our brother’s keeper, send aid to those

But even as we send relief, the flood offers us an opportunity to reflect

and ask the question — is there a future in our troubled relationship?

Or is it time to find a different regional ally in the war on
terror?

CONFEKTIONS

A correction that ran on September 3 correcting the date of the freshman registration deadline, had the correct day of week but the wrong date for the deadline. The deadline was Thursday Sept. 2 — not Thursday Sept. 3, as was printed in the correction. A front-page In Short item from Friday, Sept. 3 incorrectly stated that the Activities Mid-week was to occur from 4:30-6 p.m. The Mid-week was actually 4:30-6 p.m.

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairmen David M. Templeton, Editor in Chief Jeff Guo, Managing Editor David Weinstein, Associate Editors: Ingrid Santos, Susan Decker, Ben Fink, Emily Huang 13, Illustrators: Monique Gallegos 11, Robin L. Dahan 12.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, and addresses, but unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech’s Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

Letters, columns, and cartoons articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community.

State of Emergency

Weather machine underpowered, Earl not worth the fuss.

CITGO Sign Improvements

New LEDs approved by Boston Police

EC Daily Confusion

2009: Admins and students complain to Tech. 2010: Students complain to Tech. Progress!

FALL

Agreement not signed, again. Dorms and fraternities still aren’t BFF.

Harvard Dating Site

“Committed to matching discerning women with the highest quality Harvard educated men.” Aren’t you glad you chose MIT?

Rush/REX

While Karachi slowly burns

U.S. foreign policy must work around Pakistan rather than it

By Joseph Maurer

and Ethan Solomon

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Pakistan, from Page 4

The tech giant said it had made the decision after a meeting in which Google representatives met with the authorities to discuss the implications of the ban.

The ban affects Google’s entire suite of products and services, including its search engine, Gmail, Google Maps, and YouTube, among others.

The ban comes just weeks after the government announced that it would start filtering internet content to prevent the spread of “anti-constitutional” content.

Google has not yet responded to the ban, and it is not clear whether it will comply with the order.

The ban is likely to have a significant impact on Pakistan’s internet users, many of whom rely on Google services for their daily activities.

Pakistan is already one of the world’s most restrictive internet environments, with the government frequently blocking access to websites and services it deems to be promoting political or ideological content.

The ban could further limit access to information and services, particularly for young people who are known to use the internet extensively for education and entertainment.

In addition to the ban, the government has also been accused of censoring content that is critical of the country’s leadership, and of using surveillance tools to monitor internet activity.

The move follows a series of crackdowns on social media platforms, including Twitter and Facebook, which the government has been using to limit the flow of information.

The ban has been met with widespread criticism from human rights groups and advocates for freedom of expression.

They argue that the ban is a violation of Pakistan’s constitution, which guarantees freedom of expression and the right to access information.

They are calling for the government to撤销 the ban and allow internet users to access the services they need.

The government has not yet explained the reasons behind the ban, and it is not clear whether it will lift the restrictions.

Pakistan’s internet users are likely to face further restrictions in the coming months, as the government continues to tighten its grip on the online world.

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Pakistan is already one of the world’s most restrictive internet environments, with the government frequently blocking access to websites and services it deems to be promoting political or ideological content.

The ban could further limit access to information and services, particularly for young people who are known to use the internet extensively for education and entertainment.

In addition to the ban, the government has also been accused of censoring content that is critical of the country’s leadership, and of using surveillance tools to monitor internet activity.

The move follows a series of crackdowns on social media platforms, including Twitter and Facebook, which the government has been using to limit the flow of information.

The ban has been met with widespread criticism from human rights groups and advocates for freedom of expression.

They argue that the ban is a violation of Pakistan’s constitution, which guarantees freedom of expression and the right to access information.

They are calling for the government to撤销 the ban and allow internet users to access the services they need.

The government has not yet explained the reasons behind the ban, and it is not clear whether it will lift the restrictions.

Pakistan’s internet users are likely to face further restrictions in the coming months, as the government continues to tighten its grip on the online world.

The ban comes just weeks after the government announced that it would start filtering internet content to prevent the spread of “anti-constitutional” content.

Google has not yet responded to the ban, and it is not clear whether it will comply with the order.

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Pakistan’s internet users are likely to face further restrictions in the coming months, as the government continues to tighten its grip on the online world.
A hands-on tutorial  How not to get tagged out at third base

By M.

Oh man, sometimes I wish I was back in high school. College is exciting and everything, don’t get me wrong, but there is something to be said for a blossoming sexuality and raging hormones.

But just as I begin to yearn for my pre-MIT years, I remember all the horrible finger-banging I experienced back then.

If your formative years were anything like mine, you’ve heard all about some girl getting the crap finger-banged out of her — with three fingers, no less. In typical high-schooler fashion, we all gossiped and slut-shamed her because, of course, letting a guy touch her between the legs makes her a slut. I wonder what my 14-year-old self would think of the present-day me...

Obviously, beneath all the judgment lay an itching curiosity. While I knew all about STDs and birth control, I could not wrap my mind around this fingers-in-the-cooter business. I mean, three fingers seemed like an awful lot — I could barely manage the moment when I first stepped onto the field. The ups and downs of Orientation

And so my veins had to be blasted twice at MIT Medical, strapped to an IV. An ear was the only sound that pierced the silence; there was no infection, there was no treatment events, collapse on the bed, and start whittling down everyone’s sleep to a broken spirit. All this anticipation had built up inside me and the experience was a total dud! Now that my theory of the Finger-Banging Gene had been disproven, I refused to let guys try it for years. But just as I begin to yearn for my pre-MIT years, I remember all the horrible finger-banging I experienced back then.

The next morning, I woke up with a sore cooch and a broken spirit.

Absolutely not work on the next one. If you feel that you’re not doing it right, ask for feedback. Most of the guys I’ve known admitted they would happily help a chap as long as he doesn’t cause any physical discomfort to their lady bits. So boys, trim and file those nails and get working.

By Natalia Velez-Aliaga

Years from now, I will still remember the moment when I first stepped into MIT. It was a cloudy Sunday, and the nearly-empty campus looked like a blank slate. Though I had traveled abroad, my mom still wanted to accompany me on those first minutes in college, albeit symbolically, and the digital echo of her voice was the only sound that pierced the silence.

The instructors are all just as driven as you are, and they are here to help you. Don’t be afraid to ask for help or to express your concerns. There is always someone available to listen and offer guidance.

The hours of fun that I sandwiched in the middle of the day were sacred; there was no looming appointment at Medical. Every day, I’d wake up at dawn, run to MIT Medical in my pajamas, get the IV, shower, change clothes, run to Orientation events, stuff myself with free food, introduce myself to fellow freshman, dash back to Medical, get the IV, eat, call home, go to more Orientation events, collapse on the bed, and start whittling down everyone’s sleep to a broken spirit. All this anticipation had built up inside me and the experience was a total dud! Now that my theory of the Finger-Banging Gene had been disproven, I refused to let guys try it for years. But just as I begin to yearn for my pre-MIT years, I remember all the horrible finger-banging I experienced back then.

The next morning, I woke up with a sore cooch and a broken spirit.

Anyway, one night I found the drummer boy and me at a party by the beach, and, as is the case with any party, there was heavy alcohol consumption. Which lead to me grabbing his hand and walking a few yards, where he went in for the kill. Now, I know this would be slightly uncomfortable, but holy fuck! This guy was ramming his fingers in my crotch like he lost his car keys in my uterus! Even in my drunken haze, I could feel the sharp pain of his fist hitting my pubic bone, and I guess my yelps sounded more like moans because he took them as encouragement and kept going. I pushed his hand away, got up, and ran back into the party to grab my friend and go home.

The next morning, I woke up with a sore cooch and a broken spirit. All this anticipation had built up inside me and the experience was a total dud! Now that my theory of the Finger-Banging Gene had been disproven, I refused to let guys try it for years. But just as I begin to yearn for my pre-MIT years, I remember all the horrible finger-banging I experienced back then.

I didn’t fit melancholy into such a physically and emotionally intense schedule. The hours of fun that I sandwiched in the middle of the day were sacred; there was no looming appointment at Medical. I lost myself in a colorful procession of finger painting, dance parties, introductions and, yes, enough free food to feed a small country.

As we tumble out of the comforting embrace of Orientation and into the bravado of real college life, those sensations will only get stronger, until they mix and clash and start whittling down everyone’s sleep schedule. Get ready, class of 2014, and enjoy every minute of it.

LEGAL COUNSEL
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write for campus life
join@tech.mit.edu

mit@listserv.mit.edu

FRESH PERSPECTIVES

Too busy to be ill

The ups and downs of Orientation
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo

Somewhere on the Search for Meaning… by Letitia Li

MiTWiT by Emily C. Ruppel

Sudoku
Solution, page 12

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Draw Comics for The Tech!
join+comics@tech.mit.edu
I Don't Want Directions

Looking forward to seeing your new place? What’s the address? I’m so glad I’m taking you but I have a GPS, so I really just need the street address.

Then your GPS is Onan, but I have a GPS, so you just want to skip to the street address, I can…

Thanks, this is a how to manual and read copies a rule after the big intersection, but I keep saying I have a GPS can you tell me the street address, I can…

Technically that’s just more information on how to get to your place, not the address itself. If you could…

I appreciate that you want to help but I’m looking you and just waiting for the…

Listen, I just remember I need to ask you a letter, what’s your address? A letter… Okay, great, thanks. I’ll see you in an hour.

Crossword Puzzle
Solution, page 12

ACROSS
1 Of blood
6 Word of woe
10 Staff sign
14 Red Sea gulf
15 Wrestler Hogan
16 Bantu language
17 Perry and Wilson
18 Joe
19 "___ Brodovich"
20___kwon do
21 See 54D
24 Nancy’s comics friend
25 Rustling sound
27 Black-and-white bear
29 Strongarm man
33 Walled Spanish city
36___ diem!
38 Obvious toupee
39 Perfect match
40 Metric weights, briefly
42 Tatal
43 Took on cargo
44 Flock members
45 Answer to an accusation
47 Looks so
49 Musical pace
52 Flodhart role
56 See 54D
59 R. Reagan’s Star Wars
60 Currier’s partner
61 Cyanide’s distinction
62 Hawkie or Coen
64 Cashier’s call
71 See 54D
72 See 54D
74 See 54D
75 See 54D
76 Nasr’s comics friend
77 Strongarm man
78 Customer
79 Aka
80 Writer Wiesel
81 "Candid Camera" man
82 City in central Israel
83 Fever with chills
84 Donated
85 Caustic stuff
86 Like custard
87 Dextrous beginner?
88 __ con Dios!
89 “I love you”
98 Speaker’s stand
99 Banned blasts
100 Destroys beginner?
101 Door frame part
102 Carnival’s call
103 Fishing poles
104 Destination in Nepal
105 Door frame part
106 Leopold’s co-conspirator
107 Speaker’s stand
108 Denied blasts
109 Static letters
110 Word defining 21A, 56A, 33, and 30D
111 By Jorge Cham

DOWN
1 Stops
2 Match in value
3 See 54D
4 Tad’s dad
5 Pasta dish
6 Queequeg’s captain
7 Beatles
8 Texas mission
9 Nordic chutes
10 Prague populace
11 Wait in hiding
12 Winter Wiesel
13 “Candid Camera” man
22 City in central Israel
23 Fever with chills
25 Donated
28 Caustic stuff
30 See 54D
31 Alfred of the theater
32 Like custard
33 Destroys beginner?
34___ con Dios!
35 Tavern order
36 Fish soles
37 Fishing poles
38 Destination in Nepal
39 Door frame part
43 Leopold’s co-conspirator
44 Speaker’s stand
45 Denied blasts
46 Static letters
47 Looks so
48 Musical pace
49 Flock members
50 Gambits
51 Football great Marino
52 Ancient Turkish city
53 Word defining 21A, 56A, 30, and 30D
54 Word defining 21A, 56A, 30, and 30D
55 Difficult spot
56 Swear to
57 Erotic
58 Mythical queen
60 However, briefly
61 Likely
62 Hawke or Coen
63 However, briefly
64 Cashier’s call
65 Color changer
66 Bonn waterway
67 Prohibitionists
68 Spanish city
69 Stock lacking face value
70 See 54D
71 See 54D
72 See 54D
73 See 54D
74 See 54D
75 See 54D
76 See 54D
77 See 54D
78 See 54D
79 See 54D
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101 See 54D
102 See 54D
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105 See 54D
106 See 54D
107 See 54D
108 See 54D
109 See 54D
110 See 54D

ACROSS
23 Strand
28 Recluse’s domain
31 Mr. Mime
35 Love note
36 Portly weight
37 Yetti
38 Nevada’s capitol
40 See 54D
41 Noted Swiss psychologist
42 East German leader
43 Compass point
44 Flock members
45 Answer to an accusation
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54 Word defining 21A, 56A, 33, and 30D
55 Difficult spot
56 Swear to
57 Erotic
58 Mythical queen
60 However, briefly
61 Likely
62 Hawke or Coen
63 However, briefly
The Ultimatum

Mr. Cornhole.

If you refuse our demands, we will delete one friend every hour until we receive payment.

Mr. Cornhole. I see that you have a lot of achievements for Bioshock 2. It would be a shame if something were to happen to them.

It is the Microsofts. We have your friends list. To get it back, you’ll need to pay an additional ten dollars per year.

You’re bluffing.

Dear God. My children.

Now... how do I make the payment?

I’ll just transfer you to billing.

(Dilbert by Scott Adams)

GOT GUTS?

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Plaintiffs in stem cell case are OK with Bush policy

SHERLEY'S CASE AGAINST HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH WENDS ITS WAY THROUGH THE COURTS

Stem cells, from Page 1

dition parties on the side of Sherley and Deisher, including one called “embryos”, the Court of Appeals ruled that those parties did not have standing and they are no longer part of the lawsuit.

Lawyers from three institutions are associated with Sherley and Deisher, according to court filings: the law firm of Gibson, Dunn, & Crutcher; Alliance Defense Fund; and Human Life Advocates.

Gibson & Dunn referred inquiries to the Alliance Defense Fund. The Alliance Defense Fund and Human Life Advocates have both not returned inquiries.

Sherley and Deisher were on Capitol Hill speaking to legislative aides to make the case against a change in the law to repeal that could make human embryonic stem cell research unambiguously legal, the Journal reported.

Sherley and Deisher both claim human embryonic stem cell research is morally objectionable and unlikely to be successful, the Journal said. Both are adult stem cell researchers.

They also say that Collins’ “resorts to conjecture that the experiments ‘may’ take a long time to restart and that researchers ‘may move to other countries’” “This falls far short of the imminent and irreparable injury that law requires,” they said.

CAMR wants to file friend-of-court brief

Also on Friday, the Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research, a stem cell advocacy group, asked the Court for permission to file a friend-of-the-court, or amicus curiae, brief.

CAMR’s brief argues that the lack of a stay on the preliminary injunction will “effectuate a dramatic change and irreparably damage one of NIH’s most important research programs.”

However, CAMR’s brief to the court relies substantially on NIH Director Collins’ declaration—many points of that declaration are challenged by Sherley’s motion.

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Startup Bootcamp

Have an idea? Starting a company is easier than you think.

Startup Bootcamp is a free one-day event featuring talks by entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. Hear from founders themselves about the journey of turning the spark of an idea into a real world product. Get the inside scoop on raising money, term sheets, and how to deal with VCs or angel investors. What should you look for when choosing a co-founder, and when should you incorporate or file patents? What can go wrong in a startup, and how does an acquisition work? Have your questions answered by experts and learn key lessons on how to start a company.

9am Saturday 11 September 2010 — Kresge Auditorium, MIT
For a full list of speakers and event registration, visit http://startupbootcamp.mit.edu.
Every September, millions of parents try a kind of psychological witchcraft, to transform their summer-glazed campers into fall students, their video-bugs into bookworms. Advice is cheap and all too familiar: Clear a quiet work space. Stick to a homework schedule. Set goals. Set boundaries. Do not bribe (except in emergencies).

Yet there are effective approaches to learning, at least for those who are motivated. In recent years, cognitive scientists have shown that a few simple techniques can reliably improve what matters most: how much a student learns from studying.

The findings can help anyone, from a fourth grader doing long division to a retiree taking on a new language. But they directly contradict much of the common wisdom about good study habits, and they have not caught on.

For instance, instead of sticking to one study location, simply alternating the room where a person studies improves retention. So does studying...
At Midway, some weren't Muggles

Basant V. Sagar '11, member of the MIT Quidditch team, talks to interested students at the ASA Activities Midway last Friday.

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OLIVER WYMAN

In the arena of human life the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action.
-Aristotle

Information Session
Thursday, September 16th
6:30pm
Building 4, Room 237

Submission deadline
Tuesday, September 28th,
via Careerbridge

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Tuesday, Sept. 7
Morse hall, Walker Memorial
7:30 pm: Rumba
8:30 pm: Swing

Thursday, Sept. 9
Salia (Student Center 2nd Floor)
7:30 pm: Foxtrot
8:30 pm: Waltz, followed by free ice cream!

Saturday, Sept. 11
Lobby 13
Noon - 6:00 pm: Cha Cha, Quickstep,
Team Match and FREE PIZZA!

No experience or partner is necessary to check out our award-winning team. Dance Camp is your opportunity to take some free lessons, eat some free food, and learn what the Ballroom Dance Team is all about.

ballroom.mit.edu

Event sponsored by Graduate Student Council and sponsored in part by Weekends@MIT
Draper looks for solutions to energy problems

By Robert Trigaux

Tuesday, September 7, 2010

Draper Lab, the MIT spinoff that kids out of Cambridge, Mass., know how to make super-small electronic and advanced medical devices. The firm recently set up facilities both in St. Petersburg and Tampa, Fla. to expand their footprint in high-end security devices and biomedical innovations.

In St. Petersburg, Draper’s multichip module facility makes extremely downsized electronic components still able to do the jobs of far bigger and heavier components. That’s something that keenly interests the military and federal government, key Draper clients.

A separate Draper bioengineering center on the campus of the University of South Florida in Tampa is working with USF on, among other things, efforts at the nearby James A. Haley VA Medical Center to improve the treatment of traumatic brain injuries.

Draper vice president Len Polizzotto and St. Petersburg facility chief John R. Burns stopped by the St. Petersburg Times last week to discuss the company’s recent arrival in Florida and some of its cutting edge work.

Here are some highlights from that conversation.

Draper’s invested $18 million in buying a St. Petersburg building and equipping it to make multichip modules for government clients. How’s it going after one and a half years?

Burns: We’ve been fortunate to find really talented local people. We’re up to 21 people with a third shift and scale up.

Polizzotto: In three areas. Security, health care, energy fields.

About Draper Laboratory

Key areas: Security, health care, energy fields.

Employees: 1,400 total, 36 so far in Tampa Bay.

Florida facilities: Multichip module manufacturing on 16th Street in St. Petersburg; bioengineering center on Spectrum Boulevard on USF’s Tampa campus.

Draper’s clients.

What is Draper focusing on in Tampa?

Polizzotto: Our Tampa center chief, Shankar Sundaram, could not be with us on this visit, but we have 15 full-time workers there plus four USF interns and two Draper Lab Fellows from the university. We already have more than $10 million in joint partnership proposals with USF, mostly in basic research.

In what areas is Draper focusing its resources?

Polizzotto: In three areas. Security, as shown by our St. Petersburg effort. Healthcare, reflected in our Tampa center and energy. If we can improve the efficiency of, say, a coal plant by 5 percent, you would see enormous gains. It would be great to establish an energy center down here.

An energy center here?

Polizzotto: Yes, it would be the third leg of our stool in Florida. We’re already working with (St. Petersburg’s) Progress Energy Florida on efficiencies in energy production. But we have also submitted a proposal to the state to develop a smart energy micro-grid using Draper sensors and controls.

How might that work?

Polizzotto: The idea is to pick a neighborhood and bring in a thousand solar panels and transformers to share energy. One transformer would be shared by five houses. So if one of those five houses wanted to run a dryer, it could pull energy not just from its own solar panel but from all five shared panels.

You say the CEO of Draper Lab is throwing out the first pitch at a Tampa Bay Rays game?

Polizzotto: We made sure he’s warmed up to throw a strike.

Burns: We thought about adding a gyroscope to the ball to help, but it probably isn’t necessary.

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About IMLP

For more information, visit our website: ge.com/imlpaward

* Universum Student Survey
Forget what you know about good study habits

Studying habits, from Page 12

*distinct but related skills or concepts in one setting, rather than focusing intensely on a single thing.*

*We have known these principles for some time, and it’s intriguing that schools don’t pick them up, or that people don’t learn them by trial and error,* said Dr. Robert A. Bjork, a psychologist at UCLA. *Instead, we walk around with all sorts of unexamined beliefs about what works that are mistaken.*

Take the notion that children have specific learning styles, that some are “visual learners” and others are auditory; some are “left-brain” students, others “right-brains.” In a recent review of the relevant research, published in the journal Psychological Science in the Public Interest, a team of psychologists found almost zero support for such ideas.

*"The contrast between the enormous popularity of the learning-styles approach within education and the lack of credible evidence for its utility is, in our opinion, striking and disturbing,”* the researchers concluded.

*By teaching styles, research- ers say. Some excellent instructors caper in front of the Blackboard like summer-theater Falstaffs, others are reserved to the point of shyness.*

*"We have yet to identify the common threads between teachers who create a constructive learning atmos- phere," said Dr. Daniel T. Willing- ham, a psychologist at the Univer- sity of Virginia and author of the book “Why Don’t Students Like School?”* 

*That individual learning is another matter, and psychologists have dis- covered that some of the most hallowed advice on study habits is flat wrong. For instance, many study skills courses insist that students find a speci- fic place, a study room or a quiet cor- ner of the library, to take their work. The research finds just the opposite. In one classic 1978 experiment, psy- chologists found that college students who studied a list of 40 vocabulary words in two rooms — one window- less and cluttered, the other modern, with a view on a courtyard — did far better on a test than students who studied the words twice, in the same room. Later studies have confirmed the finding for a variety of topics. The brain makes subtle associa- tions between what it is studying and the background sensations it has at the time, the authors say, regardless of whether those perceptions are conscious. It colors the terms of the Versailles Treaty with the wasted Illus- trious glow of the dorm study room; say, or the elements of the Marshall Plan with the jade-curtain shade of the willow tree in the backyard. Forcing the brain to make multiple asso- ciations with the same material may, the researchers concluded, give that information more coherence and, for a day, this slows down forgetting,”* said Bjork, the senior author of the study.

*“What we think is happening here is that, when the outside context is well matched, the information is enriched and this slows down forgetting,”* said Bjork, the senior author of the study.

*Variation of the type studied mat- tered to a single sitting seems to leave a deeper impression on the brain than does concentrating on just one skill at a time. Musicians have known this for years, and their practice sessions often include a mix of scales, musical pieces and rhythmic work. Many ath- letes have that line of thinking and routinely combine their work with strength, speed and skill drills. The advantages of this approach to studying can be striking, in some respects. In a study recently posted online by the journal Applied Cogni- tive Psychology, Doug Rohrer and Kell Taylor of the University of South Florida taught a group of fourth grad- ers four equations, each to calculate a different dimension of a prism. Half of the children learned by studying re- peated examples of one equation, say, calculating the number of prism faces when given the number of sides at the base, then moving on to the next type of calculation, studying repeated ex- amples of that. The other half studied mixed problems sets, which included everyday examples like four types of calculations grouped together. Both groups solved sample problems along the way, as they studied.*

*“A day later, the researchers gave all of the students a test on the material, presenting new problems of the same type. The children who had studied mixed sets did twice as well. as the others, outscoring them 77 percent to 38 percent. The research- ers have found the same in experi- ments involving adults and younger children.*

*“When students see a list of prob- lems, all of the same kind, they know the strategy to use before they even read the problem,”* said Dr. Rohrer. *“That’s like riding a bike with training wheels.”* 

*With mixed practice, he added, “each problem is different from the last one, which means kids must learn how to choose the appropriate procedure — just like they had to do on the test.”* 

*These findings extend well be- yond math, even to aesthetic intuitive learning. In an experiment published last month in the journal Psychol- ogy and Aging, researchers found that college students and adults of retirement age were better able to distinguish the painting styles of 12 unfamiliar artists after viewing mixed collections (assortments that works from all 12) than after view- ing a dozen works from one artist, all together, then moving on to the next painter.**

*Finding underscores the common assumption that intensive immersion is the best way to really master a particular genre, or type of creative work, said Dr. Nate Kornell, a psychologist at Williams College and the lead author of the study.*

*“What seems to be happening in this case is that the brain is picking up deeper patterns when seeing as- sortments of paintings; it’s picking up what’s similar and what’s different about them,”* often identified accurately. *Cognitive scientists do not deny that cramming can lead to a better grade on a given exam, but they advise that pack- ing a brain is akin to speed- reading a dozen weeks from one artist, all together, then moving on to the next painter.**

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“With many students, it’s not like they can’t remember the material” when they move to a more advanced class, said Dr. Henry L. Roediger III, a psychologist at Washington University in St. Louis. “It’s like they’ve never seen it before.”

When the neural suitcase is packed carefully and gradually, it holds its contents for far, far longer. An hour of study tonight, an hour on the weekend, another session a week from now: such so-called spacing improves later recall, without requiring students to put in more overall study effort or pay more attention, dozens of studies have found.

No one knows for sure why. It may be that the brain, when it revisits material at a later time, has to relearn some of what it has absorbed before adding new stuff — and that that process is itself self-reinforcing.

“The idea is that forgetting is the friend of learning,” said Kornell. “When you forget something, it allows you to relearn, and do so effectively, the next time you see it.”

That’s one reason cognitive scientists see testing itself — or practice tests and quizzes — as a powerful tool of learning, rather than merely a tool of assessment. The process of retrieving an idea is not like pulling a book from a shelf; it seems to fundamentally alter the way the information is subsequently stored, making it far more accessible in the future.

Roediger uses the analogy of the Heisenberg uncertainty principle in physics, which holds that the act of measuring a property of a particle alters that property. “Testing not only measures knowledge but changes that property: ‘Testing not only measures a property of a particle, but in doing so, changes it,” he says — and, happily, in the direction of more certainty, not less.

In one of his own experiments, Roediger and Jeffrey Karpicke, also of Washington University, had college students study science passages, young and old, something they did not have before: a study plan based on evidence, not schoolyard folk wisdom, or empty theorizing, or all the above — will turn a grade-A student.

Roediger said. “Maybe we need to call testing or teaching to the test,” Roediger said. “Maybe we need to call it something else, but this is one of the most powerful learning tools we have.”

Of course, one reason the thought of testing tightens people’s stomachs is that tests are so often hard. Paradoxically, it is just this difficulty that makes them such effective study tools, research suggests. The harder it is to remember something, the harder it is to forget. This effect, which researchers call “desirable difficulty,” is evident in daily life. The name of the actor who played Linus in “A Tree Grows in Brooklyn”? Newton, of calculus?

“Not true in the classroom, in real life. All of these things are inter-acting at the same time,” said Willingham. “Not true in the classroom, in real life. All of these things are inter-acting at the same time.”

But at the very least, the cognitive techniques give parents and students, young and old, something many did not have before: a study plan based on evidence, not schoolyard folk wisdom, or empty theorizing.

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5-7pm
1 Amherst Street, E40-4th floor

Meet program alumni / Eat international food

Undergrads, graduate students and recent grads welcome.

Wednesday, September 15
Noon-2pm
Stata Center, 32

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Once a dynamo, technology sector is slow to hire
Disappointing job numbers raise questions about whether tech can revive US economy

By Catherine Rampell
The New York Times

For years the technology sector has been considered the most dyna-
matic, promising and globally en-
vied industry in the United States. It
escaped the recession relatively un-
scathed, and profits this year have
been soaring.

But as the nation labor markets
put people back to work, even high-
technology companies have been
slow to hire, a sign of just how difficult it will be to address persistently high joblessness. While the labor report released last week showed August figures provided mildly positive
news on private-sector hiring, the
unemployment rate was 9.6 per-
cent.

The disappointing hiring trend raises questions about whether the tech industry can help power a re-
cover and sustain U.S. job growth in
the next decade and beyond. Its
potential to lead an employment surge
raises questions about whether the
unemployment rates in other
white-collar professions.

The chief hurdles to more robust
technology hiring appear to be in-
creasing automation and the addi-
tion of highly skilled labor overseas.

The result is a mismatch of skill
levels here at home: not enough
workers with the cutting-edge skills
coveted by tech firms and too many
people with abilities that can be
duplicated offshore at lower cost.

That’s a familiar situation to
many out-of-work software engi-
ners, whose skills start depreciat-
ing almost as soon as they are laid
off, given the dynamism of the in-
dustry.

“I’m sending out lots and lots and
lots of applications, to every-
where within a 50-mile radius,” says
Rosamaria Carbonell Mann, 49, a
software engineer who was termi-
nated this year by the company’s casino clients
International Gaming Technology,
initially told her office that it was
considering making a move into health
research. Mann, the unemployed software
engineer. She said her employer,
Ronil Hira, an assistant professor of
Mathematics at Rutgers and a senior fac-
ulty fellow at Heidric Center for
Workforce Development.

“That hierarchy has been upset, to
say the least,” he said. “More and
more of the innovation is coming out of the emerging markets, as
part of this bottom-up push.”

The narrative is familiar to
Mann, the unemployed software
engineer. She said her employer,
International Gaming Technology,
initially told her office that it was
opening a branch in China to work
with the company’s casino clients in
Macau and Australia.

She said she was told that the
new branch would be tailoring
products to local needs and doing
some back-office work. But a year
later it absorbed all the operations
once performed by the Corvallis
staff. International Gaming Tech-
ology, based in Reno, Nev., did
not respond to repeated requests
for comment.

This is the second time, Mann
said, that an employer has sent her
job abroad and she received her
master’s in computer science more
than two decades ago, the last time
was in 2001. This year she plans
a yearlong program to upgrade her
programming skills, paid for by a federal program that assists work-
ers who have been displaced by in-
ternational trade.

The experience of Mann and
others like her suggests that the
technology industry may not be the
savior of the U.S. job market and a
budget for a more robust econ-
omy — even though the Obama ad-
ministration has called for a revival
of tech and science training and
emphasized the need for U.S. com-
panies to take the lead in fields like
knowledge work, R&D work
and service work, that all the high-end service
work, including all the highly skilled employment say that some
of the most prominent companies that laid off workers during the re-
cession, like IBM, are expanding
their work forces abroad.

“Certainly a lot of these IT ser-
vice firms plus the core software
firms like Oracle are globalizing their work, or, as they put it, ‘re-
balancing’ their work forces abroad,”
says Ronal Hira, an assistant professor of public policy at the Rochester
Institute of Technology.

In the past, the U.S. jobs most
susceptible to being shipped abroad were lower-skilled posi-
tions. But now emerging econo-
 mies have been harvesting their
lower-cost researchers while
deficiently harvesting theirs.

Instead, some economists and
policy makers are looking to health
care to lead an employment surge.
They point to the field’s growing de-
mend for new services, the need
for the field’s growing need for
primary care for patients and
bureaucracy that entails layer upon layer of jobs.

Because these jobs seem more
secure, Mann said she briefly con-
sidered making a move into health

“Still, that’s something that can’t be
done. It can’t be done as I can tell you, but
it’s not for me,” she said. “I don’t do
well looking at people’s blood.”
Choice of clerks highlights Supreme Court’s polarization

By Adam Liptak

WASHINGTON — Each year, 36 young lawyers obtain the most coveted credential in U.S. law: a Supreme Court clerkship. Clerking for a justice is a glittering capstone on a resume that almost always includes outstanding grades at a top law school, service on a law review and a prestigious clerkship with a federal appeals court judge.

Justice Clarence Thomas apparently has one additional requirement. Without exception, the 84 clerks he has chosen over his two decades on the court all first trained with an appeals court judge appointed by a Republican president.

That unbroken ideological commitment is just the most extreme example of a recent and seldom examined form of political polarization on the Supreme Court. These days the court is the most politically divided it has ever been, according to scholars and justices in the past.

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By contrast, Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, a conservative appointed by President Richard M. Nixon who led the court from 1969 to 1986, hired roughly even numbers of clerks who had worked for judges appointed by Republicans and Democrats. And the more liberal justices are more likely than in the past to hire from judges appointed by Democrats.

Each justice typically hires four clerks a year. Since Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. joined the court in 2005, Justice Antonin Scalia has not hired any clerks who had worked for a judge appointed by a Democratic president, and Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. has hired only two. At the other end of the ideological spectrum, only four of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s clerks on the Roberts court came from judges appointed by Republicans. The early data on President Barack Obama’s two appointees, Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, show a similar pattern.

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The recent divide in the selection of clerks amplifies the ideological rifts on a polarized court, one political scientists say is the most conservative in recent memory. And it echoes as clerks go on to prominent careers in government, the legal academy and major law firms.

Supreme Court law clerks share their justices’ chambers, do much of their work and influence their thinking. They make recommendations about which cases the court should hear, help prepare the justices for oral arguments, discuss the cases with them and draft major portions of the opinions and dissents.
Sure, it's fake, but does it have to be boring too?

The WWE is supposed to be entertainment wrestling but it's not even entertaining

By Joanna Kao and Aislyn Schalck

Boom! TD Bank Garden erupted in cheers as the lights went down and pyrotechnics filled the air. "Sports" entertainment company World Wrestling Entertainment aired their 900th episode of Monday Night RAW. Since its debut 17 years ago on January 11, 1993, the WWE has produced over 2,100 episodes of its flagship show, Monday Night RAW. Since its debut, the show has been a fixture in the history of primetime TV. In fact according to a fan who was there that night, "It was the first time I felt real special. If my Jewish Sherry continues to run at its current rate, it will reach its 900th episode in 2090. By then, the average age of viewers is older than Betty White's current age.

So, the professional wrestling or Monday night raw is considered a sport, but it hardly deserves that classification and should be called "wrestling". Here's why:

1. It's scripted

The purpose of watching sports is to be entertained by the competing parties trying their best to win. Sports are about pushing oneself and enduring pain because the best participant has better odds at being victorious. WWE does not seem to honor this sacrifice. Who is going to win is decided by the franchise’s writers who probably choose the matches and winners of particular "fights" weeks in advance so they can create a complex storyline of grudges and rivalries that spans episodes, seasons, and even years.

Wrestlers do not compete in the ring, even when watching WWE live as opposed to on television. The degree to which the fighting is choreographed and pre-determined is shocking. With cameras angles behind the scenes, every punch looks knocked off, and most moves look missed. Frequently, it appears that Newton's third law is violated because poundings to the face are shown as if the action is taking place in front of a mirror. The slightest appearance of recoil from momentum is spurned. The only time a wrestler is piledrivered is when they are pinned.

2. There is an obvious lack of rules.

All real sports are governed by a set of rules that are enforced for fair play and in which winning is considered the parameter. In contrast, the "rules" in WWE are meant to be broken. Fighters break out and are continued, outside of the ring where it appears that everything going including badgering opponents on pieces of the set. A far as fairness goes, there seem to be few rules governing it as shown by the many matches that have mismatched numbers of participants. Furthermore, the referees are just for show. When the officials do interfere it is for inconsistent reasons and very rarely is their decision actually respected by the "fighter".

In fact, the only referee interference at this particular event was a few times for pinning or1

3. It's gimmicky.

There's excessive hype for each "match" and introduction of the wrestlers. For the first match, a girl came out to accompany the first wrestler and performed various tricks in the air.

For Red Sox fans, it’s just about time to hitch the wagon to a playoff-bound National League team.

By Zach Hynes

All summer, I’ve read about the declining TV and radio audiences for the Red Sox, but in order to gain a full grasp on the changing market for Red Sox baseball, I needed to go down to Fenway and watch in line for seats. In your typical baseball game, ticket window at Gate E 5 full hours in advance of the first pitch and find for fifty people camped out in the shadow of the Green Monster, spread out on blankets, sipping coffee and lecturing the line for me. I purchased tickets and arrived an hour early, I found just seven people in line ahead of me.

In the thirty minutes between my arrival and the time the tickets were on sale, the line in front of me dwindled to a mere four people in line. It seems that Red Sox fans are bored. I’m not even sure what to call this line. It feels like a sleepwalk because there isn’t even a sense of what promised to be an intriguing pitchers’ duel in the first game of Saturday’s double-header.

Ripclip

White Sox starter John Danks lived up to expectations, the Red Sox ace Clay Buchholz appeared to labor through his five innings of work. While surrendering just two runs, he ran his pitch count to ninety-five pitches in rapid fashion. Resounding boos erupted on the TD Bank Garden. After sandwiching two outs around the first hole (well, maybe Woods was a bad example, but you get the point). He clearly was there solely to rev up the crowd. The speeches before the matches are rees craftily: Think Howard Dean’s infamous campaign speech time and time again don’t add to their speech delivery; instead they just give the audience a chance to laugh at the overly done speeches.

The most outrageous introduction was the introduction for R-Truth. He came out with his signature "What’s up?" rap that contained even fewer words than the amount of clothing he was wearing as his costume. The saddest part? His cap was infinitely better than his "wrestling" skills. He should have pursued a rapping career.

4. It involves ridiculous extraneous props.

Conveniently placed items are all too common. In real sports, you have standard sports equipment. In most, they even check to make sure you haven’t hacked your own equipment in your own favor. For example, in the UFC, the refrees even check the fighters’ nails before each fight. In contrast in the WWE, Alberto Del Rio magically flipped out of a meta coil to the side of the stage in the middle of a fight with Evan Bourne (of course allowed because of his name). But even as more evidence of crazy props in the WWE, let’s introduce Zambonis and beer hose.

WWE does not seem to honor this sacrifice. Who is going to win is decided by the franchise’s writers who probably choose the matches and winners of particular "fights" weeks in advance so they can create a complex storyline of grudges and rivalries that spans episodes, seasons, and even years. As regards the audience, it is an obvious lack of rules. With cameras angles behind the scenes, every punch looks knocked off, and most moves look missed. Frequently, it appears that Newton’s third law is violated because poundings to the face are shown as if the action is taking place in front of a mirror. The slightest appearance of recoil from momentum is spurned. The only time a wrestler is piledrivered is when they are pinned.

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