On Friday, March 29, MIT filed a legal memo-
randum to "partially oppose" the March 15 mo-
tion by the Estate of Aaron Swartz to publicly
release documents related to Swartz's criminal
prosecution. The documents, originally provided
to the U.S. Attorney's Office by MIT for pre-trial
discovery, are kept confidential by a Protective
Order. According to MIT's memorandum, the U.S.
Attorney's Office required a Protective Order
on the documents beginning November 2011 due to
"sensitive information" they contain.

In the filing, MIT argued that it is not opposed to
releasing the documents, but that it wants to be
able to redact names and identifying information
of members of the MIT community as well as any
information that may expose MIT network vul-
nabilities, as MIT President L. Rafael Reif had
previously announced in a letter on March 19.
In a filing made the same day, JSTOR, the online
academic journal library from which Swartz al-
legedly downloaded millions of documents, also
supported the public release of the documents,
but MIT had already redacted the names of its
employees.

MIT employed several arguments when mak-
ing its case for redaction. According to the mem-
aroundum, "The MIT community has been the
subject of threats to personal safety and breaches
to its computer network, apparently based on
MIT's involvement in the events relating to Mr.
Swartz's prosecution.

In his March 19 letter, Reif wrote that MIT
planned to release these documents at the same
time as Hal Abelson's report on MIT's involve-
ment in the investigation, but modifying the Pro-
tective Order could override this plan.

MIT noted that the documents were provided
under condition of confidentiality. The memo-
randum stated, "After Mr. Swartz was indicted, the
government produced its case for public release
to his defense counsel pursuant to the Protective
Order, which provides that the defense could not
use MIT's documents for any purpose other
than in the defense of the criminal case, and (2)
that such documents were to be destroyed at the
end of the case. The criminal case is now over,
so it was that the defense never could use MIT's
doctorments for any purpose other than in the
defense of the criminal case, and (2) that such
documents were to be destroyed at the end of the
MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper

time."

Another body found in the Charles River

Just behind Harvard, MIT took
second place in the 2012 William
Lowell Putnam Mathematical Com-
petition, winning $20,000 for the
math department and $800 for
each of the three team members. The
pre-carous context is 12 questions and 6
hours long, and is administered ev-
ery December to undergraduate stu-
dents studying in the U.S. or Canada.

In third, fourth, and fifth were
UCLA, Stony Brook, and Carnegie
Mellon.

The top five individual performers
each year become Putnam Fellows.
This year, they are Ben Gunby ‘15 of MET, Eric Larson of Harvard, Mitchell
Lee ‘16 of MIT, Katarina Pope ‘15 of MIT,
and Evan O'Dorney of Harvard. All
five were gold medallists at the Inter-
national Mathematical Olympiad, a
contest for high school students.

Though MIT fielded three of the five Putnam Fellows and 11 of the top 25
contestants, the MIT team fell to
Harvard’s because all Putnam awards
only depend on the three members
selected for the team. Neither of
the two teams ended up being the opti-
mal choice for its school.

“The following strategy would im-
prove MIT’s chances of winning the
team award: choose a three member
team. Then give the Putnam to those
three people and forbid all other MIT
students from taking the exam,” wrote Kent Merryfield when he an-
nounced the results, perhaps not
half jokingly. “Yes, that is how MIT
feels about it — but then the whole
rank thing is pretty loopy.”

—Leon Lin

By Austin Hess
NEWS EDITOR

ON SITE

Still looking for a job or inter-
ship? Attend the Spring Career
Fair on Thursday, April 4th!

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**Gorbachev criticizes Putin and his restrictions**

By David M. Herszenhorn

Moscow — Mikhail Gorbachev, the first and last president of the Soviet Union, now 82 and increasingly anathema to the Russian political system, was needed a helping hand to climb on stage for a speech at the state-run ITAR-Tass news agency.

Oratorically, however, he seemed nimble enough to deliver a speech to the gut in President Vladimir V. Putin and the Kremlin.

"Politics is more and more turning into an imitation," Gorbachev said. "All power is in the hands of the executive. The Parliament only seals its decisions. Judicial power is not independent. The economy is monopolized, hooked to the hands of the executive. The Parliament is curbed, small and medium businesses face huge barriers."

Gorbachev, invoking "perestroika" — the Russian word for "restructuring" and the brand name of his reforms that brought about the fall of communism and helped him win the Nobel Peace Prize — called for yet another "restructuring" of the Russian political system.

His prepared speech, posted later on the Internet, was even tougher than the remarks he delivered on Moscow television during a news conference.

"Unfortunately, the cost of huge losses from a cold air mass from the west. Winds will be strong throughout the day, with speeds in the 15-25 mph range gusting upwards of 30 mph at times. Birdies will stick around through the afternoon, however, keeping temperatures on both days well below the normal high of 53°F. For Thursday, however, high pressure will take over, resulting in sunshine and warmth for the end of the week."

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy and windy, high 43°F (7°C). Winds W at 15-20 mph.

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and breezy, high 44°F (7°C). Winds W at 15-20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, highs in the low 50s (°F 12°C).
NEW DELHI — People in developing countries in Asia and Africa who have access to cheap, low-cost copycat versions of drugs for diseases like HIV and cancer, at least for a time, have found a way to get them.

Production of the generic drugs in India, even though the country is a producer of some of the world’s cheapest medicines, is regulated by the patent law. 

The debate over global drug prices has raged in parallel with concerns about the emerging patent system and intellectual property, which can lead to higher prices for generics.

The U.S. court decision was a win for access advocates, who argue that the drug industry can afford to lower prices for generics in poor countries.

The decision has implications for the global pharmaceutical industry, which faces a growing backlash against its efforts to protect intellectual property.

The ruling could also have implications for international trade agreements, which are a key issue in ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations.

The case has attracted attention because of the high stakes involved: the global drug industry’s profits are at risk, as are the health of millions of people around the world who rely on generic medicines.

The case also raises questions about the role of intellectual property in promoting innovation and access to medicines, and about the balance between the rights of patients and the rights of companies.

The case is also a test of the strength of the United States’ intellectual property laws, and of the ability of the courts to enforce them.

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Sustaining MIT's fraternities

By Bill Frezza

I’ve been a Chi Phi since a week after I arrived on campus in the fall of 1972. I can honestly say that ever since then, Chi Phi has been the central institution of my life. It is the source of my greatest friendships, my strength in times of trouble, the avenue through which I’ve enjoyed a surfeit of inter-generational relationships, and the organization to which I give the most back, currently taking my turn to serve as president of our house corporation.

Because the Greek system at MIT is so strong, I know that I’m not unique in any of this. But since some of the fraternities are less supported by their alumni than others — and because undergraduates at even well-supported groups sometimes forget what role we play — I thought I’d share a few thoughts about some of the responsibilities a fraternity house corporation carries in keeping their chapters healthy, flourishing, and out of trouble.

We expect a lot from our undergraduate brothers, and we give them as much freedom as we can to run their own affairs. That’s how they learn self-reliance and leadership. But also how they see helicopter parents as well as the college administrators increasingly taking on nanny duties thanks to our hyper-litigious times.

That’s how they learn self-reliance and freedom as we can to run their own affairs.

Undergraduates have been taught to ‘just say no,’ but some still don’t know how to handle themselves responsibly.

Because we’ve been there, we know that the college years are a time of unprecedented opportunities for experimentation brought by a still-immune sense of how to balance risks and rewards. Many of those risks could impact not just personal safety, but also the continued existence of an institution our alumni have labored to preserve for more than a century. In those cases, the house corporation has a strong duty to set boundaries.

No, you can’t rent a mechanical bull to entertain freshman during Rush Week. Yes, I understand the salesman told you they have insurance. No, you haven’t the foggiest idea how to get rid of a litigation nightmare would ensue if a freshman got thrown from a mechanical bull and ended up a quadriplegic. Yes, I understand you’ll have to change your plans at the last minute. No, I couldn’t have told you sooner because I just found out about it. Think of something else.

That wasn’t so hard, was it? Someone has to help the adult brain struggling to emerge from every college student’s head, gain mastery over the teen brain still dishing around inside their skull. Think about what it means. What do you go wrong. Think about the consequences, not just you to but your brothers as well as our cherished institution. I know what you are contemplating sounds like fun, but is it really worth?

Each fall I give my four Bs lecture to the incoming pledge class — Brotherhood, Behavior, Booze, and ... Coeds. I speak to them not as an administrator, not as a parent, but as a brother. Sure, they’ve been taught to “Just Say No” since they were eight. They’ve taken all the online alcohol, hazing, and sexual harassment courses required by the national organization and by MIT. And they’ve memorized exactly which phrases they need to repeat to appease any authority figure lecturing them. All of that is true. But I ask about is whether they really know how to handle themselves when they decide against our advice to break the rules.

I don’t preach “Just Say No.” I preach “Real Men Hold Their Liquor” I don’t preach abstinence. I preach moderation and consideration of others. When discussing alcohol, I give concrete tips about pacing, food, and hydration, about keeping a contact you are contemplating sounds like fun, but is it really worth?

These are practical lessons we all have to learn but are never taught because who is supposed to do the teaching? Give them my cellphone number and tell them not to hesitate to call me any time of the day or night if they need help.

But I end with a warning. Wise to be any of you who bring home an awesome on our house! Remember shame? It’s so very out of fashion these days. I remind them of the incredible investment generations of brothers have made in building our chapter’s reputation, and how that can all be destroyed in one thoughtful moment. I remind them that for four years they are honored guests in our home but that graduating they become co-owners, taking their turn looking after younger brothers to come.

And I remind them that they may think otherwise, they are not immortal. Having lost my older son’s senior year at Stanford a foolish and fatal risk-reward decision, I know. I can only wish he had been a fraternity man with some older brothers around to help him think through things.

Bill Pratacchi ’76 is a Boston-based ven-
ture capitalist and a contributing colum-
nist for Forbes, the Huffington Post, and Bio-TV World.

CORRECTIONS

In the March 22, 2013 issue, a photo caption of 100 Years of Fashion misspelled the publishing company’s name. It is Laurence King Publishing, not Lawrence.

When discussing alcohol, I give concrete tips about pacing, food, and hydration, and setting limits in advance.

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Struggling with bipolar disorder

By Cory Hernandez

For a couple of years, I could never be sure how I would feel during any given day. Some days, I was happy and felt like reading or writing an essay. On my good days, I had trouble focusing on any one task for very long. As the semester progressed, my symptoms would wax and wane depending on my mood. On my bad days, I would feel like I couldn’t get out of bed to do anything. Yet, I was still embarrassed about needing help. I thought that some kind of people went into therapy, so I tried convincing myself that nothing was wrong.

But then the fall semester hit, and as the semester progressed, my symptoms worsened. I began to miss multiple classes. I would feel numbed, drained, and isolated from the world. On good days, I would feel so happy that I had to play a bit of phone tag before I could actually set up an appointment. But I knew that I would get the help I needed.

Mental health issues are still stigmatized in society.

After a few sessions, I was diagnosed with bipolar mood disorder and was prescribed a mood-stabilizing drug. On the medication, I began to feel like I was getting my life back to normal. I was even able to complete tasks that I had previously avoided. I was able to extend my participation in social activities. On my medication, I was able to sleep the days away because I had zero motivation to actually get out of bed to do anything.

However, I realized that this was something I would not be able to get through on my own. That was the first time I had recognized the severity of my condition. The professors responded well and under- standingly. They helped me with my absences and gave me extensions on assignments when I needed them. Furthermore, the medication and my psychiatrist. Bipolar mood disorder is chronic. It is something that I will have to account for in every aspect of my life. For instance, I have met with the MIT Disabilities Services and I have taken courses that don’t even exist. Yet, I am still able to work well with my future professors around my disorder. While my medication has helped significantly, it will still have flaws of hypomanic or depressive states. But I have overcome these episodes as they are, which are not otherwise unpredictable, which means I could unexpectedly miss a class, an assignment, or a meeting.

In Good Company
Tuesday, April 2, 2013 The Tech

Like science and religion, but the fundamen-

tally, this is indirect and more akin to legal tes-

ging. We look at the data we have and ask if it
end with truth.

We should treat “why” claims differ-
supporting evidence, so they can only be un-
broadly and more directly. For instance, I have
tried to make sense of the evidence in this
context. We look at the data we have and ask if it

To what extent can science “prove” something, or can we only reason about it? This question is not new and has been debated in science and religion for centuries. It is important to understand that science and religion are not the same thing. Science is a systematic and logical method of acquiring knowledge through observation and experimentation. Religion, on the other hand, is a belief system that is based on faith and tradition. Both science and religion are important for understanding the world around us, but they operate in different ways.

Science proceeds by making observations, formulating hypotheses, and testing these hypotheses through experiments and observations. If a hypothesis is supported by evidence, it is considered true and becomes part of our understanding of the world. If a hypothesis is not supported by evidence, it is considered false and is discarded.

Religion, on the other hand, is based on faith and tradition. Religious beliefs are not based on evidence, but on personal experience and historical events. Religion is a way of understanding the world and our place in it.

So, are there really differences between science and religion? In some ways, they are similar. Both deal with the question of existence and the nature of reality. But in other ways, they are very different. Science is a systematic and logical method of acquiring knowledge, while religion is based on faith and tradition.

In order for Christianity to be consistent with the hypothesis. Do we see evidence of changed lives in these stories? We do see evidence of God loving us, intervening throughout history, and speaking to us even now? But after evaluating the evidence, we conclude that Christianity makes the most sense of the world, does that still make us arbitrary and dogmatic?

I would argue that science similarly exercises such faith. Have you person-
ally tested every theory in your chem-
istry textbook? Or have you just seen plenty of evidence to satisfy you that chem-
istry is true and your textbook will not mislead you? The nature of the evi-
dence might be different between sci-
ence and religion, but the fundamen-
tal process of obtaining knowledge is similar. Both begin with evidence and end with truth.

Q: Is there a conflict between scientific and religious thinking? Where do we draw boundaries between the two types of thinking?

By Aaron Scheinberg and Stephanie Lam

Ask A-theist is a new column by Aaron Scheinberg, an atheist, and Stephanie Lam, a Christian, which uses contrasting worldviews to explore questions and misconceptions about philosophy and religion. This week, Aaron chose a question from your submissions. Send us the burning questions you have always wanted answered by an atheist or Christian (or both), and we’ll tackle them!

Do science and religion conflict?

Where do we draw the boundaries between the two types of thinking?

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Do science and religion conflict?

Where do we draw the boundaries between the two types of thinking?

Stephanie’s Response: How do we know what we know? The primary way we gain knowledge of the external world is through our observa-

tions and interaction with it. This is not a new idea. But, what about what we 

What is the role of science in understanding the world? Science is a systematic and logical method of acquiring knowledge through observation and experimentation. It helps us understand the natural world and the processes that govern it. Science allows us to make predictions and develop explanations for phenomena we observe. It provides a way of testing our hypotheses and theories, and helps us refine our understanding of the world.

On the other hand, religion is a belief system that is based on faith and tradition. It provides a way of understanding the world and our place in it. Religion is often used to explain the existence of the world, the nature of God, the meaning of life, and other aspects of human experience.

So, are there really differences between science and religion? In some ways, they are similar. Both deal with the question of existence and the nature of reality. But in other ways, they are very different. Science is a systematic and logical method of acquiring knowledge, while religion is based on faith and tradition.

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tal process of obtaining knowledge is similar. Both begin with evidence and end with truth.
Least Action Principle
by Amanda Aparicio

MIDNIGHT MORNINGS ON MAJ. AV...

...FEEL LIKE

HOW WAS YOUR SPRING BREAK?

GOOD, I GOT A GRANT APPLICATION FINISHED, A BOOK REVIEWED, THREE PAPERS SUBMITTED AND AN EXAM PUT TOGETHER. HOW ABOUT YOU?

GOOD, I WENT SPRING BREAKING IN COLORADO.

by Jorge Cham
Sudoku
Solution, page 13

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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.

Techdoku
Solution, page 13

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.
2013 Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

$5000: 1st Prize
$3000: 2nd Prize
$2000: 3rd Prize

DEADLINE APRIL 3

All currently registered MIT students are eligible to apply
arts.mit.edu/schnitzer/

You could be here

We are The Tech

We print MIT’s only newspaper twice per week, and we have fun doing it.

join@tech.mit.edu

Want to be a part of this?
MIT wants to keep name redactions in documents

MIT filed legal memorandum on Friday

Swartz, from Page 1

ple must.” MIT mentioned three separate attacks on the MIT network since Swartz’s death.

The March 15 motion by the Swartz Estate to which MIT’s filing is responding provides several arguments in favor of publishing the documents without redactions. The motion suggests that removing all identifying information would render the documents meaningless and useless. Swartz’s Estate also said that MIT and JSTOR provided the documents without requesting the Protective Order that was requested by the U.S. Attorney’s office. Additionally, the motion stated that “most of the names and titles that the Government seeks to redact are already publicly known.” Examples of publications in which certain individuals were identified include The Tech and The New York Times.

MIT mentioned three separate attacks on the MIT network since Swartz’s death in the filing.

As reported by The Tech, Congress and media outlets have requested the documents. Swartz’s Estate claims that the public interest in the information outweighs individual privacy concerns.

A random sampling of people you’ll meet during a typical dinner at The Tech:

Derek, Course 1  Austin, Course 8  Chris, Course 16
Sarah, Course 2  Ian, Course 9  Anne, Course 17
Annia, Course 3  Joyce, Course 10  Leon, Course 18
Dohyun, Course 4  Sara, Course 11  Jack, Course 19
Elijah, Course 5  Vince, Course 12  Stan, Course 20
Deborah, Course 6  Anthony, Course 14  Stephen, 21/CMS
Kali, Course 7  Maggie, Course 15  Keith, Course 22

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MIT plans to construct commercial, academic, and residential buildings on what are currently parking lots. In this model from MITIMCo, the three near white buildings are possibilities for commercial buildings on the south side of Main Street. (In the foreground are the Green Building and East Campus dormitory.)
This Year, Money Could Be Yours
Ilona Karmel Writing Prizes

Student Writing Prizes Competition

Deadline: Friday April 5, 2013*

*Guidelines, details, and cover sheets available at writing.mit.edu/initiatives/writing-prizes/ilona-karmel

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Comparative Media Studies

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Booth Hours
Building W20
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Information Session
Building 4, Rm 149
5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

MIT Spring Career Fair
April 4 | Stratton Student Center

We get you the tickets.
You get us the review.

Ready to impress us?

Sponsored by Writing and Humanistic Studies
Comparative Media Studies

DiFava discusses MIT Police gunman response

Head of MIT Police admits mistakes were made in activating emergency alert system

By Robert Pear

WASHINGTON — Unable to meet tight deadlines in the new health care law, the Obama administration is delaying parts of a program intended to provide affordable health insurance to small businesses and their employees — a major selling point for the health care legislation.

The law calls for a new insurance marketplace specifically for small businesses, starting next year. But in most states, employers will not be able to get what Congress intended: the option to provide workers with a choice of health plans. They will in- stead be limited to a single plan.

The choice option, already available to many big businesses, was supposed to become available to small employers in January 2014. But administration officials said they would delay it until 2015 in the 33 states where the federal government will be running insurance markets known as exchanges. And they will delay the requirement for other states as well.

The promise of affordable health insurance for small businesses was portrayed as a major advantage of the new health care law, mentioned often by White House officials and Democratic leaders in Congress as they fought opponents of the legislation.

Supporters of the health care law said they were disappointed by the turn of events.

The delay will “prolong and exacerbate health care costs that are crippling 29 million small businesses,” said Sen. Mary L. Landrieu, D-La. and chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

In the weeks leading up to passage of the health care legislation in 2010, Landrieu provided crucial support for the measure, after securing the promise of affordable health insurance to small businesses. “It will limit the attractiveness of exchanges to small businesses,” Roach said. “We would like to see different insurance carriers available to each of our 12 employees, who range in age from 21 to 62. You would have more competition, more downward pressure on rates, and employees would be more likely to get exactly what they wanted.”

Health law provision for small business is delayed

Obama administration fails to meet strict deadlines to deliver on major point of legislation

By Paul Girl

WASHINGTON — The false report of the gunman on Feb. 23 events, MIT Police is also looking into train- ing officers to feed information to superiors as emergency situations develop, though DiFava stressed that no set of instructions would be sufficient that “something is happen- ing” — and set up a bridge phone call to bring all the information to- gether, according to DiFava.

MIT Police will consider training officers to better inform superiors.

In the wake of the Feb. 23 events, MIT Police is also looking into train- ing officers to feed information to superiors as emergency situations develop, though DiFava stressed that no set of instructions would be sufficient that “something is happen- ing” — and set up a bridge phone call to bring all the information to- gether, according to DiFava.

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American woman gang-raped in Brazil

Six-hour abduction aboard a public van makes weekend tragic

By Simon Romero and Taylor Barnes

NEW YORK TIMES

RIO DE JANEIRO — An American woman was raped by three men aboard a public van in a six-hour abduction over the weekend that began in the seaside district of Copacabana, the police said.

The attackers pummeled the woman's face and tied up her male companion, a French citizen, then beat him with a metal bar as he witnessed the harrowing assault. The couple were forced to use bank cards to withdraw money from their accounts before the assailants finally freed them at a bus station on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro.

The assault stunned many in Brazil, especially as Rio tries to promote itself as a city on the mend and prepares to host the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic Games.

"Everyone should be shocked by this horrendous crime," said Aparecida Goncalves, the head of Brazil's national office for combating violence against women. She said that reports of gang rape remained relatively rare in Rio and other parts of Brazil, but that cases of rape on public transportation including buses and subway cars remained a pressing issue in some large cities.

Two men were arrested, one of whom, the police said, confessed to the rape of the 21-year-old woman. A third man was being sought in connection with the crime.

In addition to setting off calls for better policing, the assault led to comparisons in the Brazilian news media to recent episodes in India, including the fatal beating and rape in December of a 23-year-old student on a moving bus in New Delhi, and the gang rape of a Swiss tourist in March in central India.

The number of female tourists to India has recently fallen more than 30 percent as fears over sex crimes in the country persist, the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India said Monday.

The assault on the American woman here, police investigators said, began early Saturday, just after midnight, when the attackers forced other passengers out of the van, which picks up passengers along the street and can seat about a dozen people. The woman was raped by all three men, who took turns driving the vehicle, the police said. "It was a gang rape," said Jayme da Costa Rosa Neto, a police official investigating the attack.

After the couple were freed about 6 a.m. Saturday and left at a bus station, the woman was taken to two public hospitals, Miguel Couto and Rocha Maia, for treatment including the administering of a cocktail of drugs containing the morning-after pill, to prevent pregnancy, and other medications to prevent sexually transmitted diseases.
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Solution to Sudoku
from page 7

Solution to Techdoku
from page 7

Solution to Crossword
from page 7

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Cincinnati Reds will wrap up NL Central with help from their MVP candidate Joey Votto

2012 Champion Giants poised to make playoffs

The Reds should be back in the postseason. Led by Johnny Cueto and Mat Latos. Aroldis Chapman was very formidable. Led by All-Star and former MVP Joey Votto manning first base and he is surrounded by talent such as Jay Bruce, Brandon Phillips and Ryan Ludwick. Their pitching rotation is also very formidable, led by Johnny Cueto and Mat Latos. Andéis Chapman was terrific last season and I expect him to continue his success this year. Although the Cardinals will be nipping at their heels most of the way, the Reds should be back in the postseason.

St. Louis seems to be a contender every season and there is no reason to believe that they will not be this year. Although they didn’t improve much over the offseason, they also didn’t get much worse. Their offense is still led by Matt Holliday, David Freese, and Carlos Beltran, so they won’t have too many problems scoring runs. One of their only difficulties may be the potential loss of Chris Carpenter for the majority, if not all, of the season. They still have enough on their team to be a good team, but if Carpenter is gone for all of 2013, they might have a hard time beating out Atlanta and Philadelphia for a Wild Card spot.

Pittsburgh is on the cusp of being a playoff team. Led by All-Star and potential MVP candidate Andrew McCutchen, they should be able to push the Cardinals for 2nd place in the division this season. Their rotation is passable, headed by A.J. Burnett and Wandy Rodriguez, but it isn’t necessarily a bright spot on the team. Don’t be surprised if they play very well this season and surpass last season’s win total of 79. They’re almost ready to take the next step, but they probably need one or two more pieces.

Milwaukee has superstar outfielder Ryan Braun, but that’s about it. They have a decent pitching staff, but nothing too special outside of Yovani Gallardo. They are definitely going to need to retool their lineup at either the trade deadline or in the offseason next year, because it will be extremely difficult to field a contending team with this roster. Braun is definitely a player to build around, but they need more pieces.

Finally, the Chicago Cubs can expect to be in the cellar of the division again this year. They have some nice young players to build around, like Starlin Castro and Anthony Rizzo, but they aren’t nearly seasoned enough to fight for a playoff spot. Their rotation should be decent this season, especially if Matt Garza and Edwin Jackson perform at the level that they are capable of.

NL Western Division
1. San Francisco Giants
2. Los Angeles Dodgers
3. Arizona Diamondbacks
4. Colorado Rockies
5. San Diego Padres
This should be one of the more interesting divisions in baseball in 2013. There is a ton of talent on every team, and it is home to the 2012 World Series Champion San Francisco Giants. The Giants have one of the best rotations in baseball, and if Tim Lincecum can bounce back from his horrendous 2012 campaign and regain his previous Cy Young form, they will be practically unhitbale. Buster Posey returns after his MVP season eager to repeat, while Pablo Sandoval, Hunter Pence and Angel Pagan round out a dangerous offense. Until proven otherwise, San Fran is still the team to beat out West.

The Dodgers have spent a lot of money over the past two seasons. After their blockbuster trade with the Red Sox to acquire Adrian Gonzalez, Carl Crawford and Josh Beckett, they have one of the most complete rosters in the big leagues. It is unknown when Crawford will be ready to play, but the Dodgers don’t need him right away. They have a perennial MVP candidate in Matt Kemp patrolling center field and the always reliable Andre Ethier in right. Their pitchers are their biggest strength, however. Clayton Kershaw is one of the best left handers in the league, and the acquisition of former Royals stud Zack Greinke improved an already formidable rotation. They are neck and neck with the Giants in terms of talent, and it should be a great race.

Arizona lost a key piece this offseason when they traded Justin Upton to Atlanta. They still have a talented core, but they aren’t nearly as much of a threat as they were last season. Miguel Montero and Paul Goldschmidt are players to build around, but they might need to acquire another player at the trade deadline if they are in the hunt. Their rotation is very good, highlighted by Ian Kennedy. The signing of Brandon McCarthy over the offseason was also a good one, as he had a good season last year for Oakland, going 8–6 with a 3.24 ERA. Colorado has some extremely talented offensive players in its lineup such as Troy Tulowitzki, Carlos Gonzalez and Dexter Fowler. The signing of Michael Cuddyer also solidified an already dangerous lineup (especially playing in Coors Field, a well-known hitter’s park). Their problem is their pitching. They really do not have any starters of value, especially after they traded former staff ace Ubaldo Jimenez last season to Cleveland. They will be in shootouts all year with teams, and it’s very difficult to win a lot of games that way.

Lastly, the Padres round out the division. After losing Adrian Gonzalez a couple of seasons ago, San Diego hasn’t been able to recover. They don’t have a key player to build their lineup around, so they will need to do that at some point if they ever want to compete in this tough division. Carlos Quentin is a good player, but he is simply not enough. They also do not have much to speak of in the pitching department, except for closer Huston Street. Their starters are really nothing special, so don’t expect much from the Padres this season.

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By Austin Osborne

SPORTS

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

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Baseball vs. Babson College
3:30 p.m., Briggs Field
Men’s Lacrosse vs. UMass Boston
4 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

Wednesday, April 3
Softball vs. Suffolk University
3 p.m., Briggs Field
Men’s Tennis vs. Babson College
2:30 p.m., DuPont Tennis Courts
Softball vs. Suffolk University
5 p.m., Briggs Field

Thursday, April 4
Women’s Lacrosse vs. Keene State College
7 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

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By Austin Osborne

NL Eastern Division:
1. Washington Nationals
2. Philadelphia Phillies
3. Atlanta Braves
4. New York Mets
5. Miami Marlins

Last year, the Washington Nationals surprised everyone by taking over the NL East and winning the most games in the MLB. They won’t be nearly as much of a sleeper this season, however, as they will have a target on their back from Game 1. It remains to be seen whether or not they can handle the added pressure, but my bet is that they’ll be fine. This team is loaded with talent from top to bottom and they have arguably the best pitching rotation in baseball led by phenom Stephen Strasburg. As disastrous as it seemed to be, the Phillies didn’t play all that bad last year. They suffered major injuries to most of their star players (Roy Halladay, Chase Utley and Ryan Howard all missed significant time) but still managed to win 81 games and finish 3rd in the division. If they can get better luck with injuries this year (and that is a big if), they still have one of the best rosters in baseball. They have 3 potential Cy Young candidates in their rotation, and enough offensive firepower to make it a tight race with Washington.

Atlanta comes into the season without Chipper Jones, the face of the franchise for more than the past 15 years. Nevertheless, they are still a formidable team that is going to win a lot of games this year. The Braves completely revamped their outfield this offseason, allowing Michael Bourn to leave so that they could make room for the two brothers, Justin and B.J. Upton. They have other young, talented players such as Freddie Freeman and Jason Heyward, so they should remain contenders in the East for many seasons to come. Expect them to compete for the 2nd Wild Card spot in the NL.

After the first three teams in the division, there is a severe drop-off in quality when you get to the Mets and Marlins. New York managed to retain third baseman David Wright after signing him to an enormous long term contract in the off season (worth $138 million). Unfortunately, they traded away last year’s Cy Young award winner R.A. Dickey, greatly weakening an already shaky rotation. Other than Wright, they don’t have much offense to speak of, and they will have huge difficulties competing this season.

After splurging on several large contracts last offseason, the Marlins decided that one year was enough evaluation time and traded the majority of them in order to cut salary from their cap. Jose Reyes, Mark Buehrle and staff ace Josh Johnson were all traded to the Blue Jays and they were left incredibly weak as a result. Almost overnight, they went from a talented, yet underachieving, team to a potentially last place squad. One of the only bright spots is outfielder Giancarlo Stanton, but he can’t win games on his own. The Marlins are going to struggle this year — a lot.

By Austin Osborne

USA Today Sports

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The Nationals are expected to win the NL East for the 2nd consecutive year. Phillies and Braves fight for wildcard spots while Mets and Marlins struggle after rough offseasons.