Prosecution and defense rest in Dzhokhar Tsarnaev trial

Closing arguments coming next Monday April 6

By Drew Bent and Ray Wang

After calling just four witnesses, the defense in the Boston Marathon bombing trial rested its case on Tuesday, clearing the way for closing arguments to be held next Monday, April 6. Closing statements will be followed by the second phase of the trial—the penalty phase—if defendant Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is convicted.

Federal prosecutors rested their case Monday after bringing 92 witnesses to the stand over 15 days. The prosecution called its final witnesses to describe the bombing victims’ injuries in graphic detail, which left several jurors in tears.

The last witness to testify for the government was the Massachusetts chief medical examiner, Henry Nields, who for 30 minutes described Martin Richard’s various wounds and presented his autopsy photos to the jurors. Richards, 8, was the youngest of the three people to die in the bombings. According to Nields, Richards quickly bled to death after the largest artery in his body, the aorta, was cut through. His left forearm was almost completely severed, and his spinal cord was cut by a large piece of metal that entered through his back. Many of his internal organs were severely lacerated or ruptured, and he was eviscerated through a large hole in his left abdomen.

For many jurors, the photos were too much. Several cried, and others held their faces in adaptation.

Three tickets debate in UA Pres. Election

Candidates answers questions from The Tech and audience Tuesday night

By Patricia Z. Dominguez

Three tickets spoke at the annual Undergraduate Association presidential-vice presidential debate, co-hosted by The Tech and the UA, on Tuesday evening.

The candidates for president and vice president were Matthew Davis ’16 and Sophia Liu ’16, Lila Shehata ’16 and Robert Maharet ’17, and Daniel Wang ’16 and Siobhan Rigby ’16.

Each ticket spoke on topics ranging from dorm security measures to sexual assault and mental health, as well as their respective platforms. Also addressed during the debate was the recent UA Judicial Board decision regarding Lil B’s visit to MIT last year.

Sexual assault issues on campus

The candidates were asked what the UA has been doing to address the problem of sexual assault on campus. All tickets discussed the UAs involvement with the Title IX Student Working Group and the Its On Us campaign that took place on campus earlier this school year.

Liu said that the UA has not yet openly acknowledged sexual assault as a fog issue on campus and needs to do so.

Maharet spoke about his past experience working with the president.

Apollo 11 astronaut Michael Collins answers an audience member’s question Saturday about lessons learned from his career.

UA President says that confusion led to controversial Lil B payment

By William Navarre

The Undergraduate Association Judicial Board issued a decision last week which found that UA President Shruti Sharma ’15 had authorized a “constitutionally inappropriate” transaction when she transferred an unbudgeted $2,500 to fund Lil B’s November visit to MIT.

The rapper had given a 90-minute talk to a packed audience in 32-123, sharing his thoughts on everything from racism to pop osynthesis. Sharma said she was under time pressure to authorize the funds amid confusion over whether MIT was already under contract to pay Lil B.

Sharma brought the issue before the UA Council members accused Sharma of multiple constitutional violations, including improperly authorizing UA funds to pay for a visit by rapper Lil B.

Sharma says move by councillors was due to misinformation

By Austin Hess, Patricia Z. Dominguez, and William Navarre

A vote to launch an undergraduate-wide recall election of Undergraduate Association President Shruti Sharma ’15 narrowly failed to pass in the regularly scheduled UA Council meeting on Wednesday, which at points descended into disorder.

In a call for impeachment emailed out to the UA Council Sunday, four council members accused Sharma of multiple constitutional violations, including improperly authorizing UA funds to pay for a visit by rapper Lil B.

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Chance of rain and a warm Friday likely

By Colin Thackrey

There will be a chance of rain to end the week as a low-pressure system passing through Ontario might reach out far enough to bring us some rain in Cambridge as it moves eastward to the north. On Friday, the warm air that it brings could bring us the first high above 60°F since Dec. 1, though the possibility of rain could stop us from enjoying it. The temperatures throughout the weekend should stay above freezing with the exception of an hour or two late at night.

As we move into April, tornado threats are going to become more and more common in the U.S. April is the most common month for the occurrence of the most violent tornadoes (F4+), and although these make up only about 1 percent of all tornadoes, they account for more than half of tornado deaths. While tornadoes are unlikely in the Cambridge area, they are not unheard of — as some will remember from last summer.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly Cloudy, High 57°F, Low 40°F
Tomorrow: Chance of rain, Low 47°F, Wind 10-15 mph SW
Tonight: Chance of rain ending around noon, High of 50°F, Low of 30°F
Sunday: Mostly cloudy, High 50°F, Low 40°F

MIT computer science researcher wins ACM Turing Award

Michael Stonebraker, a researcher at MIT’s Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, won the 2014 Association for Computing Machinery’s (ACM) A.M. Turing Award for fundamental contributions to modern database systems on March 25.

With Google’s support, the prize money was increased from $250,000 to $1 million, ACM announced last year. The award is often referred to as the “Nobel Prize for Computing.”

“Stonebraker is responsible for much of the software foundation of modern database systems and originated many of the key concepts of data management used in nearly all database systems today,” ACM said.

Ingres and Postgres are considered to be his most influential work and serve as the foundation for several modern commercial database systems. Before “open source” was something people talked about, Stonebraker released these systems as open software, ensuring their widespread adoption.

Ingres, one of the first relational database systems, revolutionized query language design, processing techniques, access methods, and concurrency control. It now serves as an industry standard for business storage. Postgres introduced object-relational modeling and integrated ideas from object-oriented programming.

Stonebraker’s work helped motivate the “big data” industry. He has created and led a number of database companies, including Tamr, Paradigm4, and SciDB. As a principal investigator at CSAIL, he has been involved in the development of the database systems C-Store, H-Store, and SciDB. He currently is also a co-founder and co-director of the Intel Science and Technology Center for Big Data.

Stonebraker has received several other awards, including the Software System Award, the SIGMOD Edgar F. Codd Innovations Award, and the IEEE John von Neumann Medal. He was also inducted as a fellow in 1994 and as a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering in 1997.

Stonebraker will be presented the ACM Turing Award on June 20 in San Francisco.

—Amy Wang
Plea for UAP recall was two votes short
Sharma says she tried to address JudBoard’s recommendations

**UA Meeting, from Page 1**

and one abstained. The recall was apparently an attempt to at least temporarily remove Sharma from office until the recall vote despite the council’s inability to vote on impeachment.

UA Judicial Board Chair John W. Halloran ’15 said that the Judicial Board, which currently has only two members, has been unable to come to an agreement on whether the allegations against Sharma would merit impeachment.

He said that the other member, Moriel W. Levy ’17 was “appointed by Shruti and has a close personal relationship with Shruti.” He said that he doesn’t believe that the potential conflict of interest would influence her decisions, but “only that it may be a factor in the speed

Sharma said she believes the motion for a recall election in which we may deliberate. “that it may be a factor in the speed

Halloran told the council at the beginning of the meeting that the two-person board, whose constitutionally mandated third member had previously resigned, could not reach an agreement on whether all the impeachment charges were constitutional violations. It was also unclear whether an incomplete two-person board would have the standing to issue rulings.

Halloran recommended the appointment of a third member, but said the normal process of appointment by the UA president would cause a conflict of interest given that the new appointee would likely be the tie-breaking vote on whether the impeachment could proceed to a council vote.

The council improvised and debated several alternative methods of appointing the third member. There was an agreement to send out applications to all undergraduates for the position and then hold an interview process for interested applicants. The interviews would be open to all UA Council members.

**LilB, from Page 1**

Council, she told The Tech in an interview, she said that she wanted to get a better understanding of the facts before getting Council involved. She said she was working on the fact-gathering process with the UA’s advisor and director of the Student Activities Office, Leah Flynn.

“Leah and I were working on this, and honestly, that is what we were working on it together.”

McDennon said at the meeting that Sharma had signed off on the expense herself and that there had been no communication between himself and Sharma. He said in an email to The Tech that he did not know that the UA had funded upper Lil B’s lecture until he ran a transaction report on the UA’s umbrella account in January.

Sharma had authorized the expenditure after a student falsely claiming to be a member of the Black Student Union (BSU) requested the funds from the UA. The student, in fact, had only signed up with the BSU at an activities midway.

Sharma was mostly quiet during Council’s discussion, but she did refer to the “time sensitivity” of the transaction and said “it was to be brought to council, but... we decided to go with our discretionary budget.”

In an interview with The Tech, she said that she was using her constitutional authority as a financial signatory to distribute funds in an emergency after being told that MIT was already under contract to pay Lil B, who could have sued if he wasn’t paid.

“I was trying to be helpful,” Sharma said. “I wanted to do something that would make it easier and the way it was presented was almost like SAO also wanted me to sign this... it seemed like I needed to sign it that day.”

Since there is no written record of the date Sharma signed the authorization, the Judicial Board’s decision said that it could not be determined whether MIT was already under contract with Lil B at the time. Sharma said in an interview, however, that MIT was in fact under the contract at the time.

The Judicial Board found that the $31,200 expenditure exceeded the amount allocated to the Officer’s Discretionary Fund ($5,000 under the fall 2015 budget) and was thus “constitutionally inappropriate... regardless of [Sharma’s] financial signatory status or a need for executive expediency.”

Though the Board acknowledged that there were “extenuating circumstances” surrounding the authorization, it said that the Constitution only permits UA officers to “act in lieu of Council” under certain conditions, in particular, decisions must be reached with “a majority of all officers voting in favor” and must be “subject to subsequent review by the Council at its next meeting.”

“First of all, it is unclear if the rest of the Officers were notified of the transaction,” the Judicial Board wrote in its decision. “Secondly... the President should have notified the Council at the next meeting.”

“The President has a duty to ‘make a good faith effort to keep the Council informed of all pertinent matters,’” the Judicial Board wrote, citing the UA Constitution and writing that “a non-budgeted $12,500 expense should certainly be considered pertinent.”

“Failure to notify Council sooner was not in compliance with the limited duties of the UA President in the Constitution.”

Sharma describes the entire incident as a learning experience. “I think we’ve all taken responsibility for it,” she said. “The BSU has taken responsibility for it. The SAO now has new regulations on how you get financial transactions and contracts signed. Give more checks and balances on the SAO side, too. And now the UA will have more checks and balances.”

Sharma was referring to the recommendations issued by the Judicial Board in its decision. The Judicial Board called for a monthly review of UA accounts by the UA principal officers as well as records of votes on large financial transactions.

The board also suggested considering changes to the UA’s constitution or bylaws to “prevent similar events from occurring in the future.”

According to the UA’s website, about a third of its funds are derived from a portion of the MIT student life fee collected along with tuition and graduate life fee collected along with tuition from all MIT students, while most of the remaining two-thirds come out of the General Institute Budget.

**Contact:**

cohen@media.mit.edu

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**Thursday, April 2, 2015**

The Tech 3
It’s ironic that the left often attacks evolution doubters but opposes GMOs, which we owe to science.

These politicians have been widely critied — and rightly so — for their anti-scientific views. Rarely, however, are left-wing figures held accountable for the same crime. As a Democrat myself, I think it is crucial for the political figures to move beyond partisan criticism and call out scientific illiteracy whenever it exists. It is tremendously ironic that the political left, which frequently attacks the right’s denial of evolution, is much more likely to oppose one of the most promising scientific advancements that we have achieved through the study of genetics. GMOs have found varying degrees of success in blue states like Vermont, Oregon, Maine, Hawaii, and Washington. GMO labeling might make sense if modern genetic modification techniques produced foods that were substantially different from those produced by conventional methods, but the fact is that scientific studies have consistently shown that genetically modified crops are safe for both humans and the environment. In fact, concerns about the environment should praising GMOs, which allow us to produce the same amount of food while using less water and land, emitting less carbon dioxide, and applying fewer pesticides.

Perhaps the worst example of anti-GMO activism is the opposition to Golden Rice, which has been engineered to help people suffering from a genetic deficiency. Despite the promise of Golden Rice, activist groups like Greenpeace have gone so far as to sabotage the golden rice research across the developing world. Vitamin A deficiency causes several million deaths per year, and many of these could be prevented if not for widespread, anti-scientific opposition to genetic modification.

Although the political left may be genuinely concerned about the environment, its obsession with genetically modified organisms and its refusal to promote policies that are counterproductive to environmental preservation often deniers the reality of environmental issues outings, the left’s unscientific opinions are the only ones discussed and implemented. The left’s aversion to nuclear energy stands out in particular. Senate Democrats have held ten hearings on nuclear safety since the 2011 Fukushima disaster. But discussion of this disaster requires some perspective. The Fukushima plant was built on a technically active “Ring of Fire,” and it is required a tsunami triggered by a magnitude 9.0 earthquake to cause the meltdown. The plant itself was in violation of myriad safety regulations. Still, short-term radiation exposure from the plant killed exactly zero people. The liberal LNT model, for overestimations, predicted a total of 130 deaths from long-term exposure. The tsunami itself, by comparison, killed 16,000.

Fracking enrages the left even more. After the events in Pennsylvania, many experts have proposed better regulations to ensure that cement slurry is more secure, for example. The oft-heard claims that fracking causes dangerous earthquakes, drinking water depletion, and produces excessive air pollution, however, are misleading. The left has some legitimate concerns about fracking. Scholars might be justified in seeking to reduce the safe disposal of wastewater, but many charges against fracking are appropiately applied only to issues incidential to the process of gas extraction. Other charges — that fracking is linked to seismic activity, for example — are technically true, but also hold environmental benefits, mining, and geothermal technology.

Left-wing politicians have generally endorsed legislation that is aimed to combat climate change, but the reality is that today’s policies are not advanced enough to fuel a Western standard of living. Subsidies for solar and wind energy are designed to make the energy generation industry artificially profitable, which diverts energy away from grid infrastructure and encourages more energy consumption. Vast tracts of carbon-sequestering forest and grassland are being destroyed to make way for gas extraction, and electric cars are ultimately powered by coal. Moreover, every dollar spent subsidizing today’s unproductive renewable-energy industry is a dollar taken away from the greenhouse gases necessary for the left’s irrational fear of nuclear energy and fraking means that instead of transi- tioning to lower-carbon energy sources in the short run while greeter technologies are developed to continue, we will continue to disproporionately on dirtier oil and coal.

Finally, the left has a vaccination problem. Although the political left might be the most fervent of anti-vaccine rants, it is rarely confronted for using the typical paranoid theorist’s defense. I’m just asking questions.

The political left loves to bring up scientific consensus when discussing climate change and evolution, but it rejects scien- tific consensus as a valid metric when it comes to discussions about genetically modified organisms, nuclear power, and fossil fuels. And, in fact, while a debate in evolution is fool- ish, it is never as dangerous as a rejec- tion of modern technology.

Bill Maher is exaggerated for anti-vaccine rants and rarely called out for using a conspiracy theorist’s defense: I’m just asking questions.

Vaccines freed us from polio and smallpox. Genetic engineering, along with other techniques, has helped us to produce a cheap, stable, and more environmentally friendly food source. And yet, for all their problems, have made us so wealthy that we can now afford to research environmen- tally friendly alternatives. This is a luxury that could not be imagined by the nearly half of the world’s population that still cooks and heats its homes with wood, trash, and dung. Indoor air pollution contributes to roughly 4.3 million premature deaths each year — more than the total number of deaths caused by air pollution from all sources, including fossil fuels. And yet, for all its problems, is exaggerated for its anti-science views. The political left, however, is often unjustly spared similar criticism.

Every week we hear a new story about the new environmental policy that will make the world a better place. But what is the real benefit of these policies? The political left is often just as concerned about the environment, society as a whole.

It seems that every week we hear a new story that demonstrates a lack of scientific literacy on the part of those making politics. Recently, we learned that employees of Florida’s Depart- ment of Environmental Protection under the tenure of Gov. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) were instructed not to use the terms “climate change” or “global warming” in official correspondence. Sen. James Inhofe (R- OK.) recently instructed his staff in the Senate floor as evidence that global warming is a hoax. Last month Gov. Scott Walker (R-Wis.) refused to state whether or not he believed in the theory of evolution, and who can forget former Rep. Todd Akin’s (R-Mo.) famous gaffe about “legiti- mate rape?”

The political left should also be held accountable for scientific accuracy.

By Collin Vierra

GUEST COLUMN

Scientific illiteracy in today’s left-wing politics

The political left should also be held accountable for scientific accuracy.

By Collin Vierra

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It’s ironic that the left often attacks evolution doubters but opposes GMOs, which we owe to science. These politicians have been widely criticized — and rightly so — for their anti-scientific views. Rarely, however, are left-wing political figures held accountable for the same crime. As a Democrat myself, I think it is crucial for the political figures to move beyond partisan criticism and call out scientific illiteracy whenever it exists. It is tremendously ironic that the political left, which frequently attacks the right’s denial of evolution, is much more likely to oppose one of the most promising scientific advancements that we have achieved through the study of genetics. GMOs have found varying degrees of success in blue states like Vermont, Oregon, Maine, Hawaii, and Washington. GMO labeling might make sense if modern genetic modification techniques produced foods that were substantially different from those produced by conventional methods, but the fact is that scientific studies have consistently shown that genetically modified crops are safe for both humans and the environment. In fact, concerns about the environment should praise GMOs, which allow us to produce the same amount of food while using less water and land, emitting less carbon dioxide, and applying fewer pesticides. Perhaps the worst example of anti-GMO activism is the opposition to Golden Rice, which has been engineered to help people suffering from a genetic deficiency. Despite the promise of Golden Rice, activist groups like Greenpeace have gone so far as to sabotage the golden rice research across the developing world. Vitamin A deficiency causes several million deaths per year, and many of these could be prevented if not for widespread, anti-scientific opposition to genetic modification.

Although the political left may be genuinely concerned about the environment, its obsession with genetically modified organisms and its refusal to promote policies that are counterproductive to environmental preservation often deniers the reality of environmental issues outings, the left’s unscientific opinions are the only ones discussed and implemented. The left’s aversion to nuclear energy stands out in particular. Senate Democrats have held ten hearings on nuclear safety since the 2011 Fukushima disaster. But discussion of this disaster requires some perspective. The Fukushima plant was built on a technically active “Ring of Fire,” and it is required a tsunami triggered by a magnitude 9.0 earthquake to cause the meltdown. The plant itself was in violation of myriad safety regulations. Still, short-term radiation exposure from the plant killed exactly zero people. The liberal LNT model, for overestimations, predicted a total of 130 deaths from long-term exposure. The tsunami itself, by comparison, killed 16,000.

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Gender-inclusive housing at MIT
Option should exist to choose roommates regardless of sex or gender identity

While the phrase “gender-inclusive housing” is tossed around somewhat regularly, many people are still unsure about what it exactly means or why, frankly, we care about it at all.

Many universities across the country have already adopted gender-inclusive or gender-neutral policies.

It is important to first of all clarify what gender-inclusive housing is not. Gender-inclusive housing is not some strange, nebulous concept that would horribly complicate housing procedures; it is not an excuse for couples of different genders to room together; and it does not mean that students will find themselves stuck with a roommate of a “matching” gender rather difficult. Further, there are cisgender students (whose gender identities match the genders they were assigned at birth) who may feel more comfortable with students of a different gender identity. Some gay students, for example, may prefer rooming with someone of a different gender identity.

Rather than complicating the rooming process, gender-inclusive housing in fact removes some of the constraints that currently cause problems for many students. It simply provides students with an option; anyone who does not feel comfortable participating in gender-inclusive housing can simply choose not to opt in. But even if the majority of students would choose not to participate in gender-inclusive housing, the availability of this option would be important to many different students, for many different reasons. One demographic includes students who identify on the “trans” spectrum. These students may have a different gender identity from the gender marker on their admissions forms (which is what Housing currently uses to allow roommate selection), and they may desire a roommate of the same gender with which they identify.

Advocating for a narrower policy that would allow students to room with others of the same gender identity, rather than gender marker, is still far from a sufficient solution. It is important to first of all clarify what gender-inclusive housing is not. Gender-inclusive housing is not some strange, nebulous concept that would horribly complicate housing procedures; it is not an excuse for couples of different genders to room together; and it does not mean that students will find themselves stuck with a roommate of a “matching” gender rather difficult. Further, there are cisgender students (whose gender identities match the genders they were assigned at birth) who may feel more comfortable with students of a different gender identity. Some gay students, for example, may prefer rooming with someone of a different gender identity. Other students may prefer gender-inclusive housing for reasons completely unrelated to gender identity or sexuality:

- No one should feel excluded or uncomfortable on the basis of gender identity. Several dorms here at MIT, including MacGregor House, East Campus and Senior House, have already adopted gender-inclusive housing policies. If MIT as a whole were to officially include gender-inclusivity in its overarching housing policies, then all admitted and current students would know that MIT’s housing system is one that will welcome them.

Many universities across the country have already adopted gender-inclusive or gender-neutral policies, including Harvard, Princeton, Boston University, and the University of Pennsylvania. These policies range from case-by-case request-based systems to the designation of specific spaces in residence halls as gender-neutral, to a universally-available gender-neutral option. Rather than trailing behind, MIT should join these leaders and open the option of gender-inclusive housing to all residence halls and class years.

The push for gender-inclusive housing at MIT began over a year ago with Coey Hernandez ’14, and it has already gained significant momentum. Dorm presidents from all of the Dormitory Council dorms have signed a statement in support of gender-inclusive housing. Dormitory Council representatives have been working closely with administrators in the Housing office and LGBTQ services to discuss the possibility of MIT’s gender-inclusive policy and its implementation. However, a lack of sufficient meetings, combined with lingering questions about what gender-inclusive housing is and why it is important, has delayed the adoption of the policy.

The momentum may be building for gender-inclusive housing at MIT, but there is still some distance to go before an Institute-wide policy becomes a reality. All members of our community can join the conversation by sending statements of support and letting key decision-makers know that MIT cares about this issue.

This piece was co-written by some of the student leaders advocating for gender-neutral housing on campus. They live in several different dorms and include Jean Bauer, Matt Davi, Margaret Lattanzi-Silveus, Eli Sadovsky, Lily Seropian, and Phoebe Whittwell. They can be reached at gih-discuss@mit.edu.
The Tech
Thursday, April 2, 2015

UPPERCUT
by Steve Sullivan

A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE, SANRCISM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE
by Randall Munroe
Technical Problems

Technical Problems is a new weekly column consisting of puzzles and math problems intended to be accessible to undergraduates of all majors. The column will feature new problems each week, as well as solutions to problems posed in previous weeks. If you are interested in having one or more of your solutions published in the column, please send them to general@tech.mit.edu.

PROBLEM 1
Alice and Bob alternately mark the squares of a 4×4 square grid, with Alice going first. If a 2×2 sub-grid is completely marked after a player’s turn, then he or she loses. Who can force a win, and what is the winning player’s strategy?

PROBLEM 2
There are 30 students, each of whom is either honest or a liar, sitting at a round table. John, a teacher at their school, does not know who is honest and who is a liar, but he is looking to find an honest student. John asks each of them whether their right neighbor is honest or a liar. An honest student always answers correctly, while a liar can answer either correctly or incorrectly. John knows that the number of liars does not exceed L. What is the largest possible value of L, for which John will always be able to find a student who he can deduce is honest?

PROBLEM 3
Sarah is playing a game similar to the board game Rush Hour on a board consisting of an m×n square grid, where m and n are odd positive integers. The m×n square board is initially tiled with non-overlapping dominos such that only the upper-right square of the board is uncovered. Sarah is allowed to slide dominos into the single uncovered square and, in this way, move the uncovered square around the board. Prove that where Sarah can move the uncovered square does not depend on the initial tiling of the board.

PROBLEM 4
There are 30 students, each of whom is either honest or a liar, sitting at a round table. John, a teacher at their school, does not know who is honest and who is a liar, but he is looking to find an honest student. John asks each of them whether their right neighbor is honest or a liar. An honest student always answers correctly, while a liar can answer either correctly or incorrectly. John knows that the number of liars does not exceed L. What is the largest possible value of L, for which John will always be able to find a student who he can deduce is honest?

Compiled and edited by Matthew Brennan.

Sudoku

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of the digits 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Extra Credit Techdoku

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Hard to Please by Gail Grabowski

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.
Building 12 as seen from Building 24 on Sunday, March 29. The building, about one quarter of the way through demolition, will make way for the new MIT.nano facility, which is expected to be complete by 2018.

POST-APOCALYPTIC SOCIOLOGY 101

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MOVIE REVIEW
Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter: An unexpected spin on the adventure movie
Rinko Kikuchi stars as the enigmatic and confusing Kumiko

By Karleigh Moore
ARTS EDITOR

I felt an overwhelming amount of empathy while watching Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter — both for Kumiko and the characters who interact with her. Kumiko is more than a little crazy, but she is brave enough to depart on a journey that most of us would only dream of. She is extremely depressed in Japan, so she leaves her job and her family behind in search of a hidden treasure she believes she will find in Fargo, Minnesota.

Her boss likes to pry into her personal life, and her mother calls daily to demand that she marry soon or at the very least, she find a boyfriend. She doesn’t like to go out with friends when the workday is over; instead she obsesses over her copy of Love’s Labour’s Lost: A labor of love torn so much exciting as it is embarrassing to watch. If you experience second-hand embarrassment when watching movies, you might want to sit this one out. Every character we meet makes a fool of themselves in one way or another — the kindly Minnesotans have the best intentions but are undoubtedly culturally unaware, and Kumiko doesn’t seem to understand the difference between fiction and reality. She spends much of the film running away from things. At first, it’s work, her mother, and social expectations and later, it’s killings, cab fares, and every single person who seeks to help her.

The film moves quickly and doesn’t waste any time. The cinematography was impressive, especially with capturing the sense of being lost and overwhelmed in the frozen midwestern wilderness. The ending speaks for itself, and the viewer is force-fed nothing throughout the film, which was refreshing. It is hinted that Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter, like Fargo, is “based on a true story,” whatever that might mean.

THEATER REVIEW
Love’s Labour’s Lost: A labor of love
Ensemble rises to the challenge with mustaches, puppetry, and babwy balloons

By Michael Lin

The MIT Shakespeare Ensemble put on their production of Love’s Labour’s Lost on March 4 and 5 in Kresge Auditorium. The show sees them enter one by one to serenely proclaim out loud how much in love they are, not knowing that they are being mocked by their friends, and that their conversations are being listened to in hiding nearby. Each of the men reveals himself in turn to point an accusing finger and declare that no, he would never do something so crass as fall in love and break his contract, culminating in a collective realization that they may as well acknowledge — at least amongst themselves — that they’ve no hope to living up to their unreasonable, self-imposed standards. Of course, they have no intention of admitting that to the women they’re in love with. Thus the hijinks continue.

I found the romantic plotline between the King’s gentlemen and the Princess’s ladies to be the most entertaining and interesting component to the show, it’s fairly familiar ground for fans of Shakespeare’s comedies, and given that the narrative arc of Love’s Labour’s Lost doesn’t stretch as far as some of Shakespeare’s other plays, the romantic leads of the eight romantic leads provides most of the meat. Of the four men, Stephanie Cheng as Berowne receives the most narrative focus, and her energetic performance as a rational and clever character grappling with the not-always-rational emotion of love is nothing short of exceptional. Among the peripheral characters, the highlight for me were Tal Scully’s “Boyet” as Boyet, one of the Princess’s attendants with a mind for mischief at Ferdinand’s court’s expense, and Hatem Adell as Costard, an overall-clad character with a mind for mischief at Ferdinand’s court’s expense.

As much as I enjoyed the show, some of the changes made to this production were a mixed bag that could be at times confusing for me as an audience member. On the one hand, the updated setting made way for amusing moments like Maria’s soliloquies where she is speaking for the Princess and Dumaine’s love song written in Katherine, which is the most heavy metal treatment I’ve ever seen given to a Shakespearean character. Literally on the other hand, the characters of Holofernes and Anthony Dull were consolidated into the single performer, Howard Bernstein and Howard Bernstein’s Forebear, Dall was portrayed by a sock puppet, a well-executed performance that nevertheless left the characters’ already convoluted conversations difficult to follow.

Despite the headscratching, I enjoyed Love’s Labour’s Lost, particularly the familiarity of its romantic character interactions, and I look forward to seeing what unconventionalities the Shakespeare Ensemble puts forth next.

By Karleigh Moore
ARTS EDITOR

Thursday, April 2, 2015
The Tech

Rinko Kikuchi does a great job of performing the confused and confusing Kumiko. The title of the film suggests adventure, which it does portray but not in the way you’d expect. Kumiko’s journey is not as exciting as it is embarrassing to watch. If you experience second-hand embarrassment when watching movies, you might want to sit this one out. Every character we meet makes a fool of themselves in one way or another — the kindly Minnesotans have the best intentions but are undoubtedly culturally unaware, and Kumiko doesn’t seem to understand the difference between fiction and reality. She spends much of the film running away from things. At first, it’s work, her mother, and social expectations and later, it’s killings, cab fares, and every single person who seeks to help her.

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CONCERT REVIEW

Afro-Latin jazz gains new fans

Arturo O’Farrill & Donald Harrison get the audience jamming alongside the orchestra

By Brianna Berrios

As part of the Celebrity Series of Boston, an initiative that brings famous performing artists to the Boston area, Arturo O’Farrill and Donald Harrison set the Berklee Performance stage aflame with flying fingers on the piano and alto sax, respectively. The pair and the Grammy winning Afro-Latin Jazz orchestra (founded by O’Farrill himself) had audiences shimmying in their seats during a performance that earned three standing ovations.

Arturo O’Farrill, son of famous Chico O’Farrill (a composer who worked alongside big names Tito Puente and Celia Cruz), was born in Mexico to a Mexican-Cubano household. Donald Harrison, nicknamed “the Big Chief of Congo Square,” was raised in a musical New Orleans home. Growing up in different cultural backgrounds, these two musicians are and how important latin jazz is to the history of jazz. It was a very theatrical piece that surprised the audience at the performance stage aflame with flying fingers on the piano and alto sax, respectively. The pair and the Grammy winning Afro-Latin Jazz orchestra (founded by O’Farrill himself) had audiences shimmying in their seats during a performance that earned three standing ovations.

Arturo kicked things off with a virtuosic solo piano that never lost clarity. The syncopation was very typical of jazz passion, which came together as cascades of melodies. The catchy and fast-moving rhythm made me nearly ashamed of the book better? Probably. The cast full of teenage heartthrobs? Check. Based on a popular Young Adult dystopian book series? Check. Was the hook better?Probably. Insurgent was the highly anticipated sequel to Divergent, both films were adaptations of Veronica Roth’s best-selling Divergent Trilogy. Shailene Woodley, portraying Tris Prior, and Theo James, playing Tobias Eaton (also known as, Four) maintained the strong performances they exhibited in the first film. Miles Teller, who plays Peter, really invigorated the show, making backhanded compliments and providing comic relief in otherwise stressful and dark scenes.

Divergent was easy to follow even if you were unfamiliar with the series before you saw it, but Insurgent didn’t make a whole lot of sense if you hadn’t read the book version. I could appreciate the themes of class warfare, that the main characters were running for their lives, and that there was something very wrong with this society, but Igot all of that from the first film too.

Insurgent had a lot of action and excitement, and the “sims” (virtual reality simulations) that Tris endures have some impressive special effects, but it was difficult to piece together why many of these exciting events were happening — what exactly is everyone fighting for in the first place? We meet some new characters sort of randomly, in a desperate macho fashion, and we witness huge betrayals that seem to come out of nowhere. I found the dialogue to be lacking, and the more romantic scenes between Four and Tris didn’t seem to do anything for the plot. This is unfortunate because the film really did have a strong cast. The movie’s ending was probably intended to be surprising, but it couldn’t have been more cliche.

Overall, Insurgent is entertaining if you are looking for an exciting action-packed movie, but not so much if you prefer something more engaging and unconventional. There is a third book to adapt for the big screen and, unfortunately, they are milking the franchise for all it is worth, re-releasing it in two parts. Hopefully, they’ll use the extra time to explain what is going on and focus less on creating The Matrix-esque action scenes.

MOVIE REVIEW

Another disappointing adaptation of dystopian teen fiction

Insurgent delivers on special effects, but lacking dialogue and plot eclipse stellar cast

By Karleigh Moore


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The hilly road back to MIT
What happens when students are hospitalized, and the toll on those close to them

By Rachel Davis

My friend Emily was one of the many MIT students admitted to McLean, a psychiatric hospital, last semester after the death of Phoebe Wang.

One night, I was shocked to find Emily unresponsive one floor above me by overlooking on two different drugs, one of which was prescribed to her. With the help of a school nurse, an on-call mental health clinician, the MIT Emergency Medical Service, the MIT Police Department, and Cambridge Fire Department paramedics, Emily was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital and put on IV fluids.

Her GRT drove me to the hospital, and we waited in the emergency room, it felt like a nightmare. Emily was delirious, speaking nonsense and constantly asking what was going on, her mind completely clouded and oblivious to our words and the words of the nurses. There was a terrifying "sitter" at the door — neither a nurse nor a doctor — who had the job of making sure that Emily did not try to kill herself again.

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More people than ever are seeking help from MIT’s Mental Health & Counseling. As compared to monthly data from 2012, last September and October saw a 14 percent increase in the number of undergraduate students and a 22 percent increase in the number of graduate students seen at McLean. Additionally, more people have been using the hospital’s on-call mental health urgent care line. From August to October 2012, there were 36 calls total; in the same months of 2014, there were 55 calls during business hours alone.

Alan Siegel, the head of Mental Health at MIT, said that college students are not alone in seeking help. The National Alliance on Mental Health, more than 25 percent of college students have a mental health condition within the past year.

"It is for this reason that the student wants to do is read an information booklet. This is why someone from MIT’s Student Outreach and Support will usually visit a student who is admitted to a hospital for psychiatric reasons.

When I asked Emily if she had been visited in the hospital by someone yet, she said that she didn’t remember. When I asked if she got any sort of booklet, she answered: "Probably, but I did not read it. I didn’t read anything that they gave me. They just weren’t telling me anything."

There’s the rub. Most students rightfully believe that they will never have to go through psychiatric hospitalization, to say nothing of what is involved and what one’s rights are. However, once a student is actually hospitalized, there are unspoken questions and panic to read or research the information.

Eventually, Emily was transported in an ambulance to McLean, where she was kept in the admittance room for over three hours while they typed away and got a room ready for her. When she was finally admitted, the nurses took away most of her belongings: a bag with handles, pants with drawstrings, her cell phone charger, most of her clothes.

She was left crying in a room, alone in her hospital pants and surrounded by dull white walls adorned with a terrible painting. Her friends were informed of visiting hours, and we immediately made plans to see her as soon as we could.

It was hell getting to McLean. The hospital is located in Belmont, which is accessible via the commuter rail, but Google Maps doesn’t describe the 20-minute sidewalk-less trek in the dark to the hilly campus of McLean. It was scary and rainy and absolutely awful, and we were never to do it again. So we took a $40 taxi home.

But not before we brought Emily new pants and shorts and a sweatshirt. She said that we would let her keep her cell phone inside for her. It was just like jail we were only allowed to give her one hug and one hug goodbye. We gave her secret under-the-table hand squeezes and hoped that the nurses wouldn’t kick us out. They would pass by every ten minutes with a click, counting the patients with a device.

Our housemaster drove us a couple more times. We rented Zipcars other times. Borrowed cars another time. The drive was long and painful, like the commuter rail. A week went by. I remember the phone calls I had with Emily: "I just want to come home. They won’t let me come home."

After this terrible experience, I emailed Siegel to learn more about how MIT handles hospitalizations. Siegel commented in an email: "Dr. Lajeune or I see every student who is hospitalized in all psychiatric inpatient units, not just McLean. We consult with the clinical teams caring for students in the hospital. If a student is hospitalized out of state, we try to consult with the treating student. We do this to make sure the clinicians understand MIT and also to facilitate discharge planning."

Simon Lajeune is the associate chief of Mental Health & Counseling at MIT, and the doctor that Emily spoke with.

Siigel reported that most hospitalizations occur due to students being unable to function on their own. This could mean the student is failing most or all of their classes, is abusing and addicted to a substance, or is so depressed that they are unable to get to bed and feed. Not all hospitalizations are related to self-harm or suicide.

In the 2012-2013 academic year, 43 MIT students were hospitalized for mental health reasons without involving MIT Mental Health & Counseling. Of those, 22 students resisted to their studies directly from hospitalization. Those are small numbers compared to the total undergraduate and graduate body size, over 10,000 people. However, it shows that students who are hospitalized have a good chance of returning to their studies if the student’s academic compromises are not compromised.

I remember the phone calls I had with Emily while she was at McLean: “I just want to come home. They won’t let me come home.”

These were all things that we did not know when Emily was at McLean. She was hospitalized, and terrified of not being able to get to MIT.

Between the Office of Student Outreach and Support, Mental Health & Counseling, Student Support Services, and more, hospitalized students are well taken care of. However, the people closest to them are the ones that also need to be helped. They need to be reached out to in their time of need. The people closest to the student are the ones that many do not think about. The administration is also struggling to reach out to a community in crisis.

Ex-MIT Director, Hall, East Campus, and Maseeh Hall all found support from the administration after their respective tragedies. Student Support Services and Mental Health & Counseling sent representatives to the dormitories, and many professors were very understanding of students’ reactions to the deaths.

But it does not take a death to shake a community. In one dormitory, after a student attempted suicide, the people who were close to the student were unnerved for weeks, skipping academically. I found one of the students in the hallway in the middle of the day walking to Student Support Services, not during open hours and without an appointment. After giving him my time slot, he ended up taking a leave from MIT.

When Emily finally came back to MIT, she immediately canceled. She could not sleep in her own room because it brought back memories of her overdose. She could not go a day without a panic attack. She feared not being able to succeed at MIT or being sent back to McLean.

But then she got better. Time passed, we all healed slowly but surely. And then there was the death of Matthew, and then there was the death of Christina, and then Phoebe’s death was officially ruled a suicide after months of uncertainty, and then we fell down again.

These tragedies happen, people fall apart — what can we do? What can we do to save our own skin?

Rachel Davis is an EMT, MedLink, MIT Admissions blogger, and member of the Class of 2016.
Reminiscences of MIT in the mid-1950s

Tales of the Institute in “Days of Yore”

By Eugene Elander

Heading off to the world-renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology in late August, 1954, I believed that I was doing a public service to the nation. America was in the early stages of the Space Race with the Soviet Union, and my guidance counselor at Dayton, Ohio's Fairmont High School had convinced many of us graduating seniors that it was a civic duty to become engineers and help advance the nation's chances of winning that historic race. Little did I know then that being the Commies in space, and in the moon, would have little to do with my activity at MIT.

A few highlights of those MIT Days of Yore stand out, even after 60 years have passed. Some are worth recalling, while others may perhaps be best forgotten. One of my first shocks as a freshman at MIT was the size of large lecture classes, which exceeded the size of the entire Fairmont senior class. The most memorable of these freshmen lectures had to be the freshman physics course taught by distinguished MIT professor Hans Mueller, who was a world-class practical joker.

On May 1, replicating the founding of the Soviet Union, East Campus marched on West Campus.

Two infamous incidents come to mind. During one class, Dr. Mueller had a glass of water and a beaker of concentrated sulfuric acid on the large lab table in front from which he lectured. After demonstrating the potency of the acid, he appeared to switch it accidentally with the water glass, then seem to lose control of the potency of the acid, he appeared to switch it accidentally with the water glass, then seem to lose control of the acid on the large lab table in front from where our air had migrated and praised for its return to the rest of the room. Finally, Dr. Mueller bid the air to return, took a deep breath, and proceeded with his lecture as if nothing unusual had occurred.

However, MIT fun-and-games were not limited to the freshman physics classroom. There were, for example, the memorable chemistry lab sessions, which were presided over by ancient crones unofficially designated as Acid Amies. These women appeared to have been at MIT since its founding, and to not have improved much in either appearance or disposition in all those years. Any clatter of test tubes or other glassware would set them into a deep reverie, during which they would carefully place it where the hot Campus march on the founding of the So-

To not have improved much in either pa-

The first dorm whose residents ran outside screaming and panting appeared to be the loser in a Mirror War. Then again, as it was unofficially termed, was required to impose sanctions became more and more graphic, the rest of the lecture hall. Dr. Mueller's descrip-

On the eve of May Day, 1958, a notice was posted on all bulletin boards, and circulated room-to-room, that in the future, those would be awkward.

After demonstrating the potency of the acid, Professor Mueller appeared to take a big gulp from the beaker.
Candidates debate questions posed by The Tech

UA Presidential contenders address mental health, dorm security and sexual assault

UA Debate, from Page 1

dent of the Panhellicen Associa-
tion, Taylor Rose ’16, to ensure that
shuttles continued to safely trans-
port students around campus de-
spite harsh winter conditions.

Wang and Rigby described their
plan to coordinate more student
activities with resources from the
MIT administration to increase
awareness of sexual assault on
campus.

Student mental health and
wellness

Shahata discussed having a
town-hall-style discussion be-
tween students and administrators
about mental health on campus. Rele-
vant administrators, Shehata said,
should have question-and-
answer sessions with students so
that it’s clear exactly what the ad-
mnistration is doing to address
mental health at MIT.

Wang said that the UA should
facilitate counsellors’ coming to
specific living groups so that stu-
dents do not have to go to Mental
Health themselves.

When addressing mental health
on campus, Davis said that “mental
health is different from commu-
nity to community” at MIT. He pro-
posed more internal community
discussions. Liu added that there
also needs to be a clearer approach
to other mental health issues like
anxiety, and not just depression.

Dorm security

Wang said that there has not yet
been a clear resolution to discus-
sions about dorm security.

His running mate, Rigby, point-
ed out that the newly applied se-
curity measures were indicative of
MIT working harder, not smarter.

“It’s still very easy to get into
Burton Center if you forget your
ID. You can climb in through one
of the bottom windows or walk in be-
hind someone else. These changes
haven’t addressed security, they
have only made our lives a little less
pleasant.”

Mahari and Shehata said that
the UA should act a support sys-
tem to help dorms and living
groups communicate students’
views about dorm security to the
administration.

Davis also agreed that discus-
sions about dorm security be-
tween students and the adminis-
tration must be facilitated by the
UA. “Students aren’t being heard
about security issues,” he said. He
added that the UA must be more
forward-thinking, and, for exam-
ple, be mindful of possible security
changes that may occur once East
Campus undergoes renovations.

Unconstitutionality of recent
UA expenditures

The UA Judicial Board recently
declared “constitutionally inap-
propriate” the authorization of
UA funds for rapper Lil B’s visit to
MIT in November. Candidates were
asked for their views on what hap-
pened and on transparency at the
UA.

Shahata said that the UA’s lack
of transparency is a symptom of the
way it is currently organized, and
that to address this, more bylines
may be needed.

Davis also affirmed a lack of
transparency in the UA and that
UA officers must be held more ac-
countable for their actions. He said
that the UA lacked structures to
hold officers accountable.

Wang disagreed that the UA’s
structure needed to be changed,
saying that the UA constitution was
not followed when the Lil B pay-
ments were made.

“It’s not that the right thing
was done and the wrong result oc-
curred,” he said. “The wrong thing
was done with a wrong result.”

Closing statements

Wang said that the goals of his
and Rigby’s ticket included hold-
ing a lecture series with leaders
in the real world, inspiring more
students to help with the UA to fix
the UA’s manpower problem, hold-
ing a mental health summit, and
increasing collaboration between
administrators and the Title IX Stu-
dent Working Group.

Shahata and Mahari said they
planned to hold a series of town
hall meetings for administrators
and students to discuss issues
such as advising, grade transpar-
ency, academic culture at MIT, and
stress on campus. They said that
all of their goals were realistic and
could be accomplished within a
year.

Davis and Liu discussed their
past leadership positions within
their respective dorms and the
UA. They mentioned their plans to
make the MIT undergraduate body
a more international presence and
connect students to places around
the world.

The debate, moderated by two
members of The Tech’s executive
board, Will Conway ’16 and Tushar
Kamath ’16, took place on the first
floor of the Student Center. Can-
didates responded to questions
posed by The Tech and by students
in attendance.
Grad student opens up about testifying in marathon trial

Nathan Harman says he saw Dzhokhar Tsarnaev

Sanjana Srivastava

While Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, the surviving suspect in the Boston Marathons bombings and the murder of MIT Police officer Sean Collier, was being lemma into Colliers police cruiser at around 10:30 p.m. on April 18, 2013, MIT graduate student Nathan Harman rode his bicycle past.

Tsarnaev “snapped up, stood up, and turned around — he looked startled, “ Harman said during his testimony in court on March 11. “I just didn’t think anything of it and rode off.” Harman testified, say ing that he thought Tsarnaev was probably just an MIT student. Harman pointed Tsarnaev out as the person he’d seen, and specified that “I only saw one person.” (Tsarnaev’s defense has argued that his brother was the one who killed Collier.)

“It didn’t raise any red flags because the MIT Police have a good relationship with the MIT community,” Harman said in an interview with The Tech. Harman’s interest was piqued the next day when he saw a news article with a map of MIT and told his story.

“Then, I heard nothing for a year,” Harman said during his testimony. “Other than that, I wasn’t mentioned with anyone regarding the events of that night — few people knew. That Harman would be called to testify is considered one of the best-kept secrets of the trial, as most other information was leaked beforehand.

Harman’s interest was piqued the next day when he saw a news article about the murder. “Once I knew it was on that corner, at that time, then the memory sparked, ” Harman told The Tech. “Harman did see this person leaning into the car,” he said. Harman pointed out where he rode his bike on a map of MIT and told his story.

“I don’t want to deal with that,” he said. Since Harman’s testimony, he has said he has been constantly contacted by the FBI. He met with “two members from the FBI that were assigned to this case, and then (William) Wein telt, “ one of the federal prosecutors. They confirmed that Harman was telling the truth, showed him the evidence they’d ask him about, and reviewed questions.

“They told me to avoid coverage of the trial itself,” Harman recalled, and only asked questions about his experience. During the actual testimony, the military the prosecution covered was exactly what they told him beforehand, Harman said. They had told him: “We’re only here asking [for] your story.”

The prosecution also told Har man that the defense may contact him, and told him that if he were cross-examined, he should “slow down, say more than a yes or no, make sure [to tell] the truth.” Harman was neither contacted nor cross-ex amined, which was a “relief” he said.

In fact, aside from the prosecute tion, Harman had little interaction with anyone regarding the events of that night — few people knew. “Tsarnaev is guilty of 30 different charges. If he is convicted, the penalty phase will move onto the death row.

Michael Gamble to the stand, by calling FBI photographer, forensics experts

The COOP is now accepting applications for nomination for election as a Student Director for the 2015 – 2016 academic year. Applications are available online at www.thecoop.com.

The Tech
Can the Red Sox rebound in 2015?  
Team's power hitters coupled with uncertainty in rotation are set to make for an intriguing year

By Souparno Ghosh  
SPORTS EDITOR

After a forgettable first-to-fourth season in 2014, the Red Sox are looking to bounce back for the second time in three years. After finishing with the highest slugging percentage in 2013, the Red Sox finished 14th in the 15-team American League in that same category. Quite simply, the bats that came alive the year before were largely quiet either due to injury (Pedroia, Napoli, Victorino) or were downright unproductive for large parts of the season (Boegarts, Nava, Gomes).

The Red Sox front office led by GM Ben Cherington wasted no time in building a revamped batting lineup, adding power-hitters, switch-hitting third baseman Pablo Sandoval and shortstop-turned-left fielder Hanley Ramirez. Suffice it to say, much needed pop has been restored to the Boston lineup but question marks still remain about pitching, catching, and crucially the important role of closing. Here we take a look at what to expect from the Red Sox in 2015.

Batting

The Red Sox batting lineup looks ominous and as Clay Buchholz pointed out recently, it’s remi- niscent of the lineup of the 2007 Red Sox. Mookie Betts has had a phenomenal Spring Training and has almost secured the lead off spot. Dustin Pedroia finally has his old self back after having to play with injuries the past couple of sea- sons. Big Papi, Ramirez, Sandoval, and the fit again Mike Napoli look set to make up 3, 4, 5, and 6. There is some real power there and you can expect to see quite a few balls flying over the Green Monster.

The much talked about logjam in the outfield means that two-time World Series Champion Shane Victor- ino, BIB-machine Allen Craig, Daniel Nava, and Cuban sensation Rusney Castillo are fighting for the seventh spot. Xander Bogaerts is expected to be more productive with a more relaxed approach at No. 8, and the catcher is sched- uled to be more productive with a more relaxed approach at No. 9. Bogaerts and Brock Holt had a breakout season last year, and with his versatility in all positions, for sure Bogaerts will definit- ely hold him in the mix, particu- larly when the big bats need a rest.

There is little doubt this Red Sox lineup has the potential not just to terrorize opposition pitchers but to put on a show on a daily basis for the Fenway faithful!

Pitching

Having traded away four-fifths of last year’s starting rotation, pitching was always going to be a big question mark. After John Lester opted to reunite with former Red Sox GM Theo Epstein in Chicago, the Red Sox built a rotation of five major-league-proven pitchers but sans a true ace. Clay Buchholz is scheduled to take the mound on the opening day for the Red Sox. While he has shown flashes of being as good as any in the major league, he is com- ing off a worful season in which he finished with an ERA of 3.34.

Rick Porcello, acquired from the Tigers, and Joe Kelly are both young pitchers with the potential to have breakout seasons, although the former Cardinal might have to start the season on the DL. Both Justin Masterson and Wade Miley are former All Stars but not necessarily coming off great seasons. Thus there is a big question mark on how the pitching will pan out. Not having an ace did not stop the Baltimore Orioles from topping AL East last season, although whether that cost them in the post- season is a matter for another day. Red Sox do have the trading chips to try and make a move for Philhies’ ace Cole Hamels, although that is unlikely to happen before the start of the season. Knuckleballer Steven Wright is expected to start in case of an injury to a starter or come in a long-relief situation. Look out for prospect Matt Barnes, who has had an impressive Spring Training coming in from the bullpen.

Bulpen and Closer

The Red Sox bullpen looks strong with the emergence of lefty Tommy Leonel toward the end of last season and the acquisition of Alexi Ogando from the Rangers. Breslow, Tazawa, and Workman are familiar faces looking to make the roster.

The closer situation has been a source of worry since Koji Ue- hara started having hamstring is- sues. Should he fail to be ready for opening day, Edward Mujica is expected to slot in that role. Given the number of close games the Red Sox were involved in (and lost) last season, getting Koji healthy and in his prime is essential if the Red Sox are to make a serious bid for the AL East title.

Catcher

The catching situation seemed set with Ryan Hanigan set to re- place David Ross and play backing to Christian Vazquez. That is, till Vazquez went down with an elbow injury and got placed on the DL, late in Spring Training. The Red Sox are still not ready to throw MLB- com’s top catching prospects on the roster, as he will definit- ely hold him in the mix, particu- larly when the big bats need a rest.

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About the line: Bose sound quality that fits your music – and your style. In a range of colors. With inline mics for phone calls.
Men's lacrosse tops Coast Guard 14-6
Sophomore scores first goal in opening minute of new season

By Phil Hess

In a game played in steady snow throughout, MIT and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy opened the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) men's lacrosse season on Saturday afternoon (March 28). The Engineers scored five goals in the first period and never looked back as they took a 14-6 victory over the Bears.

MIT (6-2, 1-0 NEWMAC) scored in the first minute of action when Harris Stoltenberg '17 rifled a shot home. Just two minutes later, Jonah Howells '16 scored unassisted to give the Engineers a 2-0 lead, but Coast Guard (1-6, 0-1 NEWMAC) took advantage of a man-up opportunity and a half later when junior Trent Moore found the back of the net to make it a one-goal game.

Two more goals by the Engineers in a two-minute span, one from Paul Orson '16 and one from Mitch Turley '18 put MIT on top 4-1 at the 6:05 mark of the first. The two teams then traded goals in the final two minutes of the quarter, leaving MIT on top 5-2.

All of the action in the second quarter was confined to the final four minutes. Coast Guard notched the first goal, getting a score from sophomore Quinn Hathcock to make it a two-goal contest, but MIT came back with goals just 22 seconds apart and when into the half with a 7-3 edge.

MIT completed what turned out to be a decisive five-goal surge in the third quarter. The Engineers picked up scores from Graham Davis '18 and a man-up marker from Orson in the first five minutes. Turley completed the surge, taking a nice pass from Stoltenberg and putting it away for a 10-3 MIT lead with 4:55 left in the quarter.

Six goals were scored in the fourth quarter, but Coast Guard could not come up with consecutive scores to cut into the MIT advantage. The Bears picked up an unassisted goal from junior Bob McKenna at 11:32 that made it 11-5, but it was as close as they would come the rest of the way. MIT put the game away inside the final minutes with consecutive scores from a minute from each other from Chris Cook '15 and Michael Traub '17.

Traub led MIT with three goals and an assist, while Stoltenberg had one goal and four assists for the Engineers, who outshot Coast Guard 38-36. Cook, Orson, and Turley all scored twice for the Engineers. Hathcock and McKenna each had two goals to lead Coast Guard. In goal, freshman Kurt Caminiski made 14 stops for the Bears, while Eric Burtell '16 kept eight shots from going in for MIT.

Women's lacrosse suffers first defeat
Engineers come up short against Springfield College in 16-9 loss

By Mindy Brauer

Following a tight first half, Springfield College outscored MIT, 11-4, in the second frame to secure a 16-9 victory in a NEWMAC women's lacrosse game on Saturday afternoon. Senior netminder Torre Doney paced the Pride (6-2, 1-0 NEWMAC) with five goals and two assists, while Emily Young '18 led the way for the Engineers (7-1, 1-0 NEWMAC) with fours goals and five draw controls.

Young put MIT on the board following after 93 seconds expired but Springfield responded with five straight goals to go ahead for good. Doney set Springfield’s first two goals, scored by freshman Shelby Corsano and senior Colleen Keeley, and after back-to-back free position scores from junior Heather Ranzo, Doney capped the run with an assisted marker. The Engineers ended their scoring drought midway through the frame when Young connected on a pass from Katie Notarangelo ’18 and then brought the score within (3-5) with 1:22 left in the half.

A free position shot by Kira Scott ’16 early in the second stanza cut the hosts’ deficit in half but this was as close as it would get as the Pride replaced with a 2-1 run to establish a 10-5 advantage at the 17:32 mark. Graduate student Kristin Lindbote recorded a hat trick during the rally as she generated the first two goals and redirected a feed from Keeley to finish things off.

Despite the deficit, MIT continued to attack, closing the gap to 10-7 with 11:29 remaining. Isabella DiDio '16 was a factor in both goals for the Engineers as she earned an assist on a tally by Schott before burying a free-position marker. DiDio countered with two goals of her own, sparking a game-ending 6-2 run for Springfield.

Schott finished with two goals, one assist, six ground-balls, five draw controls and caused turnovers while DiDio totaled three goals, one assist, and four ground-balls. Springfield also produced two assists as Christine Hartmann '18 and Hannah Levy '17 both posted three draw controls. Lyndsey Muri '15 notched three caused turnovers and five ground-balls while the Eio Ball '18 collected five saves.

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