Students can’t beat the (6.003) System

What you are about to read might have happened, although some of the names and key events have been changed to protect the author’s grade.

One might have heard...

A hush fell over the crowd as Pound’em Peake stepped up to the plate in Wednesday night’s “System” vs. “Signals” (6.003) softball game. The pitcher spat nervously and delivered. Peake sneered and watched the ball fall out of the strike zone. So went the next pitch. And the next.

The professor was so surprised when a throw finally made it across the plate that he could but foul it off. After deliberately missing the next pitch to lull the hurler into a false sense of security, Peake scorched a line drive into left field.

The Great Grodzinsky followed by jumping all over a waist-high offering and powering the ball past the dive of the second baseman into center field. Peake moved to second, and the first half of the Tandem TA’s came to bat.

A moment later the softball sailed down the right field line for a double, scoring Peake. Grodzinsky held at third. The second half of the Tandem TA’s took his cue and lofted a single just past the first baseman’s reach, scoring Grodzinsky.

A round of applause broke out for Killer Kennedy, the captain of the System, as he took his practice cuts and stepped into the batter’s box. The Tandem TA’s were hugging the corners, waiting for the pitch. The righthander delivered, and Kennedy belted the first pitch over the fence in right field for a home run.

A relief pitcher was brought in from the bullpen and retired the next three ringers (students trying to get A’s by playing for the System) in order, but the damage had been done, and the System went on to win 6-1.

...If only enough staff had shown up to play.

Lacrosse players reaching skyward for the ball.

It’s how you see it.