



KEVIN LY—THE TECH

The 2019 MIT Science Olympiad invitational featured collaborative events for high schoolers to demonstrate their understanding of both theoretical and application-based science. Pictured above are students participating in the “Protein Modeling” event.

New spam quarantine system causes issues for MIT email users

IS&T switched its email security infrastructure to Microsoft's Exchange Online Protection due to DDoS attack in Dec.

By Zoe Anderson
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT email users have been experiencing issues with spam quarantine with the new email service and filtering system.

A distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack on MIT's email infrastructure Dec. 3 pushed IS&T to migrate its email security infrastructure

to Microsoft Office 365, according to IS&T's news website and knowledge base. During the attack, users could not receive external email or send to domains outside of MIT.

Because of the switch in email services, MIT's email filtering system is now Microsoft's Exchange Online Protection, a change from Brightmail's Spam Quarantine system. This was a “difficult decision”

and “not something undertaken lightly,” Mark Silis, associate vice president of IS&T, wrote in an email to *The Tech* on behalf of IS&T.

Due to DDoS attacks on the alum.mit.edu email forwarding service Dec. 4, IS&T redirected all email for alum.mit.edu addresses to the same service.

Spam Quarantine, Page 3

Old squash court in Walker Memorial to become ‘Room of Quiet’

The space, now under final review, to allow students to quietly pray, meditate, reflect

By Jessica Shi
NEWS EDITOR

Plans for a “Room of Quiet,” a dedicated space in Walker Memorial that students can use for meditation, prayer, and reflection, are under final review. The space is expected to open soon.

Matthew Bauer, senior director of communications for the Division of Student Life, sent *The Tech* portions of the MindHandHeart (MHH) proposal for the project.

The Campus Activities Complex has allocated an old squash court (50-305) for the space, with the intention of making “modest renovations to beautify and equip the

room” for its new function, according to the proposal.

“There are very few spaces on campus that students can reliably access for quiet and stillness — and none that are dedicated to this purpose,” the proposal said. Libraries, while quiet, are designed for studying; meanwhile, the Chapel receives a high volume of traffic.

“If optimally successful, this project will provide an opportunity to promote and cultivate within our community and culture values for quiet, stillness, meditation, mindfulness and silent forms of spiritual practice,” the proposal continued.

Room, Page 3

MIT suspended Russian oligarch from Corporation

Decision made last April after Vekselberg was added to Treasury Dept.'s list of sanctioned Russians

By Jessica Shi
NEWS EDITOR

Recent reports revealed that MIT removed Russian billionaire Viktor Vekselberg from the MIT Corporation shortly after the U.S. Department of the Treasury designated him as one of the entities responsible for advancing Russia's “malign activities” globally.

Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty first reported Vekselberg's removal Tuesday.

“In April 2018, to comply with restrictions as a result of [the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control] adding Mr. Vekselberg to its specially designated nationals list, MIT suspended Mr. Vekselberg's Corporation membership,” according to a statement sent by Kimberly Allen, MIT's director of media relations, to *The Tech*.

Vekselberg joined the Corporation, MIT's board of trustees, in 2010 and was re-elected in 2015.

He is president of the Skolkovo Foundation, which was tasked by the Russian government in 2010 with developing a new science and technology area in Skolkovo, a suburb of Moscow. A year later, MIT entered a \$300 million collaboration with Skolkovo to create the Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skoltech), a research and entrepreneurship university.

“As Skoltech has matured, MIT's engagement with it has decreased in intensity, but continues, principally in the form of collaborative research projects between MIT faculty and Skoltech faculty,” Allen's statement said.

MIT's current agreement with Skolkovo went into effect in February 2016 and expires in February 2019. Allen did not answer whether Vekselberg's status would affect a decision to renew the collaboration, instead noting that any updates would likely be published to the MIT Skoltech program website.

Vekselberg is also chairman of the Renova Group, an investment conglomerate, and in 2017 his charity of the same name announced a program to provide scholarships for Russian students to study at MIT.

No students at MIT are currently supported by Renova's scholarship funding, Allen's statement said. “[B]ut because the funds were donated to MIT prior to Renova being sanctioned, they remain available to provide financial support to undergraduate students from Russia.”

A total of seven Russian oligarchs, including Vekselberg, and 12 companies they own or control, including Renova, were designated by the U.S. Department of the Treas-

Vekselberg, Page 2

IN SHORT

The final deadline for spring pre-registration is today at 5 p.m. Students must also select preferences for spring CI-H/CI-HW subjects by this time.

Credit and volunteer UROP applications are due today. To receive credit, students must also register their credit with the Registrar's Office via the Add form no later than the last day of IAP classes (Feb. 1).

Interested in joining *The Tech*? Stop by for dinner Sunday at 6 p.m. or email join@tech.mit.edu.

Send news and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

Chemical reactor vessel over-pressurized and caused small fire in Bldg. 66 basement, root cause unknown

A small fire occurred Thursday at 10:10 a.m. in the laboratory of chemical engineering professor Yuriy Román, located in the basement of Building 66.

“A one-liter reactor vessel, used to extract lignin from biomass for the production of renewable chemicals, over pressurized and released its contents into the containment enclosure,” according to Mark Bazant, ex-

ecutive officer of Chemical Engineering, in an email to *The Tech*.

The fire remained contained and subsequently triggered the lab's water sprinklers. It was extinguished before the Cambridge Fire Department arrived. No one was injured, and the damage was limited, Bazant wrote.

Roman's lab and MIT Environment, Health, and Safety (EHS) are working together to in-

vestigate the root cause of this incident, as this chemical reaction has been performed for many years without issues.

Members of the MIT community received messages alerting them of a “HAZMAT/FIRE incident” in Building 66, which was evacuated and partially closed temporarily.

— Jenny Gao

SILENT ART

Small Mouth Sounds presents theater without speaking. **ARTS, p. 7**

SOCCER STORIES

The Wolves focuses on human stories. **ARTS, p. 7**

BUMBLING BLOCKBUSTER

Shyamalan's latest film is underwhelming and frustrating. **ARTS, p. 8**



MIT SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Photos from last Saturday's mock tournament. **PHOTO, p. 4**

SAUDI ARABIA

The Tech's editorial board condemns MIT's relationship with Saudi Arabia. **OPINION, p. 4**

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WEATHER

Wintry weather makes its comeback?

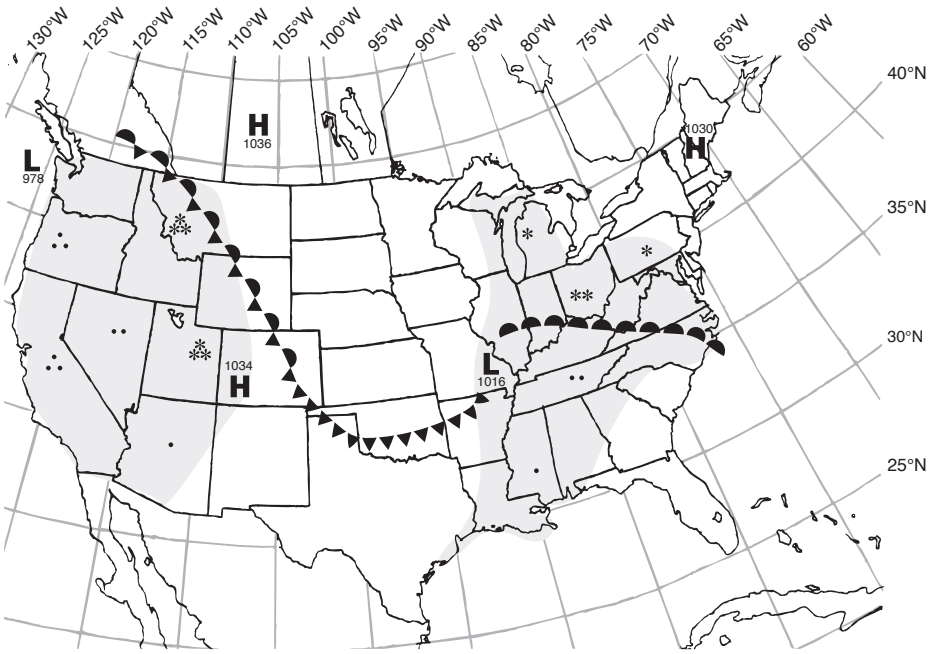
By Jordan Benjamin
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It's been some time since wintry precipitation has visited the Northeast. Despite waves of cold air, Boston still sits at 0.2 inches of snow on the year, 17 inches below normal. But our luck may be about to change. Tomorrow, a weak clipper system will slide by New England with light rain and snow showers possible, but little if any snow accumulation.
















However, a much larger system will follow it on Sunday, possibly bringing accumulating snow to Boston. However, things are still quite uncertain, and it remains to be seen if we snow will reach the coast or remain confined to the interior. Beyond that, a prolonged unsettled and cold stretch appears to be in store, as North America begins to feel the effects of a disruption in the polar vortex earlier this month.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy. High around 27°F (-3°C). NW winds at ~10 mph.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Low around 23°F (-5°C). Light S winds.
Tomorrow: Rain and snow showers possible. High around 38°F (3°C). Low around 19°F (-7°C). Winds SE at around 5 mph.
Saturday: Mostly cloudy, then a wintry mix possible overnight. High around 27°F (-3°C). Low around 24°F (-4°C).
Sunday: Rain and snow likely. High around 38°F (3°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, January 17, 2019

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols		Other Symbols
H High Pressure	 Trough	 Snow	 Rain	 Fog
L Low Pressure	 Warm Front	 Light	 Light	 Thunderstorm
S Hurricane	 Cold Front	 Moderate	 Moderate	 Haze
	 Stationary Front	 Heavy	 Heavy	Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

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Fed. agents stopped Vekselberg in airport

Vekselberg, from Page 1

sury, according to their press release April 6, 2018.
“The Russian government engages in a range of malign activity around the globe,” Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in the release. “Russian oligarchs and elites

who profit from this corrupt system will no longer be insulated from the consequences of their government’s destabilizing activities.”
Vekselberg specifically was designated “for operating in the energy sector of the Russian Federation economy.” Russian prosecutors raided Renova’s offices in 2016 and

arrested two associates for bribing officials, the release said.
Federal agents working with Special Counsel Robert Mueller also stopped Vekselberg in a New York-area airport in early 2018, searched his devices, and questioned him, according to coverage by *The New York Times*.

Can you beat this drawing?

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Solution to Molasses
from page 10

1	6	3	7	9	4	8	5	2
4	8	2	3	1	5	9	7	6
7	9	5	2	8	6	3	4	1
5	1	9	6	3	7	4	2	8
6	3	7	8	4	2	5	1	9
2	4	8	9	5	1	7	6	3
3	2	1	4	7	9	6	8	5
9	5	4	1	6	8	2	3	7
8	7	6	5	2	3	1	9	4

Solution to Sugarcane
from page 10

5	1	6	3	2	4
4	6	5	2	1	3
2	4	3	6	5	1
3	5	4	1	6	2
6	2	1	4	3	5
1	3	2	5	4	6

Solution to Four of Each
from page 10

S	L	I	P	S	T	A	P	P	O	T	S	
N	A	V	A	L	O	N	E	S	E	R	I	E
A	B	O	D	E	S	T	E	P	R	E	N	T
P	E	R	S	A	S	I	V	E	C	O	T	S
S	L	Y	T	H	E	E	C	H	O			
R	A	C	E	B	I	G	S	T	A	R	E	D
A	L	A	R	M	N	Y	C	S	T	O	N	E
P	A	S	S	E	S	P	A	T	O	D	D	S
S	H	I	R	T	T	R	U	E	R			
C	H	A	T									
R	O	P	E									
O	M	E	N									
W	E	S	T									

Solution to Agave
from page 11

7	8	2	3	9	1	4	6	5
6	7	1	2	8	9	3	5	4
1	2	5	6	3	4	7	9	8
2	3	6	7	4	5	8	1	9
3	4	7	8	5	6	9	2	1
9	1	4	5	2	3	6	8	7
8	9	3	4	1	2	5	7	6
5	6	9	1	7	8	2	4	3
4	5	8	9	6	7	1	3	2

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IS&T opens ticket with Microsoft to resolve some forwarding issues

Spam Quarantine, from Page 1

IS&T has adjusted filters to focus on only spam and malware and not bulk email. They have marked significant portions of MIT as “safe senders,” in response to user feedback, Silis wrote. Initially, bulk emails were sometimes quarantined, but IS&T has adjusted the

filter settings to resolve this, according to news on its website Dec. 21.

The MIT Alert email about the Building 66 fire last Thursday was quarantined as spam for thirty percent of students who responded to an informal survey sent by Yevhenii Diomidov '19 to dorm mailing lists. Diomidov shared the results

of the survey, which received 197 responses, with *The Tech*.

Some outstanding issues are that messages forwarded to external accounts are flagged as spam, and external email providers may flag Microsoft Exchange Online Protection’s “Spam Notice” emails, according to IS&T’s knowledge base.

The latter problem is due to Microsoft’s not signing these emails, and IS&T has opened a support ticket with Microsoft to request that they do so. IS&T will contact users who forward to other accounts and are experiencing issues within a few days, Silis wrote.

Users of MIT email accounts cannot opt out of spam filtering because

it would pose a risk to other users, according to IS&T’s knowledge base.

“The new spam [quarantine] is horrible! It has like 50% false positives for me, and even quarantines emails from itself,” Michael Skuhersky G wrote in an email to *The Tech*. “I keep missing important emails by like 24hrs until the spam quarantine summary gets sent!”

Chapel has ‘ceased to function as a viable prayer space,’ chaplain says

Room, from Page 1

The Tech spoke with David Moloney, MIT’s Catholic chaplain; Tenzin Priyadarshi, the Buddhist chaplain; and Nada El-Alami, the Muslim chaplain — the three chaplains, in addition to Chaplain to the Institute Kirstin Boswell-Ford, who are named on the proposal as having been involved in the project — about the varying needs of their communities with respect to the space.

The Chapel has “ceased to function as a viable prayer space” due to frequent interruptions from tourists, even during scheduled events such as Mass, Moloney wrote in an email to *The Tech*.

Moloney first raised the issue of needing to find an alternative space to Boswell-Ford in summer 2016. An initial proposition to repurpose the community room in W11 fell

through, and the CAC recommended the Walker squash court in December 2016.

Initial project notes detailed a variety of ways the space could be adapted to accommodate different communities, such as having a Catholic tabernacle (requested by Moloney), a statue of the Buddha (requested by Priyadarshi), and a section of the room without any images (requested by El-Alami).

(Boswell-Ford emphasized in a follow-up email to *The Tech* that the project notes appear to have been drafted in early 2018, and they are less representative of the current status of the project than the MHH proposal.)

Priyadarshi said in a phone interview with *The Tech* that while the room does not need to be “traditionally religious,” he hopes it will be “warm and welcoming,” with com-

fortable chairs and meditation cushions available.

He estimated that around 75–80 students actively attend a variety of programs in the Buddhist community, a number that varies year to year. There is a “tremendous interest in the practice of meditation,” including from students who do not identify as Buddhist, Priyadarshi added.

El-Alami estimated that there are around 230 practicing Muslims at MIT. Practicing Muslims are expected to pray five times a day, with many of those times occurring right before or after a class. But the only prayer space currently designated for Muslims is in W11, so the addition of other spaces around campus would help students with the “time crunch.”

To accommodate the Muslim community, El-Alami wrote that

the space would preferably include a carpeted section with a barrier in front for Muslim students to focus on their prayers.

Moloney asked his students over a period of three weeks last spring to record when they used the Chapel (specifically, the floor in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the basement) for personal prayer. “I did it to be able to demonstrate the consistent and heavy use that this inadequate space is getting,” Moloney explained.

Twenty-two students used the space during that time, and the average student prayed around three hours per week, according to Moloney. Some were praying closer to an hour a day.

The MHH proposal noted that once the space is sufficiently publicized and well-known, it is expected to receive 30–60 users per day.

As for next steps, Moloney said that earlier this fall, he was told by Boswell-Ford that the project was “coming along” but that “ ‘some people’ want to revisit whether MIT needs a space for quiet meditation and prayer at all.”

“[S]ome decision-makers are getting cold feet about the whole proposal, and are reconsidering the whole idea that people here need a place to pray (‘Shouldn’t we use the space for something more productive?’),” Moloney wrote in a newsletter sent to the Tech Catholic Community Dec. 18.

Boswell-Ford denied that the project was delayed in a statement emailed to *The Tech*, writing that it has instead been “moving through the appropriate exploration and approval channels,” and they “remain optimistic that it will be completed in the near future.”

Athena lounge on fifth floor of the Student Center closes for renovations

Renovations include new furniture, paint, and carpeting

By Sharon Chao
NEWS EDITOR

The Athena lounge on the fifth floor of the Student Center is currently closed for renovations. The tentative completion date is sometime between March and April, according to Gustavo Burkett, senior associate dean for diversity and community involvement, in a statement to *The Tech*.

Designed with input from students and faculty, the new space will be a “flexible study lounge ideal for both individual and group work,” Burkett continued. The renovations include new furniture, paint, and carpeting.

In the meantime, the Coffeehouse Lounge located on the third floor has new printers and is open to students as a study space (card access is required). The color printer that was in the Athena lounge is now on the first floor of the Student Center.

Considerations to renovate the Athena lounge first began in 2015

with a working group convened by Information Systems and Technology and the Division of Student Life. The group, which consisted of faculty and students, proposed enhancements to different spaces in the Student Center so that they would better suit the needs of students.

The Committee on Student Life — which aims to improve the quality of student living and learning environments, according to its website — revived the working group’s recommendations in spring 2018.

The CSL recommended a major renovation to the entire Student Center, and that the renovation be included in MIT’s capital campaign, according to CSL Chair Mark Bathe in an email to *The Tech*.

However, due to limited resources currently available, the CSL found the fifth floor Athena lounge to be one of the prime areas for immediate renovation, Bathe wrote.



MATTHEW BAUER

The new Athena lounge will be a flexible study lounge ideal for both individual and group work.

The CSL felt that the Student Center was an important location particularly because “the geographic nature of this central part

of MIT’s campus is isolated from shopping and dining centers in Kendall and Central Square.”

Harvard University also re-

cently renovated their Smith Campus Center, which reopened in September 2018, according to *The Crimson*.

Student Center card-access hours cutoff is 9 p.m. over IAP

This IAP, the Student Center is card-access-only from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. This is a pilot by the Campus Activities Complex that moves up the cutoff for card-access hours from 11 p.m. during the semester to 9 p.m. during holidays, breaks, and IAP, according to Michael Foley, director of the CAC, in a statement emailed to *The Tech*.

Students, MIT community members, and authorized affiliates with a valid MIT ID can access the Student Center anytime.

To make it easier to access the Student Center after hours, the CAC installed new card readers at several access points, Foley wrote.

The new pilot hours more closely align with other MIT facilities, such as the Stata Center, which requires an MIT ID for access between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m., Foley continued.

However, student groups can work with the CAC to adjust card-access hours for special events.

— Sharon Chao

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visit to campus, MIT's decision to reassess relations, and its report to maintain ties have all received considerable news coverage already. The act of cutting ties or even the much simpler act of releasing a statement condemning Saudi Arabia would serve as a substantial challenge to the Saudi government and could place pressure on other universities and institutions to follow suit. Given that the Saudi government is heavily reliant on the U.S. government as well as American universities, companies, and defense contractors for credibility, military assistance, and financial gain, actions taken by entities within the U.S. can have significant impacts.

The South African apartheid divestment movement serves as a useful example of the power that a small number of universities can have in creating a domino effect of institutional change. Although only a handful of companies and universities, such as Hampshire College and Columbia University, divested in the early stages of

the movement, the number of universities that followed their lead and similarly divested increased substantially in the years after, jumping to 53 in 1985 and 155 in 1988. Looking back at this history 40 years later, it is easy to feel discomfort at the idea of MIT holding close financial ties with such an unquestionably repressive regime —

In order for MIT to truly call itself a progressive force for change in the world, it must be willing to take a stand against deeply problematic actors.

however, the students critiquing apartheid back then faced much of the same push-back as ones critiquing Saudi Arabia do

today, and consequently, MIT never ended up divesting. This time around, MIT should make the more morally sound decision of cutting its ties with the Saudi government.

The current political climate surrounding Saudi Arabia provides an opening for MIT to make a similarly large impact, as Khashoggi's murder has placed the Saudi regime's human rights violations in the international spotlight. Consequently, several companies have taken moves to distance themselves from the Saudi government, the Senate has passed a resolution demanding Trump end U.S. military assistance to Saudi Arabia, and the UN has begun peace talks over Yemen. Some students and faculty at MIT and other universities have also spoken up, but thus far, the administrators at these universities have done very little in taking a stand against the Saudi regime. Doing so is not outside the realm of possibility — many universities already set boundaries on the types of institutions that

they are willing to take money from, such as the many public health schools that have pledged not to take funding from the tobacco industry.

But irrespective of the eventual actions of other universities or institutions, MIT still has the same moral obligation to sever relations with the Saudi government. In order for MIT to truly call itself a progressive force for change in the world, it must be willing to take a stand against deeply problematic actors. The Saudi Arabian government is clearly such an actor, and it continues to commit abhorrent human rights violations. By turning a blind eye, MIT loses the credibility of its mission statement of serving the nation and the world.

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Editor in Chief Emma Bingham, Executive Editor Patrick Wahl, Contributing Editor Vivian Zhong, and Opinion Editors Steven Truong and Fiona Chen.

OPINIONOPINIONOPINIONOPINIONOPINION



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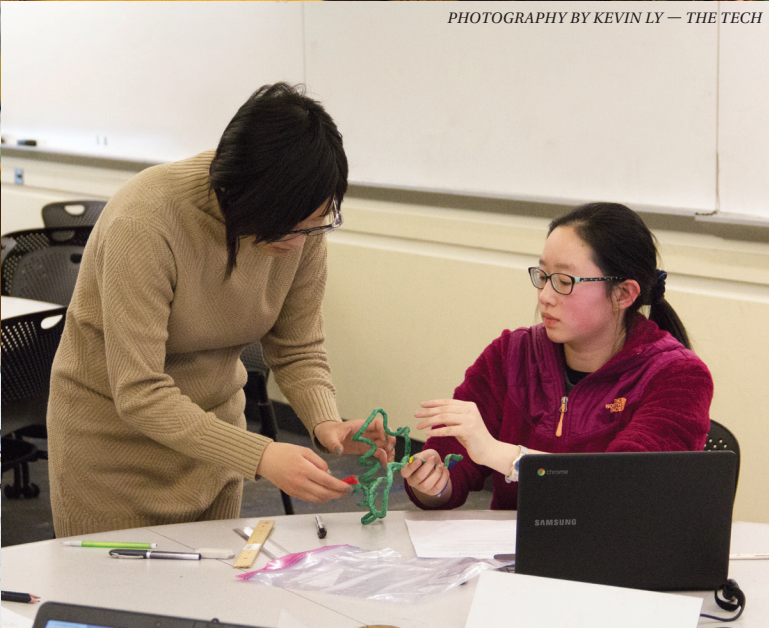
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MIT SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

MIT hosted its Science Olympiad invitational Jan. 12. Over 70 high schools across the nation attended and competed across 26 STEM disciplines. At the award ceremony that evening, keynote speaker Professor Angela Belcher distributed mini periodic tables and gave a talk about her research on biological materials. Chris “Petey” Peterson was the second speaker of the night and, with his signature humor, gave words of encouragement about what the future holds for the competitors going on to college. The long day of competition and suspense culminated with Acton-Boxborough Regional High School being crowned the top team of the tournament.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN LY — THE TECH

THEATER REVIEW

Running with the wolf pack

Sarah DeLappe’s *The Wolves* skillfully uses the language of teenagers in this depiction of a girls’ soccer team



The cast of *The Wolves* poses for a picture with orange slices.

By Ethan Vo
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

If I had to succinctly summarize Sarah DeLappe’s *The Wolves*, I would say that it features the gossip of a girls’ soccer team as the athletes warm up for their upcoming

games. Yet this simple premise hardly does justice to *The Wolves*’s brilliance; the play finds a theatrical cadence in the speech of teenagers, rendered amusing and achingly real, and fleshes out a fully developed character for each girl. If I instead described *The Wolves* in loftier praises as a transformative

representation of the feminine experience, the words would ring hollow in comparison to the complex tableau of nuanced portrayals at Lyric Stage currently. Indeed, it is difficult to find a flaw in Lyric Stage’s impressive production of *The Wolves* which boasts a stellar all-female cast and creative team.

The Wolves is a character-driven play in which the girls discuss a variety of topics ranging anywhere from appropriate sentencing of Khmer Rouge officials to gossip about classmates. These interactions are fast and sometimes overlapped — reminiscent of the techniques used by Caryl Churchill and Aaron Sorkin — revealing the team’s cliques and social dynamics to which the title of the play alludes. Director A. Nora Long and the cast make commendable work of this challenge, establishing a natural rhythm to the dialogue without sacrificing either realism or clarity. The cast is all-around excellent — crafting complex and grounded personalities in each of their characters. Special mention goes to Sarah Elizabeth Bedard as the morbidly curious #11, Jarielle Whitney as the charismatic and funny #13, and Laura Latreille as the Soccer Mom for knocking out her powerful ending monologue. My only nitpick would be in the performance of Valerie Terranova as #25, who is a bit too restrained as the team captain, although this could believably be an intentional decision for the character.

Design-wise, *The Wolves* is not a play that requires many bells and whistles. The turf on the stage and the net shielding the audience from soccer balls effectively evoke

The Wolves

Written by Sarah DeLappe

Directed by A. Nora Long

Lyric Stage Boston

Jan. 11–Feb. 3

the soccer field with the help of the lighting befitting one of a stadium. Despite their relative simplicity, these design elements excel in increasing the staying power of the stunning final scenes which have become ingrained in my mind. In terms of seating, the Lyric Stage’s thrust staging never interferes with the action on stage, although I would recommend sitting more towards the right of the stage.

In the director’s notes, Long notes that the phrase “female athlete” implies that athletes are male by default. Perhaps the same thing could be said for wolves, which have received masculine connotations by way of the popular beliefs about wolf pack dynamics. Perhaps, just as the social perceptions of the wolf obscure their actual behavior, the assumptions of being an athlete betray the girls’ diverse personalities as individuals. In any event, run to see Lyric Stage’s production of *The Wolves*, even if it involves a couple of high kicks. Run and howl.

THEATER REVIEW

Make some noise for *Small Mouth Sounds*

Bess Wohl crafts a funny and moving character-driven drama from silence

Small Mouth Sounds

Written by Bess Wohl

Directed by M. Bevin O’Gara

Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts

Jan. 4–Feb. 2

By Ethan Vo
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Influenced by Zen Buddhism, John Cage’s famous 4’33” challenges audience members to focus on the ambient sounds around them by having the performers abstain from playing their instruments for the duration of the piece. In a similar fashion, Bess Wohl’s *Small Mouth Sounds* demands from the audience an attentiveness to the play’s six characters, who partake in a spiritual retreat during which they are not allowed to speak. Guided by an unseen sermonizing guru, the six people hilariously struggle to adapt to their new lifestyle while desperately wanting to communicate their personal traumas. Despite the challenges of staging such a play, SpeakEasy Stage’s production of *Small Mouth Sounds* skillfully rises to the occasion through the efforts of its all-around exceptional cast and design team. Visually elegant and moving, the production finds a natural flow of comedy and drama, giving the audience enough questions for in-

trospection without the need of an actual silent retreat.

In *Small Mouth Sounds*, silence functions comically as a rule to be broken and as a tool of miscommunication. Nael Nacer, who plays the character Ned (recognizable by his hat), is excellent at garnering laughs from these situations. Especially notable scenes are: when he attempts to stop his roommate (a yoga teacher played by Sam Simahk) from humming, or when he performs an improvised ritual dance reminiscent of Sorcerer Mickey from *Fantasia* due to his inability to voice his confusion.

Silence also functions dramatically as a way to define characters through their actions alone and to create suspense. For example, Gigi Watson’s hurried footsteps while overloaded with bags, Kerry A. Dowling’s devil-may-care entrance armed with a Starbucks cup, and Celeste Oliva’s cold shoulder speak volumes about their characters in a way that is heightened by the relative silence. Suspense is also created by withholding information through silence, especially in the character Jan (played by Barlow Adamson), who shares very little yet hints at his background early on by placing a picture frame near his mat. This cleverness in using silence to flesh out characters without the luxury of verbiage is just one example that makes *Small Mouth Sounds* an absorbing and rewarding experience.

The play’s set design is simple yet effective in its evocation of Zen Buddhism through paper screens covering the lights, wood flooring, and rectangular tiled lighting reminiscent of tatami mats. The environmental ambient sounds and the thrust staging also effectively convey the themes of isolation and vastness without being overly distracting. However, the integration of these elements with the thrust stag-



The cast of *Small Mouth Sounds* starts their silent retreat.

ing sometimes leaves much to be desired. Much of the action of the play is directed towards the rear center of the theater, which receives the brunt of Marianna Bassham’s comically loud lip smacking as the ironically curmudgeonly spiritual teacher. Due to the play’s reliance on facial expressions and gestures, the issue of only seeing an actor’s back becomes exacerbated.

I am somewhat hesitant to praise the play’s gimmick as a true innovation, since it is not unlike the silent library skit or plays which have incorporated ASL. There is also some improbability towards the end of the play which requires suspension of disbelief as the play makes a victory lap to violate every established rule and have every character emotionally crumple.

Yet the metatheatricity of *Small Mouth Sounds* makes for theater that is ultimately rewarding to see. Aside from the heightened awareness brought on by silence, there is a moment when the guru exhorts the others to change their lives after becoming exasperated by the repetition and lack of response, questioning whether someone can really turn around their life in five days. Why do people expect the same in roughly two hours from theater? How is an actor, having gone through the rigmarole of many performances, supposed to connect to an unspeaking audience? These reflections make *Small Mouth Sounds*, already entertaining and visceral by the strong cast and creative team, an exceptional live theater.

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The big bad trio finally comes together

★★★★☆

Glass

Directed by M. Night Shyamalan

Screenplay by M. Night Shyamalan

Starring Bruce Willis,
Samuel L. Jackson, James
McAvoy, Sarah Paulson,
Anya Taylor-Joy

Rated PG-13, Now Playing

Glass, as can be seen in the trailers, primarily focuses on the journey the intriguing trio go through after being committed to a psychiatric hospital. While they are stuck there as patients, Dr. Ellie Staple (Sarah Paulson) desperately tries to convince all

However, the two-hour long debacle did have its highlights. The performance from the cast matches its expected caliber. It also brings a certain amount of nostalgia considering a lot of the cast reprise their roles, such as Spencer Treat Clark, who played young Joseph Dunn 19 years ago in *Unbreakable*.



Speaking of awkward moments, the cinematography and sound design did some-

So, should you go watch this movie? For the sake of completing the story Shyamalan already established in *Unbreakable* and *Split*, I'd say go for it. From the Beast's frequent rampages to the occasional push-and-shove action sequences, the viewer can be kept entertained throughout the long two hours. I suppose my main piece of advice is go into it expecting a typical Shyamalan movie. Definitely not one as bad as *The Last Airbender*, but also not one as great as *The Sixth Sense* or *Unbreakable*.

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Solution, page 2

			7		4			2
	8				5	9	7	
				8		3		1
	1	9					2	
6		7				5		9
	4					7	6	
3		1		7				
	5	4	1				3	
8			5		3			

Four of Each by Sandy Fein

Solution, page 2

ACROSS

- 1 Minor mistakes
- 6 Touch on the shoulder
- 9 Ceramic holders for flowers
- 13 __ Academy (Annapolis military school)
- 14 Change for a five
- 16 A Great Lake
- 17 "Humble" residence
- 18 Rung of a ladder
- 19 Money paid to a landlord
- 20 Very convincing, as an argument
- 22 Fold-up beds
- 23 Crafty
- 24 Follow __ leader
- 25 Reverberate
- 27 __ in (introduce gradually)
- 29 Bagpipers' skirts
- 32 Marathon or sprint
- 35 Enormous
- 36 Looked without blinking
- 38 Clock's wake-up sound
- 40 "The Big Apple": Abbr.
- 42 Boulder or pebble

- 43 Football throws
45 Serving of butter
47 Probability stats
48 "Button-down" garment
49 More factual
51 Line of stitching
53 Letters after ems
54 601, in Roman numerals
57 Casual conversation
60 Flawlessness
63 Thick cord
64 Wild animal's den
65 Scarlett of Gone With the Wind
66 Sign of the future
67 Otherwise
68 Extend a subscription
69 Toward sunset
70 Catch sight of
71 Make fun of

DOWN

- 1 Breaks sharply
- 2 Clothing tag
- 3 Elephant's tusk material

- 4 Writing tablets
- 5 Private eye
- 6 Adds at no extra cost
- 7 Prefix meaning "against"
- 8 "Pet" annoyance
- 9 Coffee-making machine
- 10 Sandwich cookie brand
- 11 Windshield coloring
- 12 Complete collections
- 15 Bits of dust
- 21 Moby-Dick captain
- 26 Chart-topping songs
- 27 Unwilling to give up
- 28 Cairo's nation
- 30 Walked heavily
- 31 Mail away
- 32 Sharp door knock
- 33 "That's too bad"
- 34 What a teller dispenses
- 37 __ Moines, IA
- 39 Insignificant
- 41 Without a worry
- 44 Fasten together, as
papers
- 46 Song

Solution, page 2

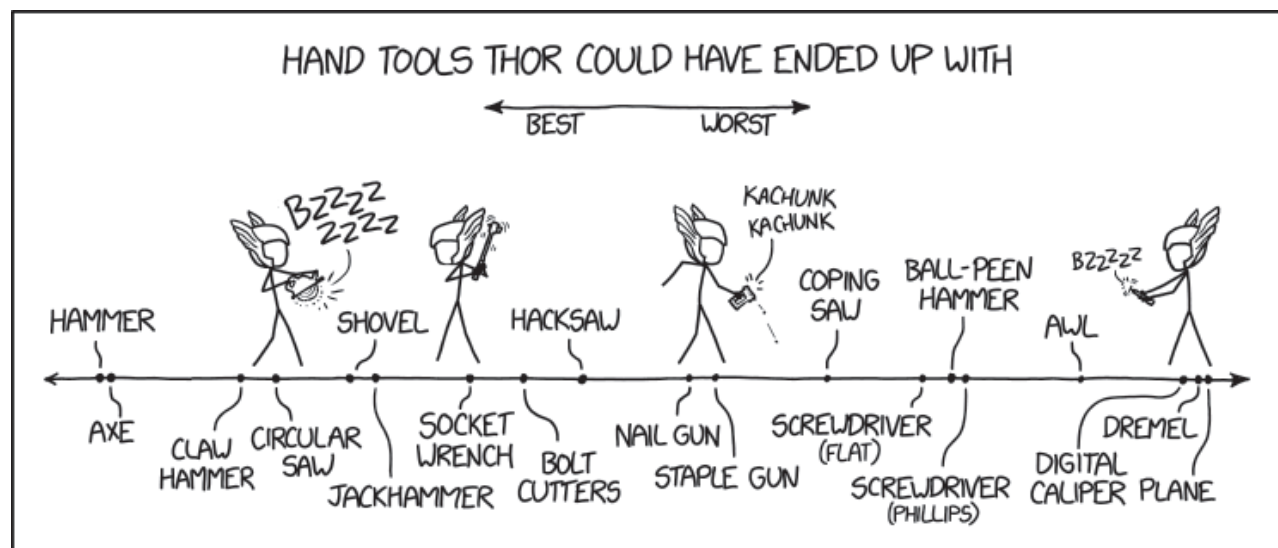
30x		30x	8+		4
4					3÷
6x	12+		6x	5	
		4÷		18x	2
12x			9+		5
6x				24x	

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.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14			15	16			
17						18				19			
20					21					22			
23				24				25		26			
			27				28		29		30	31	
32	33	34			35				36				37
38				39		40		41		42			
43					44		45		46		47		
	48						49			50			
			51			52		53			54	55	56
57	58	59			60		61			62			
63					64					65			
66					67					68			
69						70				71			

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 50 Take on a date | 57 Black bird |
| 52 Breakfast and dinner | 58 Residence |
| 54 Prince William's mom | 59 Chimps and gorillas |
| 55 Innermost apple parts | 61 Stand up |
| 56 Extremely impressed | 62 "My country, 'tis of ____" |

[2097] Thor Tools



CORRECTION: After careful evaluation, we have determined that the axis label on this chart was printed backward.

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- Arrowstreet Capital
- Bain & Company
- Bertelsmann
- BMW Group
- Capital One
- Citadel
- Dell EMC
- Digitas
- Fidelity
- Google DeepMind
- iRobot
- McKinsey & Company
- McKinsey QuantumBlack
- MFS Investments
- MITRE
- MIT Lincoln Laboratory
- Oracle
- Raytheon
- Sabre
- Starbucks
- Trip Advisor
- Walmart
- Wayfair
- ... and more!



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columns?

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architect?

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For Sale - Cape Cod that will draw you in! Screened-in porch, four bedrooms, one-car garage, Native American burial ground in backyard, living room smells faintly of vomit - \$500,000

For Sale - Enormous luxury condominium on the 19th floor, three bedrooms, three full bathrooms, one half bath, fireplace, built-in shelves galore, walls of windows offer sweeping views of downtown, relax and unwind with a glass of wine or sherry on balcony overlooking city - \$2,250,000

For Sale - Victorian home in safe neighborhood, two-story living room, four bedrooms upstairs somehow fit directly over the kitchen, one-car garage that has been converted into a recording studio, attic has higher ceilings than the exterior would suggest and contains fifth bedroom - \$6,000,000

For Rent - One-bedroom apartment, landlords conveniently live directly underneath, oven is large enough to bake enormous loaves of bread, bedroom has space for two beds whether separate or pushed together - \$100/mo

For Sale - Adorable rambler, patio, two-car garage, alley behind the house is perfect for beer or gossip with the neighbors, you'll love the purple carpet—it's fit for royalty! - \$300,000

For Rent - Commercial space in a downtown highrise with two large private offices, fourth wall that comes and goes, will need to be reassembled after being literally taken apart around previous tenants - \$75,000/yr

For Sale - Two-story B&B located in the rolling hills! With some minor improvements to the rustic residence, you'll feel like you're living a dream! - \$75,000

For Sale - Reanimate this heavy fixer-upper! One-car detached garage, smells of beer, located in a charming snow-covered town nestled among tall peaks, possibly a location of paranormal activity due to the weekly death and rebirth of one of its residents - \$31,000

For Rent - One of the largest two-bedroom condos you'll see, 4th floor, elevator has been broken for years, easy access to university, security deposit required - \$600/wk

For Sale - You'll trip—er, flip—over this ravishing rambler! Bay window w/ seat, built-in shelves, double over, peculiar wall angles that provide character, closets can contain all the walnuts you could ever eat! - \$60,000

For Rent - Studio apartment in a lovely Victorian mansion, sunken living space, built-in bookcases, large window w/arch lets in lots of light, small balcony, walk-in closet, potbelly stove to help you keep warm during long frigid winters, landlord lives in same building - \$60/wk

For Sale - Large white two-story home nestled in rural mountains, expansive front porch, marvelous acoustics allow for bedtime conversation across the house, may have some fire damage—this is a diamond-in-the-rough that can really shine with the elbow grease of a huge family! - \$7,500

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