

THE ECHO

Mahindra University's Official Newspaper

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HEARTATHON: Heartfelt strides for little smiles

Ananya Agarwal and Snikitha Jampani, Staff Writers



The Heartathon, organised by the Outreach Club in collaboration with the Mahesh Babu Foundation, aimed at spreading awareness about heart health and supporting children with Congenital Heart Diseases. Held at KBR Park on March 16, 2024, the marathon drew approximately 300 participants, donors, and volunteers, who all came together for a common cause.

Starting bright and early at 7:30 AM, the marathon featured both 3K and 5K routes, providing the participants with an opportunity to challenge themselves physically while also raising awareness about the prevalence of congenital heart diseases among children. Each runner who participated in the marathon displayed remarkable resilience and commitment to the cause, setting an inspiring example for others. The 5K marathon winner for boys was Jai Ribadia and the runners up was Yashaswi Singh, while for girls the winner was Anoushka Alex and the runners-up was Bhavya Chaurasia. The winner in the 3K category (boys) was Arlagadda Yogeshwar and the runner up was Ranveer Reddy, while for girls Venkata Sravani Athani secured the first place and Sanjana Reddy

came 2nd. Following the run, an enlightening awareness session took place in the Tree Inn Jubilee banquet hall. Dr. Koneti Nageswara Rao from the Rainbow Hospitals has engaged the crowd in a meaningful discussion about the importance of early detection and treatment of congenital heart diseases, which inspired everyone to bring a change in the society.



The prize distribution ceremony was another highlight of the event, where participants were acknowledged and honoured for their remarkable accomplishments. Ms. Namrata Shirodkar, co-founder of the Mahesh Babu Foundation, graced the event as the chief guest and felicitated the winners. She has praised the participants for their dedication and commitment.

The event was sponsored by SBI, Anvi, Food Sutra and Country Delight, who provided the participants with refreshments post marathon.

Beyond the accolades and achievements, the true essence of the Heartathon lies in its impact on the lives of children battling congenital heart diseases. The funds raised through the event will serve as a lifeline for these children, providing them with access to the medical care they urgently need and giving them hope for a brighter future.



MU Football Secures Glory in Gusto 2024

Mounami Jagarapu, Sports Editor



Mahindra University made an impact at Gusto 2024, a sports fest held at Gitam University from March 13th to 15th. While showcasing sportsmanship across various disciplines, it was the boy's football team that stole the limelight.

The group stage matches saw Mahindra University Team A play a hard-fought draw against St Martins which set the tone for their campaign, followed by a 5-0 victory against BVRIT. The goals came in abundance, with Tejas netting twice, while Anuj, Apoorv, and Harshit each contributed a goal, securing the team's spot in the knockout stages. Entering the knockout rounds with confidence, Mahindra University Team A's match against VIT AP in the semi-finals showcased our team's potential, winning with a scoreline of 2-1. Goals from Tejas and Hamza pushed the team to the finals, where they were matched with Gitam A.

Gitam A and Mahindra University A engaged in an exciting match in the finals. Tejas scored for Mahindra University A as the game ended in a 1-1 draw. As the tension in the game increased, Mahindra University Team A showed solid resolve and claimed an incredible win with a 4-3 score on penalties. Captain Pranav, overwhelmed with pride, shared his thoughts on the team's journey to victory. "Honestly, this team around me is surrounded by one of the most talented kids in the city but still, all throughout the year, we kept getting unlucky and kept losing in the final and when we won this tournament, god, that felt worth it and alive again. It felt amazing," he exclaimed.

The victory of Mahindra University A in the football at Gusto 2024 led to a great finish. Their win serves as an inspiration to all, highlighting the power of teamwork and dedication.

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IET On Campus Student Chapter: Fostering Innovation and Industry Connections

Adit Rushil Potta and Lanii Lakshita, Staff Writers



The Institution of Engineering and Technology is a global engineering community, consisting of a network of professionals and students who are dedicated to promoting the advancement of engineering and technology worldwide. At its core, it serves as a catalyst for professional growth and development. From workshops and seminars to publishing a wide range of journals and magazines, the IET provides invaluable opportunities for individuals to hone their expertise and stay ahead of the curve in a rapidly evolving technological landscape.

On February 7th, 2024, IET, The Institution of Engineering and Technology, began its new chapter in Hyderabad at Mahindra University, opening its network with a team of 8 young undergraduates brimming with talent, under the guidance of Dr. Sreedhar Madichetty. He has been an indispensable source of guidance for this IET student chapter. His unwavering support has paved the way for the successful initiation of the IET chapter at MU.

The visionary leadership and steadfast encouragement of the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Yajulu Medury, and the Head of the ECE Department, Dr. Ram Mohan Vemuri, have not only aided the smooth execution of the events organized by the student chapter, but have also underscored their dedication to fostering a vibrant academic environment at our institution.

The IET student chapter comprises of 8 members, with Deepyash Varma serving as the President, Prachi Kansal as the Vice-President, Shreeniketh AK as the Secretary, Priyananda N as the Joint-Secretary and Swarnim Sawane as the Treasurer. The OC will be incomplete without the 3 shining Executive OC members, namely Lanii Lakshita, Adit Rushil Potta and Ramki Jeti. This dynamic team together was responsible for successfully organising the orientation which brought the esteemed members of the

global IET chapter to the forefront, providing valuable insights into the organization of IET and opportunities for collaboration. This event inspired students to collaborate with the organization, building connections with professionals in the network and facilitating the growth of their professional network.

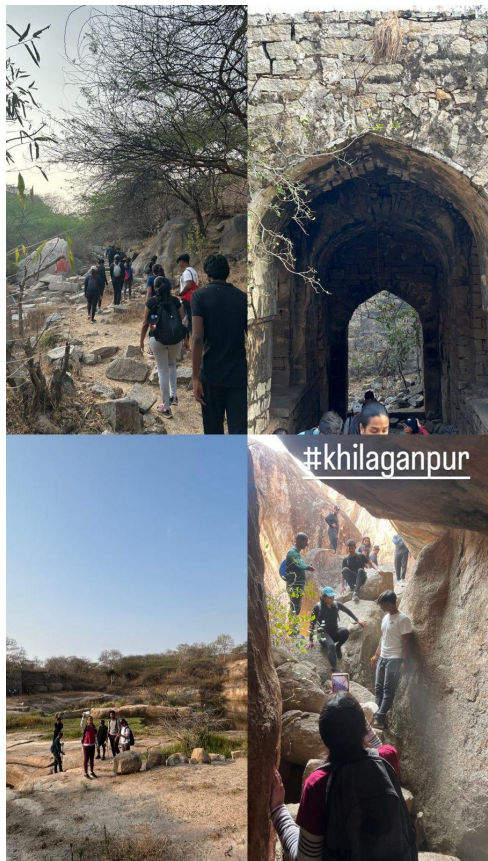
IET-MU's opening orientation was graced by Ms. Harshal Rajesh, the Head of the Bangalore network, and Dr. Nagendra Panini Challa, IET Hyderabad Local Network YP Chair. The orientation had these two esteemed speakers talk about their experiences with IET and what students can gain from it, whether it be workshops, networking with like-minded individuals or professionals, and such. The interaction brought a great deal of students who all interacted with the speakers and shared their thoughts and experiences with one another.



Celebrating Success: The Milestone Trek of L'avventura e Ricerca

L'avventura e Ricerca

On March 8th, 60 adventurous souls embarked on L'avventura e Ricerca inaugural trek of the semester to Shahpur village. The promise of tranquility at Mahindra was soon replaced by the allure of adventure at the Golden Boulder campus, named for the nearby hills. Here, camaraderie flourished among the trekkers, fueled by the legends of hidden gold and the remnants of the Kakatiya dynasty at Khilla Ghanpur.



Camping under the starlit skies that night, the group prepared for the next day's adventure. At dawn, armed with snacks, they set off for Khilla Ghanpur, navigating ancient stone stairs and eerie caves. Guided



by experienced instructors, they braved uphill paths and the summer heat, conquering bare rock ascents with caution amidst breathtaking views. The descent, though challenging, offered clear footing, and as the day heated up, they persevered, making each step a triumph over nature's elements.

Descending a thorny mountain is no easy feat. Every step demands careful maneuvering to dodge prickly obstacles scattered along the rough terrain. As gravity pulls downward, the challenge intensifies, requiring both physical strength and mental focus to stay upright and avoid getting scratched. Despite the risks, the breathtaking scenery and the sense of achievement at the end make it all worthwhile. But make no mistake, this descent is not for the faint-hearted. It's a thrilling adventure that tests courage and determination with each step taken. During the stay at the camp post trek, participants also had the opportunity to learn valuable survival skills such as bushcraft and

tent pitching. These skills not only enhanced their outdoor experience but also prepared them for more challenging adventures in the future.

In conclusion, L'avventura e Ricerca has achieved a significant milestone that will be remembered by all. The OC, led by Hema Srita, Suhas, including Yuvan, Greeshma, Yashica, Varshika, and Dhanishka, Anjali expresses heartfelt gratitude to every participant for contributing to the success of the trek and making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.



Agni-V: A Technological Marvel

Tanvi Chandrana, Staff Writer

India has announced a major milestone in its missile technology. On March 11, 2024, the DRDO successfully tested an Agni missile that can carry multiple warheads and hit multiple targets simultaneously. The test, named Mission Divyastra, was hailed as a significant achievement by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In a tweet, he expressed his pride in the DRDO scientists for developing the Agni-V missile with Multiple Independently Targetable



Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology. This test has demonstrated India's growing capabilities in missile technology and its commitment to national security.

With a range exceeding 5,000 kilometers, the Agni-V missile can reach much of Asia, including northern China. Some parts of Europe could also potentially be within its strike zone.

The MIRV technology is a type of ballistic missile payload that operates beyond the Earth's atmosphere and comprises multiple warheads capable of targeting specific locations. While this concept is typically associated with intercontinental ballistic missiles carrying thermonuclear warheads, it is not solely limited to them. Several countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, France, China, and Russia, have already incorporated MIRV missiles into their military arsenals.

Quoting a government source, "This system is equipped with indigenous avionics systems and high accuracy sensor packages, which ensure that the vehicles reach the target points within the desired accuracy. Their capability is an annunciator of India's growing technological prowess". They also mentioned that the project had a significant contribution by women.

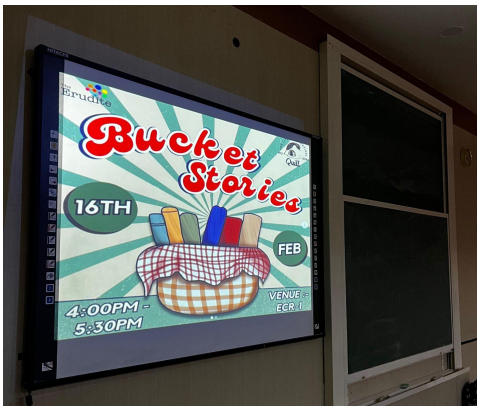
Agni-V had its first flight test with MIRV, while Agni-I to IV missiles have already been deployed with ranges from 700-3,500 km. This successful test reinforces India's position as a leading force in missile technology. India has the potential to become a global leader in missile technology if it continues to invest in research and development, expand its resources, and leverage its knowledge. Given the adequate resources and time, India can make significant strides in this field and establish itself as a leading player.

Quill - 2024 Literature Fest - A Kaleidoscope of Creativity

Merajuddin, Shruti Verma, Srinika Nulu Reddi and Sree Mayukha, Staff Writers

In this year's saga of collegiate social events, amidst those that truly captured attention, Quill stood out as a platform where students could delve into the depths of their imagination, unleashing their inner ingenuity.

Quill started with a quick round of literature based games that were set to challenge MU's creativity. From timed tongue twister challenges to rhyme time with your partners in crime, to a game of charades where Oscars could be given to those who enacted film names, these games had it all. The games concluded with impressive records and special mentions in long lists of names, setting the vibe for MU's first-ever literary fest.



Bucket Stories

As the games came to a close, Erudite geared up to host their writing event with a twist, 'Bucket Stories'. Story Writing enthusiasts of all years and schools gathered to showcase their skills in writing a spontaneous tale with a select few prompts to choose from the beginning, middle, and

end of a story. These writers were tasked to write the old-fashioned way with pen and paper building bridges between the prompts that they have chosen to create worlds from the one-liners, and performed exceptionally well.



Micro Theatre - nothing micro about it!

The phantasmagoria of theatrics was held on Feb 16th, following the bucket stories event, with a cast that flew in from Mumbai. Six quirky tales were interwoven as short plays to touch upon audiences' heartstrings.

While the cast shone, so did its organisers; its success attributed to the dedication of the club members. One of the plays depicted the veracity of every Indian youth - the struggle of being honest with a parent. While another followed a jocular man searching for his soulmate via arranged marriage (obviously). The cast astounded with musical numbers on "Blank Space", "Perfect", catchy dialogues, and enough laughter to last a lifetime. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say Micro Theatre 3.0 was the gem of Quill that has etched itself into these university walls for the years to come.



Acting and Scriptwriting workshop

Additionally, students of Mahindra witnessed a whirlwind of inspiration as renowned Mumbai-based actor Abhishek Pattnaik graced the campus for a remarkable 3-hour workshop. Mr. Pattnaik, known for his captivating performances in "Two Adorable Losers", boasting 117 housefuls at the NMACC cultural fest, and mentoring prominent people such as Darsheel Safary, brought a trove of experience to the session. The workshop delved into the core principles of acting, with a focus on script writing. Attendees learned how to create a spectrum with their voice in a speech modulation exercise alongside creating a story and acting it out.



Pandora's Pictures

This year, The Quill took a daring leap with "Pandora's Pictures" which challenged participants to unravel narratives from an eclectic mix of seemingly disparate images. Abstract art mingled with snapshots of everyday life, inspiring a myriad of interpretations. There was no single "right" answer; instead, the focus was on breaking free from rigid constraints and embracing the endless possibilities of creativity.



This novel edition of Quill will indubitably be remembered as a testament to the power of visual storytelling and the immense potential of the human imagination. An exhilarating chapter of Erudite history, Quill 2024, came to a close, forever inscribing an ode to the creative minds of Mahindra.



Indian Farmers Revive Protest Movement: A Year On, Their Resilience Shines Through the Roads

Ishrath Muzaiifa, Staff Writer

The 'Delhi Chalo' protest has been in full swing since February 13th, 2024. Thousands of farmers from Punjab, Haryana, and Western Uttar Pradesh have been marching towards Delhi to assert their demands. Their primary demand is a legal guarantee for Minimum Support Price (MSP). MSP is the lowest rate at which the government procurement agencies buy crops from farmers. It shields farmers from market fluctuation, offering stability and income security. Apart from the demand for enforcing MSP, they have been voicing their concerns for implementation of the Swaminathan Commission pension for farmers, debt relief, and withdrawing cases against previous protestors.



The protest initially started in the year 2020. Farmers Unions said that these laws would leave the growers vulnerable to big companies and destroy their livelihood. After months of insisting that the reforms would benefit farmers, the Prime Minister on November 19th, 2021, announced that his government would repeal the laws. After a few days, the Parliament passed a bill to cancel all the reforms.



The move was hailed as a victory for farmers, but they did not stop the protest until the government gave them the official letter stating acceptance of their demands. The government also agreed to provide compensation to the families of farmers who died during the protest. Now, the farmers are back on roads, alleging that the government has not kept the promises made during the last protest. They are demanding penalization of all those who sell fake agricultural products, along with doubling the number of working days under the rural employment guarantee scheme to 200, which is 100 currently.

Despite the persistence and resilience shown by the farming community, their demands remain unmet, highlighting the concerning lack of effective dialogue and action from authorities. The prolonged nature of these protests serves as a poignant reminder of the pressing need for meaningful reforms and an equitable solution to address the challenges faced by our farmers.

MARC's Inaugural Event: A Blend of Tradition, Modernity, and Alumni Insights

Ramaa Vaidya, Staff Writer



The Mahindra Alumni Relations Centre (MARC) conducted its first event of this semester on March 13, 2024. The orientation commenced with all the MARC officers greeting their esteemed guest and alumni, Vineeth Musthyala. The orientation was hosted by MARC President, Tanmayisri Vuppala and Vice President, Swati Negi. MARC is a student body set up to foster stronger bonds with MU alumni. The heads opened the event by introducing the committee mentors- Dr Jayaprakash Vemuri and Dr. Harshavardhan Kalathur and the entire team.

The event kicked off with a graceful cultural dance performance, setting the tone for the whole event. As the attendees settled in, Vineeth took to the stage to introduce himself. He shared insights into his ventures, Zaggle Media- a new age A.I. driven marketing agency. He stated that he had worked with several companies, one being Spotify. He is currently working with Karan Johar. He spoke about opening up Prezmo Café- having developed a fondness for pretzels while studying abroad, he opened a café entirely for pretzel enthusiasts and other continental dishes.

The afternoon featured an interactive Q&A session, allowing current students to interact with Vineeth and gain insights. When asked questions about the business world, his advice was that one should not let their emotions drive them in the business world. Being an Electrical and Electronics Engineer, he mentioned that engineering increased his analytical thinking and went on to highlight how life at MU fine-tuned his entire career.

The highlight of our event was the competition on case studies - Chevrolet's exit, where teams had to present their strategies and the judge was no other than the esteemed alumnus- Vineeth. The competition proved to be a fun-filled event, wherein the students had to use their problem-solving skills to tackle the situation at hand.

As the event drew to a close, the attendees were treated to three captivating musical performances, which were a perfect blend of traditional and modern elements. As the guests dispersed, they not only carried with them fond memories of the event but also a renewed sense of connection to their alma mater.

"Exploring the Cosmos: Astronomy Club Celeste's Journey to GM Birla Archaeological Astronomical and Scientific Research Institute"

V V LakshmiI Vyshali and CV Akshaya Rao, Staff Writers

On the 10th of February 2024, the Astronomy Club Celeste embarked on their first-ever visit to the GP Birla Archaeological Astronomical and Scientific Research Institute located in Hyderabad to gain insights into astronomy and physics. Led by Dr. Kamna Pande, a group of enthusiastic students departed from the college premises at 9:00 AM and arrived at the planetarium, where they were treated to an immersive experience under the domed ceiling.

The renowned "Tara Mandal Show" explained the formation of stars, galaxies, and the wonders of our solar system. Post the show, all the students participated in a

sunspot viewing session, under the guidance of experts. After lunch, the students visited various sections of the GM Birla Science Museum which showcased detailed explanations and replicas of historic projects of ISRO, such as PSLV, GSLV, and Chandrayan. They also visited the Dinosaurian, Room Royale, Dolls, and the Archaeological Gallery. The Interactive Science section showcased science experiments equipping the students with much needed practical knowledge. Later, an interactive session was held with the director of the Birla planetarium Mr. KG Kumar. In the evening, the planetarium offered a telescope viewing experience, with students peering through the powerful



telescope to view Jupiter and its moons.

This memorable visit brought a lot of excitement and knowledge to all the students. They had a great opportunity to meet fellow astronomy enthusiasts and expressed their interest to continue to take more trips like these. The Astronomy Club of Mahindra University, Celeste, thanks everyone who participated in this visit and promises more such events in the future.

Exploring Milestones & Challenges in SpaceX's Latest Starship Launch

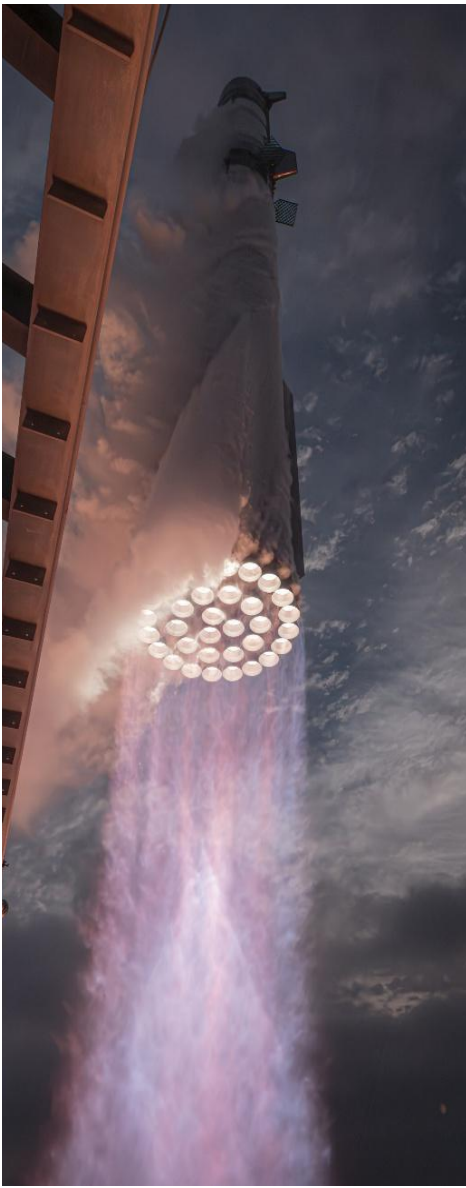
Dalip Singh, Staff Writer

SpaceX's Starship spacecraft, alongside the Super Heavy rocket, soared to new heights in its recent launch from Starbase, Texas, on March 14, 2024. This monumental event marks a significant step forward in humanity's quest for space exploration and colonization.

The launch witnessed a series of remarkable accomplishments. Notably, all 33 Raptor engines on the Super Heavy Booster ignited successfully, demonstrating unparalleled propulsion capability. The execution of the hot-stage separation, coupled with the precise ignition of the second-stage Raptor engines, showcased the intricate coordination of the spacecraft's systems. Despite a rapid unscheduled disassembly during the landing phase, valuable insights were gained, highlighting the iterative nature of space exploration.

Starship's journey didn't end with liftoff. The spacecraft's six second-stage Raptor engines propelled it to its intended orbit, marking a significant milestone in its development. Furthermore, the successful entry from space provided crucial data on vehicle control and heating during reentry, paving the way for future missions. SpaceX's commitment to iterative improvement underscores its ambition to build a fully reusable transportation system, revolutionizing space travel for generations to come.

As SpaceX continues to analyze the wealth of data collected from this flight, anticipation builds for future endeavors. The rapid iterative development approach employed by SpaceX mirrors its pioneering spirit, reminiscent of past successes such as Falcon, Dragon, and Starlink. With each leap forward, humanity inches closer to realizing the dream of interplanetary exploration.



Exploring India's Rich Heritage: Mahindra University Heritage Enthusiasts at Purani Haveli

Shreeniketh A K, News Editor

On Sunday, March 17, 2024, faculty members from Mahindra University organised a field trip to the H.E.H Nizam's Museum in Purani Haveli, Hyderabad, for the students enrolled in the third-year B.Tech elective course titled "Incredible India: A Historical Journey Through Food, Culture & Material Objects." The course instructor, Professor Paromita Das Gupta, and her colleagues, Professor Imtiaz Quadri and Professor Aparna Singh, led the day trip. The course focuses on exploring iconic Indian objects, highlighting the rich histories behind these everyday items that are often overlooked by many Indians. These objects range from common household items like Amul butter, Chyawanprash, Paan, and Bata shoes to precious artefacts in private or state museums, collectively contributing to India's unique identity through centuries of history.

The field trip to the H.E.H Nizam's Museum began in the morning, with 94

students arriving at the museum by 10:30 a.m., after navigating through the bustling streets of the Old City. The museum, located inside a 300-year-old palace within the Haveli complex, also functioning as an educational institution, provides insights into the luxurious lifestyle and collections of the Nizams. This offers a glimpse into Hyderabad's history from ancient times to the present day. As visitors climbed the well-preserved 150-year-old wooden stairs to enter the museum, they encountered a range of exquisite artefacts, including a golden throne and cradle used by the seventh Nizam, Osman Ali, a 150-year-old manually operated lift and silver replicas of iconic buildings from Hyderabad's heritage. Apart from such extravagant pieces, the students also got to see a diamond-studded golden tiffin box valued at over ₹100 crores of silver and gold crockery used daily by the Nizams, including a tea cup, which is supposed to change colour in the presence of poison. The world's largest two-tier



walk-in wardrobe with individual changing rooms was also present in this museum. The guides passionately shared insights into the daily lives of the Nizams, shedding light on aspects often overshadowed by grandeur. The students returned to campus enriched with captivating knowledge about the Nizams' possessions, reflecting India's rich cultural heritage. The objective of this field trip was successfully achieved by exposing students to the hidden treasures of a princely state that may not always receive attention, when compared to more mainstream and popular tourist destinations.



(Prof. Paromita Das Gupta with the students)

Exploring Legal Frontiers in AI Technology at MU's 1st International Moot Court

Velmury Nihar, Staff Writer

The echoes of legal brilliance reverberated through the corridors of Mahindra University's School of Law as it recently hosted its inaugural International Moot Court Competition from March 1-3, 2024. This event served as a platform for the brightest legal minds nationwide to converge and tackle intricate legal challenges at the intersection of law and technology. Under the discerning gaze of esteemed judges, including the sitting Supreme Court justices and prominent figures from India's legal fraternity, the competition maintained an unwavering commitment to excellence. Participants grappled with complex issues, ranging from the ethical implications of artificial intelligence weapons to questions of state responsibility for civilian casualties.



Throughout the competition, students demonstrated exceptional acumen in wielding legal principles and precedents while crafting nuanced arguments. From dissecting the pressing issues surrounding AI technology in armed conflicts to emphasizing the need for robust international legal frameworks and cooperation to address risks and uphold peace, the participants showcased their prowess in legal reasoning.

In the final round, the participants engaged in spirited debate over matters such as state culpability and the legal justification for pre-emptive strikes, all while navigating the complexities of treaties like the Outer Space Treaty. Amidst scrutiny from the judges, participants exhibited commendable poise and eloquence in defending their positions.

The valedictory ceremony marked the successful conclusion of the International Moot Court Competition 2024, bringing together law students from esteemed law colleges. The event was honored by the presence of distinguished guests including Chief Guest Justice A. Muhammed Mustaque, Honourable Judge of the Kerala High Court, Justice Vijaysen Reddy, from the Telangana High Court, Justice P. Madhavi Devi also from the Telangana High Court, along with Professor G. V. Reddy, Dr. P. S. Rao, and other



dignitaries.

Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University emerged victorious in the final round, with Dharmashastra National Law University securing the runner-up position. Individual accolades such as Best Mooter, and Best Researcher were also bestowed upon students from institutions such as Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law.

Beyond the thrill of competition, this Moot Court served as a testament to the School of Law's commitment to nurturing the next generation of legal leaders. Through initiatives that foster rigorous academic discourse, the institution has solidified its reputation as a premier incubator for legal talent in India.

As we celebrate the achievements of our peers, let us recognize the pivotal role that Mahindra University's School of Law plays in shaping the future of legal education and ensuring India's prominence on the global legal stage.

MasterShot Wins Big at CBIT

Prachi Sarda and Mohith Krishna
Puvvala, Staff Writers

In a resounding display of cinematic excellence, MasterShot, the filmmaking club at Mahindra University, bagged top honors at the CBIT film festival 2024, hosted by "Chaaya", the film club of Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology. The event, held on the 29th of February, bore witness to MasterShot's exceptional talent as their productions, 'Uchitha Salaha' and 'Hi, I am Hayagreeva', secured the 1st and 3rd prizes respectively.

This win marked a notable moment for MasterShot, as it became the first time that short films from a single university claimed two out of the three awards at the festival. Both the films displayed the creativity, ingenuity and technical finesse of the members of the club.



'Uchitha Salaha', the crown jewel of MasterShot's repertoire, charmed viewers and judges alike with its captivating narrative and visual splendor. The 27-minute short film tells the story of two sophomore students seeking the help of their senior to leak a question paper and the chaos that ensues, promising a hilariously entertaining spectacle.

Meanwhile, 'Hi I am Hayagreeva' demonstrated MasterShot's versatility and depth as a filmmaking community, earning the third prize with a unique blend of witty humor and heart. The 'Midnight in Paris' styled movie follows Hayagreeva's chance encounter with a troubled girl on a walk around campus, making us reminisce nostalgic pasts of our own.

The double win at the CBIT film festival not only brought recognition to MasterShot and their work but also shed light on the thriving creative ecosystem within the university. As MasterShot basks in the glory of its triumph, the spotlight shines brighter on the future of filmmaking, where innovation, passion, and the skill of storytelling converge to shape the cinematic landscape. With 'Uchitha Salaha' and 'Hi I am Hayagreeva' leading the charge, MasterShot's journey towards cinematic greatness is undoubtedly poised for even greater heights, inspiring more than just the film enthusiasts at Mahindra University.



A Former Professor at DU, GN Saibaba, Was Cleared of Any Maoist Affiliations. What Was the Antithesis?

Tanishka Guha, Staff Writer

The Bombay High Court's Nagpur Bench acquitted former Delhi University Professor G.N. Saibaba and five others in a Maoist linkages case under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) on Tuesday, stating that the prosecution failed to establish the case against them beyond a reasonable doubt. After failing to convince the High Court to delay the judgement enforcement, the Maharashtra Government sought the Supreme Court within hours, requesting an urgent hearing.

The life sentence that was given to Prof. Saibaba and the other accused—Mahesh Tirki, Hem Mishra, Pandu Narote, Vijay Tirki, and Prashant Rahi—by a sessions court in 2017 was also overturned by a Division Bench of Justices Vinay Joshi and Valmiki S.A. Menezes. The prosecution's sanction under the UAPA was declared "null and void".

On October 14, 2022, a Bombay High Court presided over by Justice Rohit B. Deo also found Prof. Saibaba and the other five suspects not guilty. However, the Supreme Court immediately overturned the decision, requesting that the case be reopened.

Advocate-General Birendra Saraf asked the High Court to postpone the implementation of its ruling for six weeks so that the government may file an appeal with the Supreme Court shortly after the ruling was rendered on Tuesday. But the Bench declined to issue a stay. "The accused have already been found not guilty, and we have

ordered their immediate release if it is not necessary in any other situation". The court said, "We cannot stall the said order, which may affect the right to personal liberty."

The court stated that the prosecution had not been able to "establish any legal seizure or any incrimination material against the accused". According to the law, the trial court's decision is unsustainable. As a result, we accept the appeals and vacate the challenged decision. "Everyone who was accused is cleared." Following that, the Maharashtra government appealed to the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

In a case involving connections to Maoist organizations, a combined team of the Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Intelligence Bureau detained wheelchair-bound professor Saibaba on May 19, 2014, while he was returning home from Delhi University. Since his 2014 arrest in connection with the case, he has been housed at the Nagpur Central Jail.

Prof. Saibaba and five other defendants were found guilty in March 2017 by a sessions court in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, of engaging in actions that amounted to waging war against the nation. They were also found guilty of having Naxal literature, which they intended to distribute among Gadchiroli locals and underground Naxalites in an effort to incite violence. Prof. Saibaba had filed an appeal in the Bombay High Court based on the sessions court's accusations under Section 45(1) of

the UAPA. There, a bench led by Justice Deo also found him and the other five not guilty, alleging procedural errors. "A civil democracy cannot sacrifice procedural safeguards afforded to the accused, even though terrorism poses an ominous threat to national security and every legitimate weapon in the armoury must be deployed against it," the Bench had stated.

But the very next day, the High Court did not take into account "the merits of the case including the gravity of the offence," according to a special bench of the Supreme Court made up of Justice M.R. Shah, a retired judge, and Justice Bela M. Trivedi. Vasantha Kumari, the wife of Prof. Saibaba, welcomed the ruling on Tuesday and stated that her husband's name was never in jeopardy because everyone who knew him always had faith in him. Although we are really relieved, we are unsure of what lies ahead at this time. In 2022, he was found not guilty either, although the ruling was contested. We'll be worried until he returns home to this place," she remarked in Delhi.

It further stated that no evidence of accusing the accused could be proven, and the prosecution was unable to demonstrate a legal basis for the seizure of materials. Consequently, the bench granted the appeals against the trial court's decision to find the accused guilty, overturning the judgement and clearing the accused of all charges for "being unsustainable in the hands of law."

Revolutionary Technologies and Evolutionary Laws at the International Law and Technology Conference

Aditya Chourasia, Staff Writer

The International Law and Technology Conference hosted by Mahindra University recently held an event with the theme "Revolutionary Technologies and Evolutionary Laws: Challenges and Opportunities." As part of this, legal experts from across the globe convened to explore the evolving relationship between law and technology.

The conference kicked off with an introductory session, setting the tone for the discussions that followed. Esteemed legal scholars delved into the overarching theme, examining how our legal systems, originally designed for a different era, can adapt to the complexities of a world increasingly shaped by blockchain, artificial intelligence, and the rapidly advancing digital frontier.

One particularly intriguing session focused on "Technological Trends in Shaping the 'New Normal.'" Here, experts discussed how innovations such as e-commerce, online learning, and remote labor are fundamentally altering the social and economic landscape. The debate centered on how legal frameworks can be revised to effectively address the opportunities and challenges arising from this evolving paradigm.

Another session, titled "Redefining the Sovereignty of a State in the Digital Age," sparked significant debate. In this session, participants explored strategies for modifying legal frameworks to safeguard national security and uphold the rule of law in an increasingly interconnected world.

The conference featured insightful presentations by experts such as Ethicist Sundar Narayanan, who discussed Responsible AI, and Dr. Sriram

Birudavolu, who addressed cybersecurity concerns. Additionally, speakers like Bala Prasad Peddigari, Kanan Dhru, Mohamed Elbashir, Raphaël Weuts, and Nikhil Narendran provided valuable insights into various aspects of law and technology, including the EU AI Act and AI for social good.

Narayanan's eye-catching acronyms, such as FACE IT (Familiarize, Analyze, Collaborate, Engage to Institutionalize Transparency) and FATHER & MOTHER (Fairness, Accountability, Trustworthiness, Human agency, Ethics, Reliability & Metrics/Measures, Oversight, Transparency, Harm detection/prevention, Explainability, and Robustness), added depth to the discussions.

Lastly, the conference addressed the critical topic of data protection regulations and privacy. Participants explored ways to enhance existing data protection legislation to keep pace with rapid technological advancements.

The International Law and Technology Conference provided a valuable platform for legal experts and students alike to debate the latest developments at the intersection of law and technology. In a world where technology is transforming society at an unprecedented rate, there is an urgent need for a dynamic and adaptable legal framework. Attendees gained invaluable insights into navigating the complex legal landscape of a technologically advanced society, equipping them with the skills needed to embrace the opportunities and overcome the challenges ahead.

France's Gift to Women on International Women's Day

Sonal Nagesh, Staff Writer



On International Women's Day this year, the world saw France take an enormous step towards women's rights and reproductive health by sealing abortion as a constitutional right. This constitutional amendment in Article 34 of the French Constitution was officially sealed by the Justice Minister, Eric Dupond-Moretti, along with the French President, Emmanuel Macron, with hot wax and a 19th-century printing press on Friday, 8th March, 2024, in Paris.

This influential move has made France the first country in the world to explicitly guarantee abortion rights to women. The sealing of this right received immense support from both the houses of the French Parliament, as well as feminists from around the world. Abortion has been legal in France since 1975, but Macron decided to make it a constitutional right after observing the USA overturn their 50-year-old Roe v. Wade law regarding the right to abortion, leaving it to the states to decide the abortion laws on their own.

Establishing abortion as a constitutional

right ensures that no sudden change will be made to the law, guaranteeing freedom of women for centuries to come. Macron believes that this was the first step to fighting for the rights of women in Europe, where countries are divided entirely on abortion rights. "Today is not the end of a story, but the start of a fight," said Macron at the public ceremony. "We are going to lead this fight in our continent, in our Europe, where reactionary forces are attacking women's rights before attacking the rights of minorities," he announced.

In the European Union, some countries, such as Malta and Poland, have very restrictive rights on abortion, such as only allowing abortion when the mother's life is in danger. The French President believes that he can change this by serving as an example towards progressiveness in the EU. With France taking a huge step towards women's rights, it now falls on the other countries to also promote progressiveness, especially regarding the freedom and rights of women around the world.

Bengaluru's Dry Spell: From Garden City to Parched City

Shrilekha Jaligama, Staff Writer

Once known for its lush gardens, Bengaluru, the country's Silicon Valley stares at the unthinkable reality of Day Zero. Driven by job opportunities, this city has attracted a surge of tech talent from across the country. However, a looming water crisis threatens to disrupt this ecosystem as people want to work from home and relocate.

The River Kaveri and groundwater levels have not been able to fulfill the requirements this time for Bangalore. For the last couple of months, homes have been heavily reliant on water tankers for their everyday needs. But water supply is roughly half the demand. Officials have put price ceilings on tanker prices, offering no relief to the city-dwellers. There are restrictions on the use of drinking water for activities like construction, gardening, and cleaning vehicles. Recycled water from sewage treatment plants is being used for non-consumption purposes. Apart from households, this crisis has also struck organizations such as hospitals pretty badly. Relentless urbanization and population explosion have resulted in the transformation of the city with 'a thousand

lakes' to a scorched city. Every government in power has been focussing on apartments and roads instead of taking measures for the dwindling groundwater levels, according to the locals. Unethical constructions and encroachments on waterbeds have swallowed lakes, leading to floods in the past. Digging borewells to quench the needs of everyone flocking to Bengaluru has depleted the groundwater levels starkly. Moreover, there was scanty rainfall in 2023, attributed to the El Niño Effect by the Indian Meteorological Department. All these dominoes have culminated in Bengaluru's predicament today and the natural sources can no longer yield here.

Amid this distress, hotels and resorts are offering Holi pool parties and rain dances. It is alarming to notice the careless attitude exhibited by such stays, with lavish parties that go on for days. But on a positive note, the Bannerghatta Biological Park, which houses 8 lakes, is untouched by water woes. Moreover, the park is supplying tankers to nearby localities apart from assuaging the animals.

One of the other lake cities in South India

which has witnessed such encroachments is Hyderabad, sharing the similarities of IT and migration with Bengaluru. Madhulika Choudhary, a lake activist, has revived the Nekkampur lake in Hyderabad using the 'floating island' technique, which has plants that absorb high nitrogen and phosphorus from sewage water. Bengaluru authorities are also trying to implicate this model to curb the issues.

Municipalities around the globe should take

notes from Bengaluru's missteps so that such a nightmare never plays out again. Sustainable development is always better than concrete jungles and fully paved roads. "Keregalam Kattu, Marangalam Nedu" translates to "Build lakes, plant trees". The legend goes that this advice was given to Bengaluru's founder Kempegowda by his mother in the 1500s. These ancient words of wisdom must be taken seriously today so that our cities thrive.



India Stuns With 8.4% Q3 GDP Growth, Surpasses Estimates

Shrilekha Jaligama, Staff Writer

The Indian economy has witnessed a robust GDP growth of 8.4% in Q3FY24, as per information released by the Ministry of Statistics and Data Implementation (MOSPI). This number is a 6 quarter-high and has beaten economists' predictions of 6.6%. It also represents a significant increase from the previous quarter's 7.6%.

The GDP figures for the first and second quarters of the current year have been revised to 8.2% and 8.1%, from 7.8% and 7.6% respectively. The National Statistics Office (NSO) has witnessed a growth rate of 7.6% for FY24, up from the previous ballpark of 7.3%.

In the December quarter, industries fared well with a 10.4% growth. The manufacturing and construction sectors saw an upsurge of 11.6% YoY and 9.5% YoY respectively, signifying the strong role of public capex. The services sector has also experienced a steady rise. The agriculture, forestry and fishing sector has declined by 0.8% and private consumption has only risen by 3.5%. Government spending has diminished sharply by 3.2% in Q3, having grown 13.2% in Q2. Growth in the Indian economy is being driven by vigorous public capex growth.

GDP measures the total value of all goods and services produced within the borders of a country over a specific period, typically annually or quarterly. It includes all final goods and services produced for consumption, investment, government



spending, and net exports (exports minus imports). GVA focuses solely on the value added at each stage of production. GVA is simply GDP excluding indirect taxes and subsidies.

India's GVA growth in Q3FY24 toned down to 6.5%, from 8.2% in Q1FY24 and 7.7% in Q2FY24. Experts have expressed concerns about the discrepancy between GDP and GVA as they feel that the GDP does not entirely reflect a rise in the production of new goods or the value of services rendered. It is possible that a rise in indirect taxes, like the Goods and Services Tax (GST), could be inflating the GDP figure.

Japan and the UK have slipped into recession, which is slightly concerning for Indian exports. Nevertheless, our numbers are good news as the rest of the world is struggling for any growth at all. The RBI may limit inflation given such positive boosts. Estimates for FY 25 are also looking bright for India, indicating a growth in the economy.

PM Modi Kicks Off the First-Ever National Creators Awards

Shrilekha Jaligama, Staff Writer

On March 8, 2024, PM Narendra Modi presented the first-ever National Creator's Awards at the Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. This ceremony was an effort to acknowledge and appreciate the talent and reach of Indian content creators across domains like storytelling, environmental sustainability, cooking, and agriculture, among others.

The awards were conferred upon impactful voices across 20+ categories. Some prominent faces like Abhi and Niyu, Ranveer Allahbadia, Keerthika Govindasamy, Aman Gupta, Kamiya Jani and Shraddha Jain were among the exceptional awardees. Their individual stories of how they got to where they are were extremely inspiring. For instance, Ranveer Allahbadia dealt with alcohol addiction, Keerthika Govindasamy was not permitted to continue her higher education, and Aman Jain faced several tribulations while building his startup 'boAt'. Their lives are testimony that anybody can pick up a smartphone and make a mark.

The PM had a vivacious exchange with each recipient. He asked them about their work and gave them insightful inputs. These interactions also brought out the PM's spontaneous sense of humour, which kept the audience, both online and offline, invested throughout the ceremony. Clips from the event got made into viral memes.



The occasion coincided with the festival of Maha Shivaratri, with the PM mentioning that Lord Shiva is the creator of language, art and creativity. The day also concurred with the International Women's Day, and the PM congratulated the Nari Shakti in India's creative field.

The PM also remarked that the youth, especially influencers who drive positive change, are the digital ambassadors of India all over the world. The National Creators Awards are likely to become like the Pariksha Pe Charcha interactions. These awards promise a new era of India where the youth's powerful and creative voice is recognized and valued. Hopefully, this Mandapam becomes a platform that encourages content creators and creates an identity for their work.



Culinary Hotspot Rameshwaram Café in Bengaluru Rocked by Suspected Terror Attack

Sravya Prasen Puvvala, Staff Writer

On Friday, March 1, 2024, an explosion rocked Bengaluru's renowned Rameshwaram Café in Brookfield. The establishment, celebrated for its delectable cuisine, has piqued the interest of culinary enthusiasts nationwide with its vibrant online presence. Initially, it was surmised that the blast stemmed from a gas cylinder leak, but further probing confirmed suspicions. Subsequently, Siddaramaiah, the Chief Minister of Karnataka, announced that a low-intensity improvised explosive device (IED) was the culprit behind the detonation, resulting in at least nine individuals sustaining injuries from the explosion.

Pertaining to the IED explosion, the Bengaluru Central Crime Branch



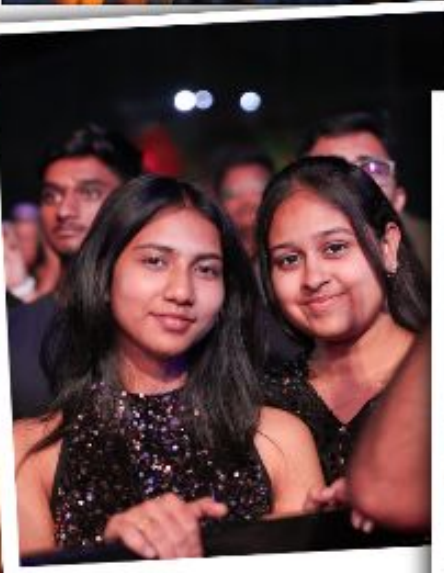
apprehended four individuals on Saturday. According to the authorities, they are almost certain regarding the identity of the primary accused in the case. An image of the suspected bomber from CCTV footage was disseminated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The bomber was captured on camera entering and exiting the café premises while donning a mask, a cap, and glasses. He vacated the premises within nine minutes without partaking in his food, and mere minutes after his departure, the explosive device detonated. In their investigation of the IED bomb explosion at the Rameshwaram Café, the NIA unveiled four new images of the bomber and asked for public assistance in identifying the suspect, offering a bounty of INR 10 lakhs to any individual who might recognise him.

Preliminary investigation and forensic analysis of the IED utilized in the Rameshwaram Café blast indicate the possibility of an ISIS cell from the Shivamogga region of the state, which had been on the radar of security agencies as early as 2020, to be involved. In the Shivamogga case, Abdul Mateen Ahmed Taha and Mussabir Hussain Shazeb are the

two primary missing suspects.

According to reports, Taha and Shahzeb are affiliated with a broader ISIS network in South India as well as the numerous Shivamogga module members. The NIA has apprehended a significant suspect in the bomb investigation, and Shabbir, the suspect, was arrested from the Bellary district of Karnataka. The case is still under investigation, and the citizens are curious to know what might be revealed next.







Is the Concept of Women’s Day Overhyped?

Praharsha Chigullapally, Staff Writer



International Women's Day is celebrated to spread the message of gender equality to create a society free of gender bias. According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), International Women's Day emerged from the activities of labor movements in North America and Europe in the twentieth century. However, a question does arise: “Is the day overhyped?”

While some may argue that the day receives a lot of attention and media coverage, it is important to recognize the significance of the day and what it represents. India’s leading low cost carrier Indigo Airlines have redeveloped their guru Dronacharya Metro station in Gurugram, adding a painting done by a female artist depicting the power of women. This art piece specifically depicts the Indigo Airlines’ air hostesses because the have a workforce that comprises of 44% women. Krystyna Pyszková from Czech Republic won the 71st edition of the Miss World 2024 pageant, which returned to India after a 28-year gap.

She walked like a queen over the ramp congratulating the audience for their support. She mentioned that she loved India and was so excited about Miss World adding that the hospitality she received was the best. The highly anticipated grand finale unfolded in Mumbai at the Jio World Convention Centre. The event was broadcasted in more than 140 countries and territories. This year, 22-year-old Sini Shetty, winner of Miss India World, represented India at the competition.

It’s a day to celebrate the achievements of women in every field from grassroot activism to Global movements. This year’s 2024 women’s day theme is “Inspire Inclusion” which means celebrating the achievements of women who made the mark on the global stage like Priyanka Chopra’s success in Hollywood to Ganet Monga receiving an Oscar for Indian documentary ‘Elephant Whisperers’. Not to forget, the project director of Aditya L1 ‘Nigar Shaji’ to Ritu Karidhal, the rocket woman of India left an incredible mark. So let’s take pride in celebrating a day like this that pushes every woman to do her best and leave an everlasting mark!

India’s Journey to Economic Empowerment: Challenges and Opportunities

Kethan Koushik, Staff Writer



India’s journey from independence to becoming a potential superpower involves analyzing its economic, cultural, and geopolitical dynamics. In the post-World War II era, India and other nations gained independence, but India's choice of democracy set it apart from many countries that fell into dictatorships.

China's rapid economic rise was fueled by early liberalization and a focus on education, healthcare, and foreign trade, contrasting India’s slower pace due to entrenched poverty and limited credit access for small-scale enterprises. Consequently, it was tough for the people to choose to be entrepreneurs.

To bridge the gap, India must streamline its business environment, prioritize foreign trade, and bolster its manufacturing sector.

Initiatives like GIFT City and digital advancements such as UPI and e-Aadhar showcase promising steps towards these objectives. Yet, sustaining growth necessitates vigilant governance, combating corruption, and prioritizing national interests over short-term gains.

In essence, India's march towards a \$10 trillion economy hinges on breaking economic barriers, leveraging its geographical strengths, and fostering political stability and integrity. Understanding the nuanced interplay of these factors is crucial in charting India's course towards economic prosperity and global leadership. With concerted efforts and a steadfast commitment to inclusive growth, India has the potential to emerge as a formidable force on the world stage, realizing the aspirations of its citizens and fulfilling its destiny as a beacon of progress and prosperity.



GPUs: From Gaming Rigs to The Mind of The Machine

Mahardhi Peddu, Staff Writer



From their humble beginnings as graphical accelerator cards to render games and frames, Graphical Processing Units (GPUs) have come a long way and are now the driving force behind the rapid advancements in AI. Their ability to perform massive parallel computations pushed boundaries of what was once thought to be possible.

Most of the “AI” that most of us use every day such as LLMs work based on deep learning techniques. Although the term Deep Learning (DL) was coined in the 80s, there was no significant progress in the field till the mid-2000s due to the math heavy nature of DL and computation associated for it. Researchers began exploring parallel processing power of GPUs for accelerating the training of neural networks and other DL based algorithms around 2007. It was not until the 2012 ImageNet challenge, where a deep learning model powered by two GTX580 GPUs beat image recognition benchmarks by a landslide, that the world realized the true potential of these specialized chips.

GPUs offer significant advantages over CPUs due to their highly parallel architecture which is well suited for the matrix and vector operations which are commonly found in DL applications.

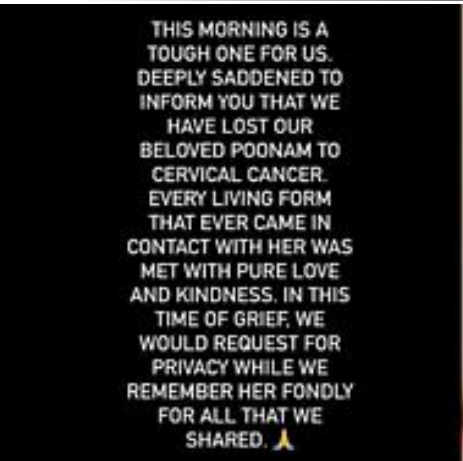
This led to an increased adoption rate of GPUs for DL tasks, especially as the models grew in size and complexity. Nvidia, the GPU Titan (pun intended) played a significant role in this trend by developing Compute Unified Device Architecture (CUDA), a parallel computing platform and API that allowed developers to harness the power of Nvidia GPUs for ML tasks, giving rise to ML frameworks like PyTorch and TensorFlow that are now industry standard.

Today, Nvidia still holds a significant advantage in the deep learning (DL) market. However, the competitive landscape is dynamic, with AMD's ROCm platform being a compelling alternative. Tech giants like Amazon, Google and Meta are investing in building these specialized chips of their own , hoping to gain an upper hand.

AI and GPU development are locked in a cycle of mutual development. AI's hunger for computation drives GPU innovation, while faster GPUs allow for more complex AI models. This intertwined development cycle promises to push the boundaries of what's possible with artificial intelligence. The future's looking bright indeed!

Fame or Foolhardiness? Reflecting on Poonam Pandey's Death Stunt

Shravani Motgi, Staff Writer



On February 1, 2024, India woke up to the news of Poonam Pandey’s death. The news titles stated, “ Poonam Pandey Dies at age of 32 due to Cervical Cancer.” “ Poonam Pandey dies due to Cervical Cancer.” Many celebrities and influencers started tweeting and posting stories about her death and mourning her loss. A day later, on February 3, 2024, Poonam Pandey posted a video of hers where she was stating that she’s alive and the death was only to spread awareness about cervical cancer on Instagram which left people completely astonished.

Poonam Pandey is known for her publicity stunts and unapologetic behaviour. The netizens claim this is one of the worst publicity stunts that a person has ever done. Schabang, the agency responsible for Poonam Pandey’s campaign issued an

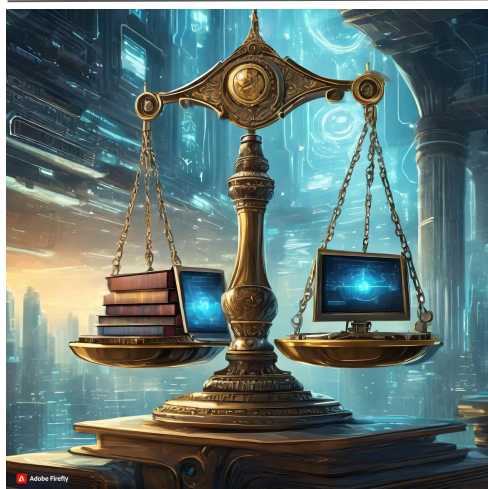
apology stating – “ Yes, we were involved in the initiative for Poonam Pandey to spread awareness about cervical cancer. We would like to extend a heartfelt apology towards those who have been triggered as a result of having faced/ having a loved one face the hardships of any kind of cancer.” The agency also issued an apology letter.

This controversial awareness campaign has been slammed by the public and celebrities including Bipasha Basu, NikkiTamboli, Mini Mathur, and Pooja Bhatt. A Mumbai resident, Faizan Ansari, filed a defamation lawsuit of Rs 100 crore against Pandey with the Kanpur Police Commissioner. In conclusion to this, the stunt to raise awareness about cervical cancer has backfired, drawing condemnation for insensitivity and emotional exploitation. This incident highlights the need for ethical responsibility and genuine, respectful discourse in advocacy efforts.



Schrödinger's Hype – A Quantum Leap in Uncertainty

Aditya Chourasia, Staff Writer



The spectacularly astonishing world of science is abuzz with Quantum Science- a realm where the physics laws are a bit skewed. Headlines all around are proclaiming an onset of a new revolution- 'Quantum Revolution'. But on a stark rumination, is the potential of quantum science worth the hype? Or is this well woven narrative to procure funding just blindfolding us with immense technical jargon?

According to an article published by Forbes in November 2023, "That day may be coming sooner than you think. It may not be next year, but could we see practical applications within the next decade?". Notwithstanding the promise that Quantum science offers with a flabbergasting Quantum AI, it's still a pixelated picture. But undoubtedly, quantum conundrum is a wild ride!

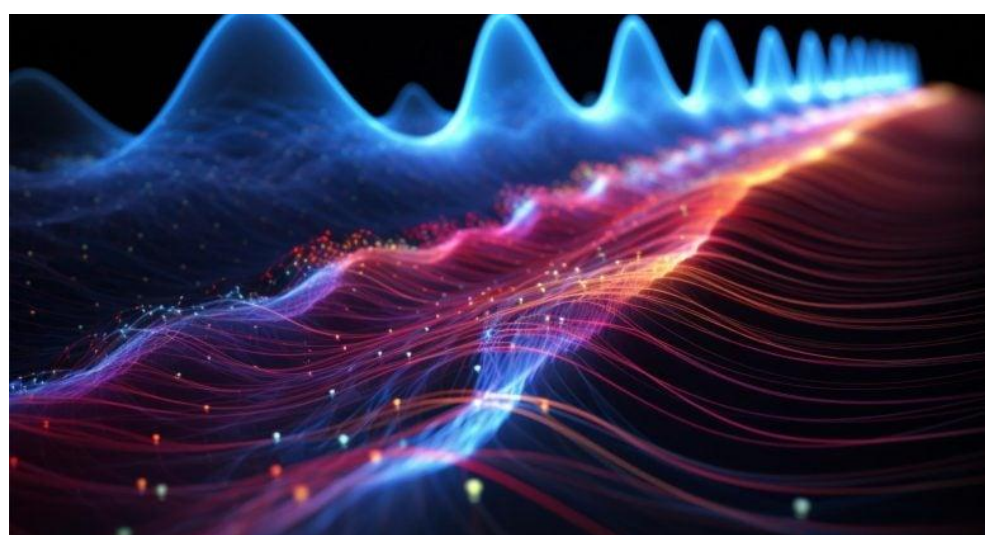
Imagine a world wherein your day-to-day medicines are articulated in accordance with your own specific genetic code (DNA), optimising materials or crafting new materials that dramatically alter renewable energy with Quantum engines and quantum batteries and quantum dots in solar technology. Imagine a world where your digital privacy is completely secure and truly un-hackable with Quantum Cryptography. Fascinating, right? But that's not it, the physicists at CalTech are researching on how quantum science perceives gravity and its link to space and time, plausibly revealing the biggest mystery of how everything is connected to everything in the universe.

The not so simple process of photosynthesis seemingly involves quantum mechanics, wherein the transfer of excitation energy

present in light absorbing molecules, is deeply governed by quantum coherence (where multiple states exist at the same time)!

How our body repairs its DNA with Base Excision Repair (BER) involves quantum tunnelling during enzymatic catalysis. Be it analysing massive financial datasets with utmost accuracy or travelling through medical history and having a perfectly personalised treatment plan- Quantum Artificial Intelligence can do it all.

Building machines to harness the potential of the realm of quantum is akin to wrangling butterflies in a hurricane. Path to the quantum utopia is coupled with inevitable challenges. Probably the revolution is not in technology itself but rather on the journey of unwinding the unknown – an endeavour worthy of the enigmatic Quantum world.



Anant Ambani's Pre-Wedding Celebration Sparks Debate

Shravani Motgi, Staff Writer



Anant Ambani, the youngest son of Mukesh Ambani, the owner of Reliance Industries, was recently in the limelight for his pre-wedding event. This extravagant event was held in Jamnagar, Gujarat, and has been in talks ever since due to the massive amount of money spent on organizing the event. The expenses went up to a whopping \$9 million (746,249,058.00 INR). The necklace worn by Nita Ambani alone cost a whopping \$ 60 million (4,974,993,720.00 INR). Apart from the necklace and a net-worth of \$113 million (₹ 9,369,571,506.00 INR), this royal family held a community dinner for 51,000 people. But shifting our focus from the family of riches and their spendings, we are subjected to a harsh reality, where a stark disparity prevails among the citizens of India.



1.4 billion people in India live below the median poverty line of \$3.56 per day (295.25 INR). According to the World Food Programme – "A quarter of the world's undernourished people live in India". WaterAid added – "35 million Indians lack access to safe water". While the Ambani family is among the wealthiest in the world, many people struggle to meet their basic needs due to economic inequality. Income disparity still remains an issue globally, prompting calls for reforms which are aimed at creating more equitable distribution of resources and opportunities

The Ambani family's pre-wedding celebrations highlight India's economic inequality and the vast difference in wealth distribution. The excessive spending on these events represents a missed opportunity to tackle critical social issues like poverty, healthcare, and education. These lavish events can perpetuate materialism and conspicuous consumption, further widening the gap between the wealthy elite and the marginalized. They reinforce existing divides and serve as a powerful symbol of inequality, prompting reflection on the responsibilities of the privileged to address systemic inequities and foster a more inclusive society.



Chickens- Descendants of Dinosaurs?: Food or Foe?

CV Akshaya Rao, Greeshma Marthla, Sarvani Hemadri, Vamika Maneti (Winners of Headline Hustle)



We hosted an intercollege event called "Headline Hustle" as part of Aether on February 17th, 2024 where Team AVGS emerged victorious with their captivating article, "Chickens: Descendants of Dinosaurs?". This piece explores the fascinating connection between these seemingly disparate creatures, raising intriguing questions about evolution and the history of life on Earth. You can read the winning article below:

Roaming among us are the descendants of the once great predators that used to terrorise the land- Dinosaurs. Chickens, yes we are talking about the star ingredient of Hyderabad's famous biryani, chicken. It might be hard to imagine that these two creatures are even

remotely related to each other.

Chickens being the descendants of dinosaurs is a hypothesis believed by many scientists. This is due to similarities in their wings, beaks, and feet structure. But for chickens, these are downsided. It is also believed that they have a similar DNA structure. But DNA similarities are often disregarded as we humans share 50% the same DNA as bananas but we are not descendants of them.

Keeping the DNA aspect aside, when a dinosaur is behind you, it will not leave you until you are a protein snack. But if it was a chicken behind you, usually that doesn't happen; it's a human behind a chicken to make nuggets and other

delicacies. Well, in any case, the chicken is going to be the protein.

Just like "Did the chicken come first or the egg?", the statement: "Chickens: Descendants of Dinosaurs?" has intrigued the scientists. But, is this true? Some say yes, some say no. So, the next time you enjoy your favourite dino nuggets. Just keep in mind that it might not be so far away from the truth.

THE
Echo

Why Oppenheimer, A Masterpiece of Cinema, Deserved Its Oscar Wins

Krish Hindocha, Staff Writer

At the 2024 Oscars, "Oppenheimer" took home seven awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. The commitment and skill of Christopher Nolan, Cillian Murphy and various other actors and teams is what made this film a cinematic masterpiece. Although there were other worthy victors, "Oppenheimer" stole the show with its superb direction, acting, and narrative, winning over critics and spectators in equal measure.

This movie is a cinematic exploration of J. Robert Oppenheimer's mind during the Manhattan Project, making it a not-so-usual biopic. Under Christopher Nolan's direction, Oppenheimer's scientific accomplishments, ethical puzzles, and personal problems are brilliantly explored in this film. Courtroom drama, a love



mix up, and the race to develop the first atomic bomb are all combined by director Nolan to create an intriguing and complex story that caught the attention of viewers. Christopher Nolan's direction in "Oppenheimer" is remarkable.

With his innovative storytelling and use of the Imax 70mm film, he creates a captivating experience. His keen attention to detail and mastery over techniques of cinema, from intense blackboard scenes to intense moments, takes viewers into a world like never before.

Ludwig Göransson's music also enhances Nolan's work, with lovely complementing tunes having a great emotional impact. When paired with Nolan's directing, Göransson's score produces a memorable cinematic experience that endures long after the credits.

The outstanding performances of the cast, especially Cillian Murphy and RDJ are important to the film's success. Murphy's portrayal of Oppenheimer captures the character's inner turmoil and complexity with depth whose impact is more due to the

talented cast, including 2024 Oscar winner for Best Supporting Actor Robert Downey Jr., Florence Pugh, Matt Damon, and Emily Blunt, Murphy delivers a memorable performance that anchors the film.

All things considered, "Oppenheimer" earned its Oscars for its creativity and masterful examination of how science and power affect mankind. In my opinion, what made "Oppenheimer" so amazing was Ludwig Göransson's stirring score, outstanding performances, and Christopher Nolan's creative direction.

While "Oppenheimer" rightfully shines at the Oscars, it's important to acknowledge the achievements of other winners. From the amazing performances in "The Holdovers" to the innovative cinematography of "The Zone of Interest," each winner has left a significant mark on the world of cinema.



Kung Fu Panda 4: A Lackluster Return to the Franchise

Akshaya Buri, A&E Editor



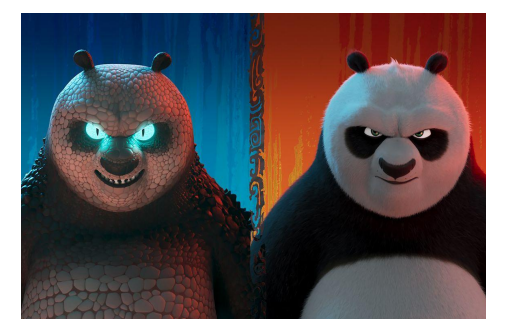
Kung Fu Panda 4 arrived in theatres on March 15th, after much anticipation from fans. However, despite the effort and passion put into its production, it falls short of recapturing the magic of the franchise.

The story starts off with Po being told that he must choose a new Dragon Warrior. Initially, he rejects the idea of passing on the mantle. This is the one of the main stakes introduced in the movie, which honestly is lackluster as compared to its predecessors. While the good ol' Po continues to entertain us, the introduction of new characters and the portrayal of the villain feels bland and lacks chemistry. This, coupled with subpar dialogue, and inconsistent pacing, led to a film that struggled to engage its audience completely.

Furthermore, the humor (a hallmark of the series) fails to deliver its usual punch. All the attempts at comedy feel forced and fall flat. Combined with a lack of direction and clarity in the story telling, this film stands at a solid 4/10 in my opinion.

But on a positive note, Kung Fu Panda 4 boasts visually stunning moments, showcasing breathtaking animation and serene sceneries. The new character designs are also a refreshing and unique element in the film.

In conclusion, Kung Fu Panda 4 offers a mildly entertaining animated experience. Yet, it ultimately falls short of living up to the standards set by the first 3 movies. With its poor storyline, underdeveloped characters, and strange pacing, the film stands as the weakest link in the franchise. However, for hardcore fans eager to revisit the world of Kung Fu Panda, it's definitely worth a watch.



The Crunchyroll Anime Awards 2024 –Anime Takes Central Stage

Sai Tarun V, Staff Writer



The Crunchyroll Anime Awards is an annual award show that recognizes and celebrates some of the finest anime productions and the great minds behind them. This year, the star-studded event was held at the Grand Prince Hotel Shin Takanawa in Tokyo, Japan, and was live-streamed for millions on platforms like Twitch and YouTube. Big names were invited to the event, including DeMarcus Lawrence, Hiroyuki Sawano, Iman Vellani, LiSA, ROLAND, YOASOBI, and Rashmika Mandanna.

This year's awards highlighted the diversity and depth of anime. From action-packed epics to heartwarming slice-of-life stories, the nominees represented a wide range of genres and styles. The fans were given a chance to vote in each category to help their favourite anime win the award.

This edition of the anime awards was mainly dominated by the hit shounen anime series, Jujutsu Kaisen, with the release of its second season. With extremely high-quality action sequences complemented by noteworthy animation and direction, Jujutsu Kaisen took home 9 awards, including the Best VA Performance, Best Supporting Character, Best Director, Best Opening and Ending Sequences, Best Cinematography, Best Action, Best Character Design, and finally the Anime of the Year Award.

A lot of other great anime also got the recognition they deserved, like Bocchi the Rock!! winning the Best Slice of Life, Chainsaw Man winning the Best New Series, Buddy Daddies being recognized as the Best Original Anime, and Suzume winning the Best Film awards respectively.

The One Piece anime, which saw a huge boost in quality from the past years, won the Best Main Character for Monkey D Luffy, and the Best Continuing Series awards. "IDOL" by YOASOBI was a global sensation this past year and, to no one's surprise, it took home the best anime song award. The evening was filled with tearful acceptance speeches, and electrifying musical performances by renowned artists like Hiroyuki Sawano and YOASOBI.

All in all, the Crunchyroll Anime Awards is an event that brings the entire anime community together every year to celebrate this medium of animation. It truly shows the increasing popularity of this form and the mainstream recognition it deserves.



The Glittering Close of the 2023 Movie Season

Rishi, Staff Writer



2023 was a year that rekindled our love for the big screen, with trends such as ‘Barbenheimer’ that took the box office by storm, and the anticipated return of cinematic giants like Christopher Nolan, Wes Anderson, and Martin Scorsese. This year also saw a wave of captivating historical dramas and the rise of exciting new talent, both in front of and behind the camera. With the final red carpets rolled up and the last acceptance speeches delivered, the 2023 movie season came to a glittering close with the Oscars, Golden Globes, and BAFTAs, the ceremonies that solidify a film’s place in cinematic history.

Christopher Nolan’s *Oppenheimer* dominated this year’s awards season, sweeping the top honors. The film claimed a staggering 7 Oscars, 5 Golden Globes, and 7 BAFTAs, finally giving Nolan the recognition he deserved. Most notably, Cillian Murphy’s transformative performance as J. Robert Oppenheimer earned him the Best Actor award at all three ceremonies, a testament to his dedication to the role. Accompanying Cillian at the top was the one and only Robert Downey Jr.. Completing a remarkable Hollywood comeback, Robert Downey Jr. rose from roles of multiple drug-related arrests to embodying a beloved

Marvel icon. Downey’s journey was culminated in a sweep by the Best Supporting Actor awards he received at the Oscars, Golden Globes, and BAFTAs for his role as Lewis Strauss in *Oppenheimer*.

Continuing the streak of triumphs, Emma Stone claimed her second Oscar for her role in *Poor Things*, while Billie Eilish also secured her second win at the young age of 22, affirming their positions as industry powerhouses.

Winners aside, this year’s Oscars dazzled with a level of entertainment that mirrored the captivating charm of the winning films themselves. *Barbie* dominated 2023, yet fans were puzzled by the absence of director Greta Gerwig and actress Margot Robbie. Nevertheless, the film had its moment at the Oscars when Best Supporting Actor nominee Ryan Gosling performed his hit song, *“I’m Just Ken,”* showcasing his undeniable charm.

This year, Jimmy Kimmel excelled as the Oscars host, delighting everyone with his humour and skits. Adding to the amusement, John Cena presented the Best Costume Design award in his birthday suit, adding an unexpected twist to the evening.

As the curtains close on the 2023 movie season, we’re left with a kaleidoscope of cinematic brilliance and unforgettable moments. From blockbuster hits to stirring performances, this year showcased the enduring magic of the silver screen. With awards ceremonies celebrating both veteran talents and rising stars, it’s clear that our love affair with cinema is as vibrant as ever.

Was Singapore an ‘Anti-Hero’ For Striking an Exclusive Deal with Taylor Swift?

Alekhya Kosuru, Editor-In-Chief



Singapore government provided Taylor Swift an incentive stating that Singapore has to be the only stop in south-east Asia for her world tour. Their Prime minister Lee Hsien Loong defended this offer by saying it was not a bitter move towards its neighbours.

“Our agencies negotiated an arrangement with her to come to Singapore and perform and make this as her only stop in south-east Asia,” Lee told a press conference in Melbourne. “It has turned out to be a very successful arrangement. I don’t see that as being unfriendly”. Thailand’s prime minister claimed last month that the concert promoter AEG informed him of the subsidies being offered by the Singaporean government worth US\$2m - \$3m (£1.6m - £2.4m), as a part of an exclusivity agreement. Singapore’s government previously said it had given Swift a grant to

play in the city-state, without mentioning the terms of the deal.

However, on Tuesday, Lee confirmed that Swift was provided with “certain incentives” from a government fund established to rebuild tourism after the pandemic, but did not say how much the deal would cost. Some south-east Asian neighbours have complained they have been deprived of the tourist boom that her concerts bring.

“Sometimes one country makes a deal, sometimes another country does. I did not explicitly say “you will come here only on the condition that you’ll not go to other places,” Lee said. He added that Australia also made some “mutually acceptable, sensible arrangements” with Swift when she performed in Sydney and Melbourne before flying to Singapore, and added that he did not know what those arrangements were.

Unfair or fair, the contract seemed to have worked in the favour of Singapore. Swifties from the Philippines, Thailand, China, and other countries were seen rushing to Singapore. According to a report in CNN, 70 percent of the concert goers flew in from overseas and spent \$370 million in the city state.

But from the looks of it, all the money in the world cannot fix the broken hearts of the dejected fans who were unable to cash in on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and watch her perform in Singapore.

Article 370: A Cinematic Voyage Through Kashmir's Turbulence

Krish Hindocha, Staff Writer



“Article 370” has emerged not just as a film, but as a cinematic voyage, taking the audience on a journey through the turbulence caused by the political unrest in Kashmir. The magical performances given by Yami Gautam and Priyamani, with their splendid portrayals of the actual characters, took the story to new heights both emotionally and cinematically.

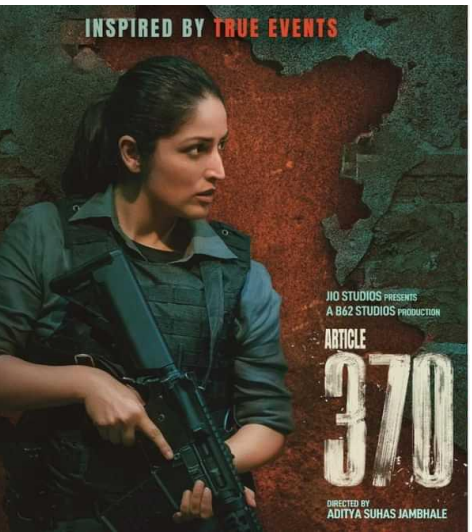
The way Yami Gautam portrays Zooni Haksar is simply amazing; it’s a wonderful performance that perfectly encapsulates the spirit of courage in the face of difficulty. Zooni becomes more than just a character because of Yami’s portrayal. Amidst confusion and selflessness, Yami acts as a symbol of courage and hope. From the first shot to the last credits, she captivated the entire audience with her raw passion and realism that elevated every scene.

Priyamani has a calm, authoritative portrayal in the movie as Rajeshwari Swaminathan. She plays the role of a politician, who keeps a calm demeanour whilst being surrounded by political disturbance throughout the whole movie. Priyamani’s performance effectively conveys the minute details of her character’s journey, highlighting her calmness and strength in the face of difficulties. Her character stands firm in the face of the turbulence surrounding her , offering moral clarity and stability in the midst of political intrigue.

The story of *“Article 370”* is like a well-made puzzle, mixing excitement, emotions, and intrigue to keep the audience interested. Director Aditya Suhas Jambhale keeps things moving smoothly, making sure every scene feels important and keeps you on the edge of your seat. As the plot

unfolds, you get pulled deeper into the action, feeling the drama and suspense along the way. It is the impactful moments that stick with you even after the movie ends.

Despite being banned in Gulf countries, *“Article 370”* received a lot of praise for its strong storytelling and direction. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s support for the film shows its importance in educating people about India’s history. Director Jambhale says the movie isn’t a form of publicity, but his own perspective, giving room to the viewers to form their own opinions. To sum up, *“Article 370”* shows how movies can make us ponder over important issues. With wonderful performances, a good story, and a commitment to uncovering the truth, the movie goes beyond entertainment to explore politics, power, and what it means to be a citizen of this wonderful country.



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WITH GOLD IN
ALMOST EVERY
SPORT, INCLUDING
BOYS CRICKET,
GIRLS AND BOYS
BASKETBALL AND
LAWN TENNIS,
MU SHONE
BRIGHT AT THE
SPORTS FEST



**HERE'S TO
CELEBRATING THE**

AURO
2024

Moving onto the next chapter

Adit Rushil Potta, Sports Editor

For the last few NCAA women’s basketball seasons, Caitlin Clark has been phenomenal, breaking records and dominating the college game. This weekend, Caitlin Clark and Iowa suffered a loss in the women’s national championship game on Sunday, falling to the number one overall seed South Carolina at 87-75. The Gamecocks completed a perfect 38-0 season, becoming the 10th perfect team in Division 1 of women’s basketball history. The top-seeded Iowa team reached the NCAA title game for the second consecutive season, finishing the season 34-5. Clark concludes her collegiate career with 3951 points, averaging 31.6 points per game this season and 28.4 over 139 career games.

In a remarkable seventeen-day span from February 15th to March 3rd, Clark shattered records, surpassing Kelsey Plum to become the NCAA Division 1 scoring leader and an all-time college scoring record holder, surpassing Pete Maravich for the most career points in D1 history among both men and women. Throughout her career, she has amassed fifty-nine 30-point games, seventeen triple-doubles, and thirteen 40-point games. NBA superstar LeBron James recently tweeted, “If you don’t rock with Caitlin Clark’s game you’re just a FLAT OUT HATER!!!! Stay far away from them people!! PLEASE,” paying tribute to Clark’s stellar college career and showing her respect despite her team's second finals loss. Following the final, South Carolina’s Dawn Staley commended the Iowa Hawkeyes on an incredible season and expressed her admiration for Clark, labeling her as one of the greatest of all time in the game of basketball.



Clark will now become the first overall pick in the WNBA draft, joining the Indiana Fever for the upcoming season. After the final, she shared her college experience, talking with the rejoicing feeling of being someone who spent a good while on the court and was content with the outcome. “Whether it’s the way the fans have supported me, the way I’ve been able to represent my state where I grew up or how my family was there at every single game – there’s no regret in my mind about how things went,” Clark said. “I’ll be able to sleep every night even though I never won a national championship.”

Despite being a college game, the final between Iowa and South Carolina was one of the most viewed sporting events in ESPN history, indicating the impact and popularity players like Clark have sparked worldwide. With players such as Caitlin Clark emerging and showcasing their talents, women's sports can anticipate a bright future filled with intense competition and exceptional athletes.

Boxing meets MMA: Joshua vs Ngannou

Manas Gaddam, Staff Writer



On March 8, two heavyweight titans faced each other in the boxing ring. Anthony “AJ” Joshua, a two-time former British heavyweight champion played against Francis Ngannou, a Cameroonian MMA star in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. AJ has been a seasoned veteran in the sport of boxing while Francis despite having fought in multiple MMA fights competing in the UFC, has had only one pro boxing fight prior to this face off.

Francis is currently signed to PFL (Professional Fighting League). He fought the British heavyweight champion Tyson Fury on October 28 as his first professional boxing fight. It was one of the biggest crossover combat sports events that took place since Floyd Mayweather vs Conor McGregor back in 2017. Many boxing experts at the time claimed it would be a walk in the park for Fury, but it turned out

to be quite the opposite. In a very close fight between the two, Francis Ngannou shocked the world by securing a knockdown against Tyson Fury in the third round. At the end of the fight, Tyson was declared the winner by split decision which many fans felt was a robbery.

Nevertheless, Francis Ngannou got what he wanted. He got paid handsomely, a lot more than what the UFC was offering him. Prior to fighting with Tyson, Francis talked about how the UFC didn’t pay him well and often called out the low pay given by UFC to its fighters. Despite losing his first pro fight, Francis made massive headlines. The AJ fight however, was extremely lopsided. Joshua proved exactly why he was a veteran in this sport and demolished Ngannou in the second round with a viscous KO. It was the first time in his career where he was knocked out cold.

Even in bitter defeat Francis Ngannou remains a success story. From working in a sand quarry at 10 years, crossing the Sahara Desert, attempting to cross the ocean from Morocco to Spain in a small inflatable raft six times, to being homeless in Paris and eventually becoming a UFC champion, Francis Ngannou’s story is a reminder that greatness knows no boundaries, and that with unwavering determination, anything is possible. His legacy transcends the realm of sports, serving as a shining example of the indomitable strength of the human soul.

Hamilton to Ferrari: A Scuderia Dream or a Calculated Gamble?

Shreyas Aditya Baksi, Staff Writer

The F1 world had a rolling start to the new season as the news broke that Lewis Hamilton, a Mercedes’ star driver and the 7-time world champion, is heading to Ferrari for the 2025 season. This revelation sent shockwaves through the paddock, leaving fans and pundits scrambling to understand the motivations behind this seismic shift. On the surface, it appears like Hamilton is chasing a dream - of getting his 8th World title. Ferrari is the pinnacle of F1 history, a team that is steeped with a legendary history. The Prancing Horse has long held a glamour that transcends racing. Also for someone who has worked alongside the late Ferrari legend Nikki Lauda, the allure of Maranello is undeniable.

However, beneath the romantic notion lies a bed of hard realities. Mercedes nurtured Hamilton's talent, providing him with the machinery to claim 6 world championships. Yet, cracks began to show in 2022. The once unbeatable Mercedes engine, a pale shadow of its former glory, left Mercedes trailing Red Bull and even Ferrari, with George Russel, Hamilton’s new teammate since the 2022 season even outshining Hamilton at times. Was Hamilton actually frustrated by a lack of competitiveness, or was he simply tempted by the Ferrari's



legendary resources? The Scuderia itself is in a state of flux. Carlos Sainz's departure (who got them their only win in 2023 during the Singapore Grand prix), leaves a significant void. Moreover, Ferrari hasn't consistently challenged for the title in over a decade. Can they provide Hamilton with the car he needs to reignite his dominance?

Only time will tell if this is a match made in motorsport heaven or a desperate lunge for a fading glory. One thing is for certain: the rivalry between Ferrari, Mercedes and Red Bull just gained a new dimension, with Hamilton now aiming to dismantle his former team from within the scarlet ranks of Ferrari. The 2025 season promises a thrilling new chapter, fuelled by Hamilton's daring move and the immense pressure that comes with piloting the Prancing Horse. Fasten your seatbelts, folks, because this is going to be a wild ride.

RCB-W's Journey to Victory: A Recap of Their Triumph in WPL

Adit Rushil Potta, Sports Editor



In this year's Women’s Premier League season, RCB’s women's team has finally achieved what RCB fans have been dreaming of: lifting the cup. Despite finishing third in the league, they were able to beat the chart-toppers, Delhi Capitals, which was led by Meg Lanning in the finals. RCB-W had many players shine through, with Ellyse Perry winning the orange cap and Shreyanka Patil winning the purple cap.

The first edition of WPL saw Mumbai Indians, led by Harmanpreet Kaur, lift the inaugural cup. In this year’s edition of the WPL, we saw the Delhi Capitals, under Meg Lanning, dominate the tournament, with 6 wins and losing only 2 matches, and proceeding to the final. RCB-W had to go through the brunt of the playoffs to reach the finals. Much like their male counterparts, the RCB team had players shining throughout the season, with Ellyse Perry picking up a six-fer in the playoffs

that helped them secure a spot in the finals. She also contributed significantly with her bat to win the orange cap, as did Smriti Mandhana. With the ball, RCB took over, as the three leading wicket-takers were all from RCB, who together helped keep the total low in the final.

Despite completing only its second season, the WPL is slowly making its presence felt in the women's sports world, becoming one of the largest leagues globally. However, salaries in the WPL still remain pale in comparison to the hefty payments made to the male players of IPL.

Although DC is a strong batting team, they have only managed to score 113 runs, which RCB easily chased down with 8 wickets remaining. After years of saying "Ee Sala Cup Namde," RCB fans can finally be content that there is a trophy to their name and can look forward to winning some more in the future.

A Historic Weekend For Our Indian Athletes

Adit Rushil Potta, Sports Editor

In a weekend brimming with remarkable sports achievements, young talents Akshay Bhatia and Sumit Nagal illuminated the international stage, captivating fans worldwide with their extraordinary performances. Bhatia's triumph at the Valero Texas Open, securing a coveted spot at the Masters tournament, and Nagal's historic victory at the Monte Carlo Masters, marking a significant milestone for Indian tennis, underscored the resilience, skill, and determination of these athletes.

On April 7, at the 2024 Valero Texas Open, 22-year-old Akshay Bhatia clinched his second PGA Tour title by defeating Denny McCarthy in a playoff, earning him a last-minute invitation to the 2024 Masters tournament.

Bhatia fulfilled the wish he made to his mother years ago with this win. He shared with the media, "It's hard to win out there unlike how it is showed today. My mom's birthday was April 1, and her wish was to go to the Masters."



Bhatia started the day four shots ahead of Denny and extended his lead to six. However, a stunning back-nine rally by McCarthy left the two players tied at 20 under par after 72 holes. Akshay then produced a 12-foot birdie to force a playoff and made the next birdie on the first extra hole to register an impressive wire-to-wire victory.

In tennis, Sumit Nagal, an Indian tennis player, had a stellar year. In January, Nagal upset Alexander Bublik to reach the second round of the Australian Open for the first time, after successfully coming through the qualifying stages. In February, he broke into the top 100 after winning the ATP Challenger event in Chennai. This weekend, Nagal became the first Indian man to qualify at the

Monte Carlo Masters since 1982, and soon this 26-year-old topped that feat by becoming the first Indian to win a main-draw match in the open era on clay. Nagal rallied to defeat Matteo Arnaldi, recovering from losing an early break advantage in the decider to eventually close out the Italian for his first Masters 1000 match win. "I didn't take the chances that I had in the first set; he was the better player. But talking about the last two sets, I have nothing to complain about. Very, very good quality from me," Nagal reflected on his performance in the match with Prakash Amritaj. He also shared with the audience how he began playing on clay from a young age and fell in love with the surface, as it gives him extra confidence. With this win, he currently

ranks at a career-high of 93, up from 509 last year. The New Delhi native also revealed how he only had 900 euros in his bank account last September, as he was returning from hip surgery. Now, as he moves on to the second round, he will face his biggest career challenge as he takes on the seventh seed Holger Rune, a match that many people from around the world anticipate and hope to witness. More history is to be written as the tournament progresses.

As Akshay Bhatia prepares to make his debut at the Masters and Sumit Nagal continues to make waves in the tennis world, their stories serve as inspiration for aspiring athletes everywhere. Their dedication, perseverance, and unwavering belief in their abilities have propelled them to new heights, and as they continue to write their chapters in the history of sport, they remind us all of the power of dreams and the importance of never giving up on them.



Epic WWE Showdown: Logan Paul Defends, Cody Rhodes Claims Victory

Krishi Vyasaraju, Staff Writer

In a night filled with electrifying matchups and unexpected twists, the WWE Universe was treated to a spectacle unlike any other as Logan Paul, Randy Orton, Kevin Owens, Cody Rhodes, and Roman Reigns collided in two unforgettable battles for supremacy.

The match unfolded as a chaotic but captivating exhibition, filled with turns and twists that kept the audience on the edge of their seats. Orton and Owens initially united in their enmity for the United States Champion, Logan Paul, launching a relentless joint assault. However, their alliance soon crumbled as each competitor recognized they had to turn on one another to secure victory.

Paul, the epitome of a villain, skillfully manipulated the crowd's emotions, luring them into the action that was taking place in



the ring. The action escalated with signature moves like Orton's "Vintage" maneuver and Owens' daring "Backflip Dive" onto Paul, followed by his attempted stunner on Orton. Each near-fall heightened the suspense.

To gain an advantage, Paul employed underhanded tactics, using brass knuckles. Despite landing a powerful blow on Randy Orton (The Viper), he resiliently kicked out. Orton countered the blow with his trademark RKO, leaving all other competitors down, and the outcome uncertain. Just as Orton appeared to be on his way to victory, iShowSpeed intervened unexpectedly, disrupting the match and igniting Orton's wrath.

In a final burst of energy, Paul took advantage of the opportunity, landing a frog splash on Owens and securing his title.

The match demonstrated Paul's evolving presence in WWE, leaving fans eagerly anticipating his future exploits.

The excitement continued as Cody Rhodes took on Roman Reigns in a dramatic showdown in the next match. In a high-stakes battle for the title, Rhodes faced the formidable Bloodline, bringing weapons into play early on but being met with resistance from Reigns, who used a kendo stick against him. Rhodes attempted Ric Flair's figure-four leg hold but failed to secure a submission. Jimmy Uso delivered a superkick, and Jey Uso speared his own brother off the ramp.

John Cena's arrival temporarily shifted the momentum, followed by a dramatic confrontation with The Rock. Seth Rollins intervened, but was quickly dealt with.

The Undertaker's surprise appearance added to the chaos, choke-slammng The Rock. Rhodes took advantage of the opportunity, executing three Cross Rhodes maneuvers to secure the victory and claim the title, completing his long-awaited story. This exciting match featured intense rivalries and unexpected alliances, culminating in Rhodes' pinfall and title victory, breaking Roman Reign's record of 1316 days of reigning as the Universal Champion.

The night was a testament to the unpredictability of WWE, with rivalries and alliances constantly shifting. As the dust settled, fans were left in awe of the incredible athleticism and drama that unfolded in the ring, setting eagerness to see what the future holds for these iconic superstars.

