Envisioning Technology

One of my personal interest is really anything that involves sports. On any given day where I have free time, you can find me either watching a sporting event, looking up highlights from the games earlier in the week, or looking up stats to see who is in the running to win the most valuable player award. In recent years sports have been changed a lot with the advancement of technology. It is not only noticeable in one sport, it is notice in most sports in many different ways.

Technology is changing the way many sports are played like football, basketball, baseball, and even golf. The way that it has affected football is recently they have implemented video replay. This is a big thing because it started to change the outcome of the games. Over the years as technology advanced the way video replay happened advanced too. It first started with the sky cam being implemented which allowed the refs to have a bird eye view of the field well they were reviewing a play. Also, just this past season the NFL now has cameras in the pylons, so they can get a good view of the goal line. Another way technology changed the NFL is that they were able to start putting an earpiece in helmets so the players on the field can get the play call that way. This made the game speed faster since plays can be communicated super fast. It also changed the game because the opposite teams were then unable to steal plays by looking at the other team’s signals. For baseball and basketball, the biggest thing that technology changed is reviewable plays. For baseball instant replay has changed it from it being what ever the ref thinks the call should be to now that managers are requesting replay’s multiple times a game which is slowing down baseball game tremendously. The basketball replay is not as bad as baseball. It is very rarely used unless it is in the last couple minutes of the game to make sure that the calls made are correct. Technology has really changed golf in one big way. Before the yard guns came out people
would have to rely on yard markers and guessing how far away from the pin they are to choose what club to use. They have changed the game a golf in a positive way by helping lower golfers scores.

Some articles debate weather instant replays are beneficial or hurting the sport world. I personally believe that it is hurting the sport world because the whole point of sports is to be able to adjust to how the refs are calling the game that day. An article written by Bleacher Report agrees with my stance on the issue. One quote he writes that I cannot agree more with on this issue is “Is it possible that being right…can be wrong?(Levy)” This quote kind of sums up his whole article saying that although that being right is a lot of times a good thing, in the world of sports it is not always right. He talks about a lot of times that it changed the course of the game and how sometimes it gets abused a lot. One example is that for football the coach has two challenges and that is it, but in baseball it seems like the managers can call for a review of a play as much as they want which will lengthen an already long sporting event. The New Yorker says that robot referees are the thing of the future (Hsu). With this happening it will eliminate the skill that is needed for a player to be able to read how a ref is calling a game and will make most games seem like the same thing over and over again. It will make more people dislike sports and will decrease viewership. A robot ref also eliminates the exciting part of players getting in fights with the refs that lead to funny reactions. Some of these reactions is players throwing their mouth pieces at the refs or MLB managers picking up and throwing bases at the refs when some of the calls do not go their way or the ref ejects their best player. If you look at sporting events in the recent past these instant replays have helped make sure the real winner wins. One big example of this was in Super Bowl 50 they called a Seahawk run play a touchdown. They reviewed the play and realized it was not really a touchdown and with in a couple plays the ball was picked off ending the game giving the Patriots the win.

Technology has revolutionized the sports world in many different ways and it will continue to. Although many people are not happy with some of the ways that it is affecting the game the changes are there to stay. It is going to be exciting to see how technology will change sports in the future.
Rating Others

In today's world television shows are very popular with many different ways to watch them. These ways include through cable, Netflix, Hulu and many more. With television becoming more popular there are many different new ideas of technology being shown in shows. In season 3 episode 1 of Black Mirror there is a different idea of how technology will be used in the future.

The plot of this episode is that people will rate other people after they meet them for the first time just like people will rank products on Amazon. This system will allow others see the people they are meetings rating right when they meet them so they can judge them right away. The more powerful someone is the more influence their rating of a person has on there overall score. The goal is to get and stay above a 4.5 star rating to earn a discount on a luxury apartment. This means that the people have to be on their best behavior all the time because they do not know when they are going to meet someone for the first time and they do not want to get a bad rating. In turn this should help the world become a better place.

This system of a 5 star rating system has been around a long time. Many companies use it to have customer judge a product or service that they received to know if the product is liked and what they can improve on. It is only a matter of time before something like this starts happening with people too. It could be that a past boss will rate an employee a certain way so that future bosses will be able to tell if he is reliable or not. Another way it can be used is the way it is used in the show to you will rate someone right after you meet them to help people to make their first impression of someone. This will make people be more kind to others when they first meet others.
This system is already in effect in a big company, Uber. Uber have their customer rated by their driver on any given ride. It is explained in an article published by Business Insider showing how over 40 Uber drivers rate their customer. In the article it says “There are direct consequences for having a bad rating.” (Gillett) It also mentions that there is no formal guidelines for drivers to follow when they are rating their customers. Although it is highly unlikely, a driver can give a customer a bad rating just because they were wearing a yellow shirt and he or she does not like the color yellow. Although Uber calls this a “two-way street” because the customer is able to rate the driver to is it unfair that the customer is getting rated when they are not providing a service? The main reason that customers can rate drivers is so first other customers can see if they would like to driver with them and to see if they will feel safe and second that Uber can track them and make sure people with bad rating are not driving and hurting their image. For customer they are paying for a service so why should they be subjected to a rating that they did not ask for and have no way to turn off. This would be like a repair main coming to your house and then rating how your house looks. It is unrealistic and would never happen. So in some sense it is unethical that Uber drivers can rate their customers and is one bad reason with technology advancing at a fast rate.

This system can be very helpful when it comes to the hiring process for companies. It can be a positive because if someone is applying for a job it can be a good thing for their possible future employer to see how other bosses thought of them. For example, if someone is applying for a job and they look that the website that will run this and they notice that their three last employers gave the guy 2 stars each then it is probably not a good idea to hire him. On the other hand, it can be a positive for a candidate when applying for a job. It can be a positive because when an employer looks and it and see that their last 5 employers gave him 5 stars they know that he is a good employee and will be trust worthy and a hard worker.

With times changing, rating people is something that can really happen. We are already seeing it happen with Uber and it can easily be implemented into other parts are society. The rating system like in Black Mirror can be beneficial and harmful at the same time.
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