

Some anecdotes:

PBE called the National Bureau of Standards in Washington to find out what to measure the thickness of glass with. NBS could only come up with "micrometer".

On the first day, an unidentified guy named Louie was trying to work backwards, starting from the last couple of clues and trying to make a lucky guess. He got 255 for the Coffeehouse price, and had the kitchen workers searching room 255 in Lobdell for the word Niagara on dishwashing equipment.

Somebody on the Senior House team suspected that the cipher was song lyrics with a lot of "oo-ahs" in it.

Dennis and Jim at one point came up with "Donald Duck" as a 3D character.

The Next House guys took me by surprise when they walked into my office Tuesday night with the Boltix printout. The last time I had heard from them, they were still missing a lot of clues on page 1.

A bigger surprise came from Spanish House, who I had not even heard from at all until they called me Wednesday morning. At that point they were in Lobby 7 looking for the X.

Some people have the hardest time counting. The answer that was most frequently wrong was the number of ridges on a quarter. Senior House never committed themselves to a number until after they had called Boltix.

Protei Regio was suspected of being everything from an Egyptian king to the Latin name for Greenwich.

Dennis and Jim were looking for the source of the quote used in the Coffeehouse clue for a while.

Simson L. Garfinkel tells me that 8 people called him asking about the library book. He wants to know who started the rumor.

6660119, the numerator in part 1, is a prime, so I suppose it was possible to infer that the denominator had to be 1.

Just before they got the phone number, PBE tried varying the numbers that they had that they weren't sure of. They had the wrong value for the a/b ratio at that point, and that was one of the ones they suspected. They also weren't sure about the number of eggs in a dozen.

The Senior House people got the population of Enfield by dialing 411 and then getting referred from number to number until they got hold of somebody who had heard of South Dana.

For about a week before the hunt started, there were pennies on top of the bulletin board poles, as I was experimenting to see how visible they were. When the Mystery Hunt started, however, the coin wasn't there, because I had just gotten it that morning, and hadn't had a chance to put it there. At 10 AM my roommate Mike (who is tall) showed up, and I gave him the coin, which he just plunked on top of the pole in Lobby 7 in broad daylight.