Random Hall team wins Alice in Wonderland-themed hunt in 38 hours

Mystery Hunt coin found in Courtyard

Average team hourly puzzle submission rate

By William Navarre

This year’s MIT Mystery Hunt — themed “Alice in Wonderland” — began Friday with a Kresge Kickoff at noon and officially last won in 2005 and that, while the name was the full text of the book "Alice in Wonderland" — began Friday about 38 hours of searching.

The winning team’s name “One Fish, Two Fish, Random Fish, Blue Fish” was purposefully based on a work of literature to parody last year’s winning team, whose name was the full text of the book atlas shrugged, according to team leader Adam P. Rosenberg ’08. Rosenberg said that Random last won in 2005 and that, while the team is happy to have won and looks forward to planning next year’s hunt, the team values having fun over winning.

“The Internet has always been a huge easier by taking Orgo 2?”

IN SHORT

Online registration for Spring semester opens for all students on Monday, Jan. 27. Register at registration.mit.edu.

The 2014 LAP UROP Expo will take place in Kresge Lobby this Thursday, Jan. 23 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration for Quarter 3 PE classes opens Wednesday, Jan. 29 at 8 a.m. For more details, visit http://finance.mit.edu/activities/registration/pe

The 56th Annual Science Fiction Marathon hosted by LSC is Jan. 25 and 26. For more details, visit http://lsc.mit.edu/event/2014-01-25-marathon

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

LIMITED LAP O.E.D. SERIES: TECHMEM

Massachusetts only moves: “Groov” and “Procrastinate.”

FUN, p. 6

SAVE OUR SALON

Net neutrality decision is a setback to democratic discourse: OPINION, p. 4

WHY GO TO CHARM SCHOOL...

...when you can make everything seem easier by taking Orgo 2?

FUN, p. 6

BEING 100 YEARS OLD MAKES YOU CRANKY

Uppercut: “Get off my damn lawn!” Happy 100 years, Tim Beaver.

FUN, p. 5

CONTEMPORARY STREET ARTIST

D’Face’s new monograph sheds light on the life of an urban artist: ARTS, p. 7

SECTIONS

Web Saloon: 2

Opinion: 4

Arts: 7

Sports: 12

WEATHER, p. 2

SUN W: 1°F - 1°F

SAT S: 1°F - 1°F

FRI S: 1°F - 1°F

THU S: -1°F - 1°F

WED S: 0°F - 1°F

TUE S: 0°F - 1°F

MON S: 0°F - 1°F

Source: MIT Mystery Hunt 2014

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Source: MIT Mystery Hunt 2014

NEWS BRIEFS

Grimson expects capital campaign to stay quiet for several more months

MIT’s fundraising campaign, expected to bring in between $2 and $6 billion dollars over the next several years, will probably not enter its public phase for “several months,” according to an email from Eric L. Grimson PhD ’80, who recently stepped down as chancellor to lead the campaign.

The launch will follow Harvard’s announcement last year that it would aim for a total of $6.5 billion in its campaign, topping Stanford’s record $6.2 billion, raised in a five-year effort that ended in 2001. MIT will not attempt to join its bigger and better endowed peers in that horse race, according to David A. Woodruff, the chief operating officer of resource development.

But he did say that MIT’s campaign will be more ambitious than its previous one during Charles M. Vest’s presidency, which raised $2 billion and ended in 2004. MIT has an endowment of about $1 billion and an annual budget of about $1 billion.

Even during the quiet phase, officials are busy traveling, seeking to secure gifts and pledges from alumni and other donors in order to build momentum before the launch. The specific goals of the campaign will be announced in its public phase.

Pass rates on edx are at 6 percent, but that’s okay, researchers say

Online education researchers called course certification rates “misleading and counter-productive” in a report released Tuesday that summarized data gathered in 17 open online courses from many universities.

news Briefs, Page 9
Former Virginia governor and his wife are indicted

Former Gov. Bob McDonnell of Virginia and his wife, Maureen, were indicted Tuesday by a federal grand jury on charges of accepting some $140,000 in loans and gifts in exchange for promoting the business of a political patron.

The 14-count indictment filed by the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia included charges of bribery and fraud relating to the McDonnell’s relationship with Jonnie Williams Sr., the chief executive of Star Scientific, a maker of dietary supplements, who hoped to use the governor to promote his products.

The indictment accuses the McDonnells of lying on loan applications by failing to disclose money advanced to them by Williams. Once a rising Republican star, mentioned as a possible running mate for Mitt Romney in 2012 and an aspirant for his party’s 2016 presidential nomination, McDonnell has taken a spectacular fall since details of his connection with Williams surfaced last spring.

McDonnell, who last summer announced that he was returning the gifts and loans, has long maintained that he never did anything for Williams or his company that he would not have done for any other Virginia business.

He apologized in his last address to the General Assembly on Jan. 8 for the scandal. The controversy also casts a shadow over the campaign of the Republican candidate who sought to succeed him, Kenneth T. Cuccinelli II, who lost in November to Terry McAuliffe.

—Trip Gabriel, The New York Times

$28,000 a night: hotels race to cater to the superrich

In most hotels, luxury is measured by the thread count of the linens (minimum 400, please) or the brand of the bathroom toiletries. But for those at the highest end of the market, where the only restraint on consumption is how conspicuous they want to be, a race to the top has broken out, with hotels outdoing one another to serve this tiny, if highly visible, niche.

Take the Jewel Suite by Martin Katz at the New York Palace, one of two recently opened specialty suites. The three-story, 5,000-square-foot space — a sort of penthouse Versailles — resembles a jewel box, albeit one with its own private elevator and a 20-foot crystal chandelier in the entryway, on the 53rd floor, is glittering, black marble, arranged in a sunburst pattern while a view of the Empire State and Chrysler Buildings, the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah, which filed the lawsuit on their behalf, said that Utah’s ban on same-sex marriages was unconstitutional, denying gay couples of their fundamental right to marry.

For about 2 1/2 weeks, same-sex marriages were the law across Utah, right to marry. The judge ruled last month. The judge ruled overruling North Carolina sharp in Salt Lake City overturned the states’s ban on same-sex marriage last month. The judge ruled that Utah’s laws limiting marriages to one man and one woman deprived gay couples of their fundamental right to marry.

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—Trip Gabriel, The New York Times

**States cutting weeks of aid to the jobless**

By Annie Lowrey

REDEWED, N.C. — Last July, North Carolina sharply cut its unemployment program, reducing the maximum number of weeks of benefits to 20 from 73 and reducing the maximum weekly benefit as well.

The rest of the country is now following North Carolina’s lead. A federal program supplying extra weeks of benefits to the long-term unemployed expired at the end of 2013, and congressional Democrats failed in an effort to revive it. About 1.3 million jobless workers received their last payment Dec. 28. Starting Jan. 1, the maximum period of unemployment payments dropped to 26 weeks in most states, down from as long as 73 weeks.

With that move, the country’s safety net for jobless workers has undergone a sudden transformation, from one aimed at providing modest but sustained protection to workers weathering a tough labor market to one intended to give relatively short-term aid before spurring workers to accept a job, any job.

It is still early, but the results in North Carolina suggest there are both gains and losses from cutting back on support for the jobless. The state’s unemployment rate has plummeted to 7.4 percent from 8.8 percent, the sharpest drop in the country.

Nationally, economists expect the economy to respond much as North Carolina’s has. But statistics don’t tell the full story. North Carolina still has nearly 350,000 listed as officially unemployed, and many more, including those living in depressed rural areas, have given up even looking for a job. For them, the safety net is gone, and countless families, largely out of sight, have slipped deeper into poverty.

**Same-sex newlyweds sue Utah after series of rulings**

By Jack Healy

DENVER — The legal saga in Utah over same-sex marriage grew even more complicated Tuesday, as four couples who had married during the brief window that Utah permitted such weddings sued the state over its recent decision not to recognize their marriages or provide any new state benefits to same-sex newlyweds.

More than 1,300 same-sex couples rushed to exchange vows after a federal judge in Salt Lake City overturned the state’s ban on same-sex marriage last month. The judge ruled that Utah’s laws limiting marriages to one man and one woman deprived gay couples of their fundamental right to marry.

For about 2 1/2 weeks, same-sex marriage was the law across Utah, a socially conservative state, with county clerks performing same-sex weddings and state officials providing name changes, new driver’s licenses and other marital benefits to same-sex couples. That ended Jan. 6, when the U.S. Supreme Court agreed with Utah’s request to block the judge’s ruling temporarily, halting any further same-sex marriages while Utah officials appeal the case to a higher court.

Shortly after the Supreme Court issued the stay, Utah officials said the ban on same-sex marriages was now back in effect and that those marriage licenses that had already taken place were, effectively, “on hold.” The officials said they would not revoke any benefits that they had already granted, but said they would also stop providing new benefits.

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Wednesday, January 22, 2014

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McKinsey & Company
Human Rights Watch criticizes inaction on Syria

By Melissa Eddy and Chris Cottrell

BERLIN – The advocacy group Human Rights Watch sharply criti-
cized the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra of Thailand for the way they are dealing with the civil war in Thailand, saying that the de-
sire to being President Bashar Assad’s government to the negotiating table should not be an indication that the public is not willing to be denied basic freedoms.

By Thomas Fuller

BANGKOK — The embattled government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra declared the imposition of a new emergency decree in Bangkok and surrounding areas on Tuesday, saying that the move was necessary because protesters have broken the law by block-
ing government offices and banks.

The imposition of the decree will “allow the democratic process and Thai-
l andials to move forward,” he said.

Forensic experts commissioned by the government to the negotiating table said the images were consistent with death sentences.

The weekend should bring significant decreases in the teens and blus-

ders and lows in the single digits. The temperatures in the teens and blues

and distinct from the “terrorists” who protested against him in 2010.

The government and the protesters have threatened each other for those attacks.

The emergency decree, which is valid for 60 days, was passed under the United States, had not spoken out strongly about the violence for fear of reelection for rebellion against the state.

The government and the protesters have blamed each other for those attacks.

The government and the protesters have threatened each other for those attacks.

The emergency decree enacted the day before was passed under the United States, had not spoken out strongly about the violence for fear of reelection for rebellion against the state.
Save our saloon

The recent net neutrality decision is a setback for our discourse and a democracy

By Aaron Hammond

HEALTHY COLONIZATION

Just over a week ago, a federal appeals court handed down a decision that may radically alter the relationship between Americans and the Internet. Since 2005, in an effort to uphold the ideal of net neutrality, the FCC has enforced non-discriminatory practices among Internet service providers (ISPs), forcing equal treatment of all traffic. However, with the court’s decision in Verizon v. Federal Communications Commission to gut net neutrality (at least temporarily), regularity on the web will go largely guaranteed. Companies are now free to give preferential treatment to their sites and thereby financially assert more control over the content their customers can access.

Few things tickle my libertarian fancies more than deregulation, and some have tried to cast the recent appeals court decision in those terms: the defeat of big government trying to impose popular ideas on business. After all, consumers have the right of choice, and if preferential treatment of content providers and a reflective fee structure is uncapable, they can choose to use a different carrier. As a libertarian, I am dedicated to big government, this treatment is an obstruction of the facts, and the court’s decision demonstrates an inherent misunderstanding of the standing of an open web in an increasingly interconnected world.

In the modern world, the Internet is more than a series of tubes that delivers cat videos and enables folks worldwide to collaboratively slay dragons online. I don’t think I’m exaggerating when I say that the net is the 21st century equivalent of the Library of Alexandria, the Athenian Agora, and the Patison Salon combined. Yes, we have no idea of its importance, between SOPA, revolutions of NSA espionage, and the inevitably heavy-handed persecution of Aaron Swartz (a subject of which the Institute has washed in the sand-clean hands) with the unilaterally heavy-handed persecution of Aaron Swartz (a subject of which the Institute has washed in the sand-clean hands) it hasn’t been a good couple of years for the exchange of ideas and words and must be protected. However, porting a state of affairs grim the unreasonably restrictive access to an increasingly interconnected world access provider and a reflective fee structure are indicative of the one-way, unilaterally uncapable pirate probes, they are indicative of an enormous threat by several corporations to what stands of the importance of an open web.

Fortunately, unlike the huge threat of Wal-Mart refusing to buy any store be compelled to sell goods against what would have no recourse and no choice. Without the infrastructural friction inherent to ISPs, they’re no problem, and consumers could simply switch to the internet if they so choose. But we be the consumer with few more bars, and would be for Comcast! For her, this act of corporate censorship would be absolute and final; she would have no recourse and no choice.

I think I am wanting to consider the damming effect on record sales that in evitably results should Wal-Mart refuse to sell a CD because the channel and its hypocratically religious owners find the content objectionable. Corporate censorship has real effects, and I don’t doubt that some company could be sold against the wishes of so. The combination of extraordinariously oligopolistic among ISPs and the extraordinary character of the net merits extraordinary regulation.

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TWO CENTS

Unfortunately, for many Americans, choice in ISPs is partially controlled by the oligopoly of the same trespasses we cannot submit to corporate tyranny disavowed not by the skeuomorphic e-reader, writer for the The Tech, it paves me to admit that the physically written word is on its death. Newspapers and books have been supplanted not by the skeuomorphic e-reader, but by the Internet. And in most ways, net neutrality is a superior concept for a more democratic discourse — no longer is there the sort of capital requirement for the publications of literature at stake that would quash would-be novelists or revolutionaries unencumbered by the same tolls.

Thanks to the appeals court’s decision, the oligopoly of Internet service providers is now more gravely empowered to effec tively price-content providers as cor porations see fit. If you will indulge me in a hypothetical, suppose Comcast determines that they will sell your news outlet is giving them much bad press. Now, the company can de cide to charge positively high rates to carry the ── and thereby financially assert more control over the content their customers can access.

Letters to the editor are, in general, collaborative slay dragons online. I don’t think I’m exaggerating when I say that the net is the 21st century equivalent of the Library of Alexandria, the Athenian Agora, and the Patison Salon combined. Yes, we have no idea of its importance, between SOPA, revolutions of NSA espionage, and the inevitably heavy-handed persecution of Aaron Swartz (a subject of which the Institute has washed in the sand-clean hands) with the unilaterally heavy-handed persecution of Aaron Swartz (a subject of which the Institute has washed in the sand-clean hands) it hasn’t been a good couple of years for the exchange of ideas and words and must be protected. However, porting a state of affairs grim the unreasonably restrictive access to an increasingly interconnected world access provider and a reflective fee structure are indicative of the one-way, unilaterally uncapable pirate probes, they are indicative of an enormous threat by several corporations to what stands of the importance of an open web.

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As a regular patron of Hayden’s and a writer for The Tech, it paves me to admit that the physically written word is on its death. Newspapers and books have been supplanted not by the skeuomorphic e-reader, but by the Internet. And in most ways, net neutrality is a superior concept for a more democratic discourse — no longer is there the sort of capital requirement for the publications of literature at stake that would quash would-be novelists or revolutionaries unencumbered by the same tolls.

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UPPERCUT by Steve Sullivan

Strangers to Fiction by Deena Wang

Teacher, your mat has become infested with bugs!

Not to worry. It will be taken care of.

Saturday Stumper by Brad Wilber

Solution, page 10

ACROSS
1 IPO in the dot-com vanguard
9 CIA director under Ford
16 Light from above
17 “Your library is your __”: Erasmus
18 Celebrity name on the first million-follower Twitter account
19 Laps up
20 Seek retribution, maybe
21 E-mail letters
22 Souvenirs that may not keep
23 Lucrezia Borgia in-law
26 Unbroken
28 Wasn’t a go-getter
30 Recommendations from MotorHome magazine
32 Discipline
33 Spotted housecat
36 Anti-establishment symbol
39 Target of 59 Down
41 Middle management protocol, for short
42 Part of some ballet costumes
47 “That we may brag we have __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ ____
Somewhere on the Search for Meaning... by Letitia Li

Hey, Charm School’s dating class is next week!

What do you need that for?

Just take Organic Chemistry 2, and nothing will seem painful or difficult in comparison!

Besides, the worst thing he can say is...

...but your advisor asked me to give you this Caltech Transfer Application...

PhD by Jorge Cham

I understand the feeling of running behind.

In academia, you never really catch up, there are always more things that need to be done.

It’s a consequence of working in an open field. We are at the edge of human knowledge!

So you’re not going to fire me?

I’m running a little behind.

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BOOK REVIEW

D*Face’s new monograph

Stunning insight into the life and work of a contemporary street artist

By Sarah Weir

When I told people I was writing a book review on a street artist’s monograph, nearly everyone asked me “Is it Banksy?” “No,” I replied, “it’s about this artist called D*Face who is like Banksy, but different.” The promotional material for the book talks about Shepard Fairey and Banksy, name-dropping to give credibility to this apparently lesser-known urban artist. The foreword is by Shepard Fairey and the “B” word is mentioned a few times, but this book is entirely about D*Face — his life and work — and that’s what makes it unique.

I also wouldn’t classify this book as strictly an artist’s monograph, as it’s as much about D*Face as a person as it is a collection of his work. In the beginning, D*Face tells us how he got into art, how it helped him focus, and how his success has allowed him to create large-scale exhibitions, like the installation of two life-size “Zombie Oscar statues” in L.A. The language is matter-of-fact and scattered with photographs of his work and inspiration. His work is inspired by pop art and graphic design and is often a critique of consumer and military culture. Some photographs are purely documentary of his work in the wild, such as his massive Lichtenstein-inspired murals. Other photographs are works in themselves — beautiful photographed collages of his workspace or creation of the piece is often as exciting as where it was put — you just won’t get it. This book is effective because the text provides just enough context to appreciate his work, even if some of it seems derivative.

D*Face is a regular guy who became a street artist to make a statement. In short, D*Face is wonderful, his love of danger, and his drive to create something creative and just enough context to appreciate his work, even if some of it seems derivative. Urban art is compelling because it is dangerous and temporary. D*Face gives us a glimpse of what it’s like to be a street artist, and some of his insights are beautiful. In describing his experience of ice carving in the Arctic, he compares the fleeting nature of ice to urban art. “It’s temporary, and once made and positioned it’s no longer yours. Trying to retain ownership of the physical piece is like trying to keep ice in your hands, it’s just going to cause pain and frustration.”

One of D*Face’s works, at Broadway and Bedford Avenue in Brooklyn, shows a woman resting her head on a packing crate that cautions “Handle with care.”
The Ottawa International Animation Festival is the largest of its kind in North America, bringing the talent, incredible dedication and patience of many crazy creative minds since the mid 70s.

The ICA screening, presenting the best of the festival was nothing short of a great time. Inspirational, soul satisfying, humorous, touching: the emotional range was wide, and so were the techniques; from computer generated to dripping ink, the selection had the audience on a delightful trip, jumping from one brilliant brain to another.

One of the great things about animation is the freedom it grants the creator to say, do, imagine and ultimately represent in any way whatsoever that he or she wants: from long narratives with funky turns to just simply fun; the selection included the winners for experimental, narrative, best short, best Canadian and the Walt Disney award for best graduation animation.

Among the favorites were Oh willy... by Emma de Swaef and Marc James. Over 15 minutes long and created with nothing but textiles, wooly Willy returns to visit his dying mother to the nudist colony she lives in, whereupon going for a stroll in the forest, his fate changes completely upon finding motherly love in the strangest of creatures. Among its many accolades it took the prize for Best Narrative Short Animation.

The Best Experimental/Abstract Animation award went to Thomas Stellmach and Maya Oschmann’s Virtuoso Virtual. The Alchemist by German composer Louis Spohr is animated through the use of dripping, jetting, splashing and splattering ink, making a beautiful abstract choreography.

Ohayo Carotene by Saky Iyori perked us all up with its simplicity of drawings, repetitive actions, and colorful, playful dancing characters. “Wake up, it is morning! This is the beginning of a new day!” is the description, and I cannot do it better justice!

Surreal, ominous Lonely Bones by Dutch artist Rosto, is a 2D, 3D and live action montage, taking us to a dream-like experience, where time and space converge, trapping a one-eyed man in a lonely and hellish never-ending trip. It won the Nelvana Grand Prize for Best Short Animation.

This was one of the best uses of an hour of your time, guaranteed! Unfortunately, the exhibition is over, but the ICA offers a number of other short film screenings that may be worth checking out. Psychedelic Cinema, featuring footage that was projected during historic performances by Jimi Hendrix, Santana, The Who, and others, will be screened on Feb. 9 at 7–8 p.m., and there will be multiple screenings of Oscar-nominated short films on Feb. 13, 16, and 17.
The courses included in the report included an introduction to electricity and magnetism, a course on the economics of poverty around the world, and another about heroes in ancient Greek literature.

In addition to certification rates, the researchers also examined the demographics of edX students. Men who had bachelor's degrees and were 26 or older comprised 31 percent of the enrollees, outnumbering all the women together. The best-represented countries among students on edX are the U.S., India, the U.K., Brazil, and Canada.

Many involved in MOOCs say that they not only provide an enormous public good but also represent an opportunity for re-search in education, given the unprecedented amounts of data that can be collected.

—Leon Liu

MIT & Harvard

MITx & HarvardX

Top 5 Countries by Certification Rate

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The United States ranks 55th, with over 200,000 registered. However, cross-country differences, like background and interest level, bias the results.

SOURCE: HARVARD AND MITX: THE FIRST YEAR OF OPEN ONLINE COURSES, WORKING PAPER #1

Infographic by Anthony Yu

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Wednesday, January 22, 2014  The Tech

MIT and Harvard

It costs nothing to register, so completion rates cannot be compared to those in traditional classes, they contend. And certifi-cation is not always the goal for these students — or the instruc-tors, many of whom encouraged students to participate only to the extent that they found the experi-ence useful.

Besides, even with an average certification rate of 6 percent, the sheer number of people participat-ing meant that the impact of these courses was still massive, they said.

Indeed, only one certificate was awarded per 126 registrants in Harvard’s CSS55 class (Intro-duction to Computer Science), but that still meant 1439 received certificates.

Most who dropped out did so early: typically, half of the regis-trants in a class stopped visiting the course website after the first week, and a third of those who re-mained would leave after the sec-ond week. On average, a tenth of the registrants in a course stuck around long enough to view half of the chapters.

The report only covers the first 17 Harvard and MIT courses on edX. The online education plat-form was started by those two universities in 2012, the year edX and other websites, including Coursera, drew significant media attention to massive open online courses and spurred discussion about the future of education.

The work leading to Tuesday’s report was led by Isaac Chuang, a professor of electrical engineering and computer science at MIT, and Andrew Ho, an associate professor at Harvard’s Graduate School of Education.

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Europe’s bonds back in vogue, analysts warn of risk

By Danny Hakim

LONDON — When Ireland recently made its first offering of new debt since exiting its bail-out program, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny was already focused on where the money would come from next.

He was in Doha, Qatar, where he and the country’s prime minister, Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani, smiled broadly as they posed together. The trip, earlier this month, also included a visit to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, where Kenny and the head of state there, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, sat side by side on velvet and gold throne-like chairs.

Kenny next went to Riyadh, where he said he was “very much interested in finding out if the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency could resume purchasing Irish bonds as before.”

Once again, foreign investors are piling into the government bonds of Ireland, Spain and Portugal — countries that got into such deep debt trouble that they required bailouts. Now these countries are able to sell their bonds at lower interest rates than they have seen in years, renewing hope that Europe has turned a corner.

And yet, there are still few signs of relief from the deeper-rooted economic woes that have trapped much of the eurozone in a slump for more than five years — and that continue to be a drag on the global economy. Despite the suddenly easier terms under which Ireland and other recovering eurozone countries can borrow, the fact remains: These countries still need to dig themselves out of debt.

If investors are betting on Europe’s recovery, it is partly a no-risk gamble.

The ratio of Ireland’s debt to its economic output has nearly doubled — to an estimated 124 percent last year, up from 64.4 percent in 2009. And although it technically emerged from its international rescue program in December, Ireland will still be paying off the 67.5 billion euro, or about $95 billion, in bailout money for years to come.

Clara Vinten, the head of research at Variant Perception, a London-based economic research group, sees the ratio of debt to economic output as a continuing threat to a eurozone recovery.

“People think growth is coming back,” Vinten said, “but at the end of the day, debt is still going up.”

A spokesman for the Irish Finance Ministry said the country’s debt levels were expected to begin falling in the first quarter of next year.

For the eurozone at large, though, a step back often follows so without a path forward. France and Italy, the bloc’s second- and third-largest economies, are increasingly seen as the latest sick men of the Continent. Even Germany, the bloc’s powerhouse, grew only feebly last year, by 0.4 percent.

While unemployment, at a lofty 12.1 percent, appears to have stopped increasing, it is not showing signs of marked improvement, with countries like Spain and Greece still mired in Great Depression-era joblessness. Compared with Europe, the United States, despite a lingering unemployment rate of 6.7 percent, seems to be on a roll, growing at an annual rate of 4.1 percent in the third quarter.

Economic demand in Europe remains so tepid that inflation rates have fallen to a level that is impeding recovery and threatening to lapse into outright deflation — a chilling prospect that makes debts more expensive, puts pressure on wages and further discourages consumer spending.

“Europe is hardly roaring back to life,” said Nicholas Spiro, the senior investment strategist for Fixonomy Investments, said “you could reasonably speculate that Europe is looking safer than emerging markets.

“It is also a matter of fashion and psychology,” he added, “and Europe just doesn’t look scary at this moment.”

Random wins Hunt

Bases name off of Dr. Seuss book

Mystery Hunt, from Page 1

for Mystery Hunt Collaboration, he said, noting that about 20 percent of his two-hundred-person team participates remotely from as far away as California. Winning team found the coin (actually a guide clock, sometimes called a rabbit’s watch) in the President’s Courtyard. (The President’s Courtyard is situated immediately West of the Great Dome and is enclosed by the outside walls of the Infinite Corridor, Building 10, and Building 13.)

Random’s team, most teams prefer to use the Internet for collaboration as well as research. Said Richard Russo Ph.D., senior member of “Control Group,” likened the role that the Internet plays in their problem-solving strategy to the role that oxygen plays in aerobic respiration.

Many of the smaller teams did not hope to win the hunt and participated only for fun. Karthik Arumugham of “Grand United Theory of Love” believes that his small team would not be well-equipped to run a hunt and said that winning would be the “worst scenario of all,” because the team has a rule against picking up coins to keep for such a scenario. Teammate Jess Gleason noted that “there are coins on this floor that you cannot touch.”

Alice Shrugged, last year’s winning team, is planning the hunt of this year’s hunt (with a name change to incorporate this year’s Alice in Wonderland theme). They said that they tried hard to “make the change fun for small teams” and that, for example, instead of giving out a large number of prizes, the team in Wonderland, they tried to “in- corporate MIT” as an underlying theme.

This year’s hunt included a new twist: Each team in the hunt in which they were told to produce a handout (rather than receive) a red herring. One team produced a dish of cooked herring, and another produced a red dandelion.

Several of the top teams received copies of the game during the wrap-up. The game will not be sold to the public, it is unclear if the game will be made available to the public as an online document.

The team logged three injuries planning the hunt, all of which took place preparing a puzzle called “Safety First” that was to be included in the first-aid kits distributed at the beginning of the hunt.

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To learn more about the ACI position, please visit joinbain.com/aci

MAKE YOUR MARK. CHANGE OUR WORLD.
UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, January 25
Men’s Track and Field vs. Art Farnham Invitational 12 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Women’s Track and Field vs. Art Farnham Invitational 12 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Men’s Swimming and Diving vs. Amherst College 1 p.m., Zesiger Center Pool
Women’s Swimming and Diving vs. Amherst College 1 p.m., Zesiger Center Pool
Women’s Basketball vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy 1 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Men’s Basketball vs. Emerson College 3 p.m., Rockwell Cage

Monday, January 27
Men’s Volleyball vs. Bard College 7 p.m., Rockwell Cage

By Austin Osborne
SPORTS EDITOR

It seems like a matchup that’s been coming for months now. The Denver Broncos and the Seattle Seahawks have been the best teams in the NFL for the vast majority of the season, and they will meet on Feb. 2 in the Super Bowl. Denver beat the New England Patriots handily in the AFC Championship game, with Peyton Manning throwing for 400 yards and absolutely torching the Pats’ secondary while utilizing all of his weapons in his receiving corps. Their defense was also stout, holding the potent New England offense to only 16 points, after they’ve scored over 40 their past two games.

Seattle’s victory did not come so easily. They were within 22 seconds of giving up the game, as the San Francisco 49ers were driving down the field on their way to a potential game-winning touchdown. All-Pro cornerback Richard Sherman tipped a pass from San Francisco quarterback Colin Kaepernick and Seattle linebacker Malcolm Smith grabbed the interception, sealing the game for the Seahawks. For Kaepernick and the 49ers, it is another season where they fell just short of the championship, but for the Seahawks, it will be an opportunity to win their first Super Bowl in franchise history.

Denver is going to focus a lot of their energy and defensive game plan on stopping Russell Wilson this week. They can’t allow Wilson to beat them running the ball, and he needs to be accounted for at all times. Seattle is also an incredibly run-heavy team, so the Broncos will surely see a huge dose of Marshawn Lynch and Robert Turbin. Even if they are behind, Seattle will continue to pound the football, as they did in the NFC Championship. On the other side of the ball, Peyton Manning will have to be very careful passing into the Seattle secondary. The Seahawks lead the NFL in interceptions, and they employ two of the best defensive players in the league, Richard Sherman and Earl Thomas. Denver has so many weapons, however, (Wes Welker, Demaryius Thomas, Eric Decker, and Julius Thomas) that Manning should be able to spread the ball around efficiently and keep Seattle’s defense guessing. In a matchup of the top-ranked defensive team in Seattle, and the top-ranked offense in Denver, this will be a must-watch.