The “Dissolve” meeting to address inequality
Prof. saw flaws in Solve conference
By Katherine Nazemi

The “Dissolve” 30-minute conference, which the name is intended to provoke discussion with the ongoing Solve program, will tackle questions of global inequality.

The conference, which will be held in the Solve Pavilion on North Court, is a way to bring people and ideas “to the margins” into the center, says organizer Ian Condry.

In particular, the conference will look at how MIT can “dissolve the structures of power that produce day-to-day inequalities.”

“The conference will identify common themes and suggest possibilities for driving systemic change,” according to the website.

The four-day conference addressed global challenges in education, healthcare, energy, and infrastructure.

The four “pillars” of Solve — Learns, Cures, Fuel, and Make — focused on a central objective and asked key questions to break the challenges down into smaller problems. The four-day conference invited “change agents” to explore these topics in depth through keynote speakers, debates, roundtables, demonstrations, and workshops.

Most Solve events were private, held in various places around campus, such as Kresge and the MIT Media Lab, and particularly the glass-walled Solve pavilion installed temporarily in North Court, in front of Building 76. A few were open to the public, such as the Roundtable events.

Solve conference gathers ‘change agents,’ takes on global problems
MIT hosts talks and workshops for experts, leaders in business
By Emma Bingham

Leaders from academia and business alike gathered this week for the Solve conference, hosted by MIT to address key challenges in four fundamental areas: education, healthcare, energy, and infrastructure.

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Institute Double Take

By Alexander C. Bost
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

For those unfamiliar with the MIT Sailing Pavilion, every time the moon is full the pavilion stays open past sunset and allows members of the MIT community to sail Lynx Catboats until midnight. On Sunday, Sept. 28, the full moon was made even more impressive by coinciding with a total lunar eclipse. I brought a Nikon D800 down to the pavilion dock and set up a series of long exposure shots. Green and white running lights on the boats made for wispy light trails as boats came and went from the dock, with the Boston skyline providing the backdrop. The 30-second exposure time allows for a low ISO of 400 and f/stop of 8, which prevents distant objects from appearing overly blurry or noisy.

Aperture: f/8
Exposure Time: 30 sec.
Sensitivity: ISO 400
Effective Focal Length: 17 mm
**Israeli Dance**

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Wed. Oct 21st: Lobdell Dining Hall  
7:30 - 8:30 pm  
followed by open dancing  
Free for all students.  
Suggested donation $1 from the public.  
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**The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship**

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If you feel you are qualified for one of these prestigious awards, please discuss this with your academic advisor or your department head.

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For further information:
Contact your academic administrator;  
and/or the following:
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Stefanie Float '15, Austin Senior Editors:

Editors:

Fonda Lam '17, Li-Wei Chen '18, Alina Henehan '18, David Estes '17, Anjali Ram '18.

The Tech

Corrections

Due to an editing error, the headline to the weather forecast last Thursday read, "Developing Hurricane Joaquin is unlikely to affect Massachusetts," though forecasts at the time indicated that the hurricane might impact Massachusetts this week. [Since then, the hurricane has in fact veered away from the U.S. east coast.]

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Wadhwania '18, Editor in Chief Weng '19, General Editor Voss '18, and Opinion Editor Xu '16.

Dissests are signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editor.

Leters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the private views of the writers. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority.

Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned.

Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech's Web site and/or printed or published in The Tech's print edition.

Guest Column

Islam and the West
A call for reform and creativity
By Brian Aull

Last month, the MIT Center for International Studies hosted a talk by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Rais ed a Muslim, she witnessed abuse of women in her native Muslim communities. She renounced her religion and became an activist for women's rights. Her criticisms of Islam led to death threats, and her career was recognized by several awards.

Her latest book, Hejira, calls for a fundamental reformation of Islam.

All's writings suggest that the violence and intransigence in the Muslim world are intrans-}

otic to the religion. They then draw their inspiration from their scriptures and the practice of the Prophets of the truth, and of course, because they believe in the triumph of the Muslim world.

This message concerns concern Muslims on campuses. They don't interpret the scripture and history of their religion in this way; in theocracy, they aim to cre-}

ace a region of peace. They worry about stereotypes that led hatred against Mus-}

in general. The current atmosphere of rising anti-Islamic sentiment in the U.S., Muslims on student campuses feel marginalized if not besieged.

The stereotypes have very real roots. In the West, the Islamic world has long been obscured by ignorance and prejudice. American ele-

ments of the early centuries of Islam belie the

ence, a reminder of the profound contribu-

to use Arabic numerals for math and sci-

countries and communities in the West.

But there's more to it. Jihadists, she claims, draw their inspiration from their scripture

spoke of rising anti-Islamic sentiment in the U.S., it is not enough to condemn extremists, to scapegoat the West, or to attempt a return to the seventh century. Religious leaders need to reopen the gates of ijtihad and re-}

ject the West as an enemy, some Muslims who feel marginal-

paring the West as an en-

in its way to try to reassert Islam to its former greatness.

Today many Muslims want change, but they fear that some of their leaders dis-}

ourage critical thinking. Scholar Harold Rhodes describes the pressure on young Muslims to parrot orthodox beliefs and not to ask questions. He states, "Until Muslim countries and communities in the West allow their people to express themselves freely — without fear of reprisal — it is unli-

able that the Muslim world will be able to reopen the gates of ijtihad and again be-

come a center of science and creativity as it used to be in the early centuries of Islam.”

The way forward requires work on the part of everyone. On the one hand, West-}

ers need to move beyond stereotypes and learn more about Islam. We should understand that the Muslim world is di-

verse and dynamic, and that many Mus-}

lum itself face a life or death struggle with rival ideologies that portray the West as an en-}

enemy, some Muslims who feel marginal-

The needed expansion of interfaith dia-

glogue can find a home right here on cam-

The Addie Fellows program facilitates such dialogue among a small group of MIT students who enroll each year. I posit the creation of a broader interfaith dialogue group to provide the entire MIT community with regular opportunities to converse and learn.

Brian Aull (PhD '85) represents the Bahá’í Faith on the MIT Board of Chap-

nals and is a staff scientist at MIT.
Sudoku
Solution, page 11

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

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<th>1</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Techdoku
Solution, page 11

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1−</th>
<th>17+</th>
<th>3x</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>360x</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12+</td>
<td>32x</td>
<td>90x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pine Trio
by Gail Grabowski
Solution, page 2

ACROSS
1 Donkey
2 Clear kitchen wrap
3 Backbone
4 Blend in a bowl
5 Spearhead
6 Largest family
7 Electrical adapter letters
8 Woo with music
9 Everyday writing
10 Burglarize
11 Noisy commotion
12 “Are we there ___?”
13 Highly attentive
14 Pay attention
15 Bath powder
16 Wear away
17 Opera solo
18 Apple tablet computer
19 Mechanical assembly-line worker
20 Neighborhood loan sources
21 Sis’ sibling
22 Ground-breaking garden tool
23 Scornful expression
24 In the slightest
25 Most Jordanians
26 Clear kitchen wrap
27 Christmas carol
28 Newspaper issues
29 Yale student
30 Specialized slang
31 Coffee alternative
32 U-turn from WSW
33 Grain storage building
34 Specialized slang
35 Gin and ___ (cocktail)
36 Chauffeured car, for short
37 Supervisor: Abbr.
38 Rivermouth formation
39 Newspaper issues
40 Sweater maker’s tools
41 New-car tryout
42 When a plane is due: Abbr.
43 U-turn from WSW
44 Sandpaper coating
45 What spies gather, for short
46 Very small
47 __-cone (summer treat)
48 Code-cracking government org.
49 Group of performers
50 Cul-de-___ (dead end)
51 Walks vainly
52 Speak
53 Theater walkway
54 Move stealthily
55 Turn loose
56 Letters before tees
57 Road repair markers
58 Speedy
59 Dog’s tiny biter
60 Line on a shopping list
61 Manage somehow
62 Some S&L accounts
63 Mural or statue
64 American espionage org.

DOWN
1 Most Jordanians
2 Clear kitchen wrap
3 Backbone
4 Blend in a bowl
5 Biggest of the Three Bears
6 Large family
7 Electrical adapter letters
8 Woo with music
9 Everyday writing
10 Burglarize
11 Noisy commotion
12 “Are we there ___?”
13 Highly attentive
14 Pay attention
15 Bath powder
16 Wear away
17 Opera solo
18 Apple tablet computer
19 Mechanical assembly-line worker
20 Neighborhood loan sources
21 Sis’ sibling
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**CONCERT REVIEW**

**BSO opens 135th season with an all-Russian program**

Evgeny Kissin plays with Andris Nelsons at the baton

By Nancy Wang

The Boston Symphony Orchestra opened its first concert of the season in a fashion that reflected the all-Russian program: quick and to the point. Upon entering...

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**ARTIST'S SHOWCASE**

**Artist and theoretical physicist present kinetic sculpture**

Catalyst Conversations speakers discuss relationship between art and science

By Christopher Wang

This past Monday, Kim Bernard, artist in residence at Harvard, visited the MIT List Visual Arts Center to speak on her sculpture, which had been inspired by the "predictable patterns in matter and motion." Jacob Barandes, a physics lecturer from Harvard, accompanied Bernard to provide a physicist's perspective on her artwork. Bernard and Barandes presented as part of the Catalyst Conversations lecture series, which hosts speakers who explore the intersection of visual art with science and technology.

More a dialogue than a lecture, their presentation came off as polished yet engaging, conductor Andris Nelsons was greeted with a standing ovation; however, the audience barely had time to sit down before the BSO began Shostakovich's playful Ninth Symphony. It was easy to appreciate the lightness of the strings and winds juxtaposed with the fanfare of the brass. I found myself captivated by Nelsons' conducting, which conveyed excitement and scrutiny to detail, and the way the orchestra responded in kind. Navigating through Shostakovich's bright Allegro, his eerie Moderato, and his loud Presto, the musicians demonstrated their versatility in both technical and emotional depth.

The all-Russian program continued with the eminent pianist Evgeny Kissin joining the stage to perform one of the most well-known pieces in piano repertoire, Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1. Kissin brought crucial fortissimos and stable chords, which, combined with the orchestra's full sound, brought the splendor of Tchaikovsky to life. Kissin's matability was demonstrated through his cadenza at the end of the first movement, during which he showed off his virtuosity; the runs of chords and octaves were executed confidently. Although Kissin's technique was stunning, I was even more impressed by his ability to shape and time the phrases so thoughtfully. As an audience member, I thought Kissin's ability to convey a range of emotions made the performance easier to follow and more rewarding. The rest of the audience clearly felt similarly because after the orchestra rejoined Kissin to finish the movement, the audience was left with such a feeling of conclusion and couldn't help but roar in applause.

Kissin's second movement was poignant, reminiscent of innocence and love. This movement was my personal favorite of the entire concert; the flute's opening theme was echoed by the piano, creating an interaction that remained me of soft winter snow. Later, the winds and the piano spun a lovely conversation that was matched only by the cello and piano duet. However, I was most moved by the beautiful harmony that was created when the piano, oboe, and cellos came together to recapitulate the theme.

Tchaikovsky's great piano concerto came to a close after an incredible display of Kissin's finesse. Kissin and the BSO went off the concerto's third movement with a final chord that propelled the audience to its feet. Kissin eventually sat back down at the piano bench for an encore, and the audience loudly quartered down to listen to Tchaikovsky's Meditation, Op. 72.

The orchestra's final offering to the audience was Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances, Op. 45, which was also Rachmaninoff's final composition. Additionally, Symphonic Dances is notable for its alto saxophone solo, which can supposedly be attributed to the American composer Robert Bennett. Throughout the piece, the audience was presented with contrasts between quintessential Russian richness and lighter, more thoughtfull sections. Nelsons' conducting was captivating during the dreamy first movement, Nelsons left without a baton, wearing his hands between the piece's layers and freeing the sound. Rachmaninoff's bombastic ending inspired the audience's third standing ovation of the night.

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**CAMPUS ARTS**

**Artist and theoretical physicist present kinetic sculpture**

Catalyst Conversations speakers discuss relationship between art and science

By Christopher Wang

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**MOVIE REVIEW**

If only NASA had funding

Matt Damon stars as the ultimate nerd hero

**By Aleksandra Stankovic**

Big-budget science fiction is experiencing a renaissance. Director Ridley Scott's *The Martian* follows a string of commercially minded, studio-backed sci-fi movies, including *Interstellar* and *Gravity*, which play out small-scale personal dramas on a big-screen stage (outer space).

Set in the not-too-distant future, the Martian tracks astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) as he fights to return home after an epic filmmaking odyssey of trials that includes murder, betrayal, and physical (along with touring) entanglement while leaving room for gorgeous sequences that capture the vast, beautiful desolation of space.

Damon imbues Watney with warmth, intelligence, and good natured humor, while carrying large chunks of the movie on his own. Most of Watney's time is spent using his tenacious problem solving skills to overcome a series of obstacles (many of them brought on by his own ingenious solutions to earlier problems), affably addressing the audience through a running video-log he films — a ubiquitous GoPro becoming his space Wilson, and keeping us engaged.

In parallel, the film also traces the efforts of his crew and Earth-bound sequences at NASA to stage a rescue mission, until, eventually, the two stories intersect. The Martian boasts a stellar supporting cast, including Chiwetel Ejiofor, Jessica Chastain, Kristen Wiig, Michael Pena, Kate-Mara, Donald Glover, Sean Bean, and Jeff Daniels, each of whom make you wish their characters got more screen-time.

That is, in fact, the only real criticism of the movie: a lot happens in *The Martian*, and very fast. Many characters come and go. Part of this is the inevitable result of consolidating an already-packed (and, for what it's worth, terrific) novel to fit a runtime of 2 hours and 21 minutes. Adapting Andy Weir’s best-selling book by the same name, screenwriter Drew Goddard does a good job existing sections of the source material without losing the original spirit of the book, but could have streamlined the story even further.

For those who haven’t yet read the novel, paint yourself a scene: except for a digression or two near the end, the film remains fairly faithful to the book; so I’ll be more fun if you don’t already know what’s coming next, or how Mark will manage to get himself into his next big mess by trying to get out of his last one.

In developing his story, which began as a thought experiment of how a stranded astronaut would survive on a barren planet, Weir let the science guide the plot, and a lot of the exciting things that happen in *The Martian* are cooler because they actually could. At the same time, the story is funny and engaging in large part because the sentiments it conveys, through Mark, are so relatable: optimism, curiosity, and wonder at the big-ness of the universe and the resilience of the human spirit.

The story effectively captures the transcendent power of the things that bring people together, boldly making the claim that the true value of space exploration lies in the innovation and collaboration that make the unimaginable possible. While these ideas are perhaps developed more fully in the book, they remain at the heart of the film.

Perhaps the best thing the movie has going for it is timing: with Congress defunding NASA’s human exploration budget, and Commercial Crew slipping even further, this is a terrific moment for filmmakers, storytellers, and dreamers in general to re-engage the public imagination through the wonder of space exploration. And to its credit, NASA is capitalizing on the excitement surrounding the film, hosting Matt Damon at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory as part of its press campaign, and presenting a panel discussion on the Agency’s plans for future manned Mars missions which included Weir and NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, along with Deputy Administrator (and MIT professor) Dana Newman.

If you like sci-fi films, nerd thrillers, the space program, and/or Matt Damon, go see *The Martian*. Then go write your Congressional representative and demand more funding for NASA and human spaceflight. Then go see *The Martian* again! It’s that good.

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**ALBUM REVIEW**

Electronic lyricism

Metric’s newest album meets, but does not exceed, expectations

**By Nahfia Syed**

I jump late onto most bandwagons — many of my favorite artists are inactive, and for a year or two, Metric belonged to that unfortunate club. Their unique blend of electronic and traditional rock instruments, as well as their profound and relatable lyrics, captivated me. Old World Underground, *Where Are You Now?* (2003) was one of the first albums I listened to in its entirety, and I was surprised to find that I loved every single track. Since the group seemed to have disappeared, I started cycling between the same few albums. My musical limbo ended Sept. 18, 2015, with the release of *Pagans in Vegas*.

Metric’s first studio album in three years, *Pagans in Vegas* draws on their tendency toward complex lyrics and varied musical moods. Several tracks merit multiple listenings to appreciate the effect created by the music and words. Even the simplest assertion “It’s all what it’s in” in the breezy “For Kicks” requires a second thought, especially since the track’s serene movement seems to clash with the regretful lyrics. The air of mystery surrounding “Fortunes” is palpable — phrases like “She cracked, but I won’t,” and “It’s too late to leave” — coupled with the inquisitive pulse of the intro, piques the listener’s curiosity. One of the most intriguing and thought-provoking tracks was “The Coverness,” whose acoustic mood and strangely dystopian lyrics make for an engaging listening experience.

To make lyrical matters more interesting, lead singer Emily Haines has written a letter to listeners on the Metric website discussing the songs. Although reading her thoughts did add nuance to some songs, it did not drastically shift my own interpretation. Nonetheless, I would recommend exploring the album without Haines’ insights first — floating freely within the synths and twangs is part of the fun.

Metric’s open-ended lyrics encapsulate much of their charm, but I was unsurprised to draw to Metric’s music because of the tenuous balance between Emily Haines’ raw voice and the subtle electronic beats surrounding it. On *Pagans in Vegas*, the group added more electronica than ever before, drowning out Haines’ voice slightly and creating a video game music effect. Metric’s earlier music definitely embraced the video game sound, but the increased use of synthesizers and theremins in this album shifts the blend of traditional and electronic slightly. This addition is successful in some tracks, such as “Cascades.” Here, sleek vocals meld seamlessly into glimmers of robotic tone. For the most part, however, the incorporation of extra computerized sound creates a jarring and dissonant effect. Relatively free of excess beeps, “The Other Side” contains a pleasant surprise — the guitarist and backing vocalist, James Shaw, opens the track in a front and center role.

Despite the many successes of *Pagans in Vegas*, Metric has yet to create a track that fully captures the beautifully curated vocal, electronic, and traditional rock elements in their earlier work, although many songs come awfully close. This album is still worth a listen: *Pagans in Vegas* is up to par lyrically and musically, and likely has a song that will resonate with you.

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**From left: Joshua Winstead, Joules Scott-Key, Emily Haines, and James Shaw are Metric.”**

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**Pagans in Vegas**

**Metric**

**Metric Music International**

**Referred: September 18, 2015**
Heroes Reborn offers a compelling second chance for disillusioned viewers

The series’ reboot is a vast improvement over last seasons of the original

By Karleigh Moore

I was about 50 percent excited and 50 percent nervous about Heroes Reborn. I had watched the show here and there when it was in its first season back in 2006, but it wasn’t until sophomore year of college (when I bought my very own Netflix account) that I got hooked on the series. I spent a week binge-watching the first and second seasons, but I gave up on the third and fourth, understanding what people meant when they said the show was going downhill. I liked the comic-book feel to the show: oversaturated tropes aside, who doesn’t like a story packed with superpowers?

Though the reboot premiered on Sept. 24 with the release of the season’s first two episodes, “Brave New World” and “Odesza,” the show creators released a six-part miniseries, Heroes Reborn: Dark Matters, in July 2015 to provide context for Heroes Reborn, which is set five years after the season four finale. So-called evolved humans, or Evos, begin to come out of the shadows and showcase their powers to the world — many of them were inspired to create videos following the example of Claire Bennet (Hayden Panettiere), a main character from the original series. Naturally, the humans without powers fear the Evos, and all over the world Evos are being registered, tracked, put into concentration camps, and generally discriminated against. Things get pretty heated between Evo leaders and those who seek to imprison them when what was supposed to be a peace summit in Odessa (a familiar location for returning Heroes fans) ends up being ground zero for a devastating terrorist attack.

I liked that Heroes Reborn keeps a handful of familiar characters — Noah Bennet (Jack Coleman) is one of the main characters we follow so far and there’s clear build up to a reunion with Hiro Nakamura (Masi Oka). We see Micah (Noah Gray-Cabey) and Molly (Francesca Eastwood) from the original series, but this time around they’re all grown up. Of course, we meet a slew of new characters with exciting powers and compelling stories. One of my favorite new characters is Tommy (Bobbie Kay), a teenager Evo with a tricky power that he doesn’t seem to understand quite yet, and his inability to control it has forced him and his mother into a life on the run. Another new character is Quentin (Henry Zebrowski), who doesn’t seem to have any Evo powers, but is an incredibly protective older brother. Both Tommy and Quentin are fairly naive, and just trying to do what they think is right. I like that they illustrate how Evos and non-Evos alike are affected by the danger of the tense fear-mongering climate surrounding those endowed with superpowers.

A part of the series I’ve always enjoyed is the way the writers manage to interweave so many of the characters’ storylines, and I always have a lot of fun trying to predict how two characters will eventually meet. The season opened with an interesting premise regarding Noah Bennett — something big happened in Odessa (aside from the obvious act of terrorism) and he can’t remember anything about it (and we are led to believe that Noah willingly had his memories erased). We experience the frustrating mystery of Noah’s amnesia, as he does, and I am eager to see what the big secret is.

The series has always been strong with creating complex characters and exploring compelling narratives. Though the show is entertaining for the casual viewer, more attentive and dedicated fans will have a more robust experience — details are important and with so many character arcs and subtle clues to keep track of, a careful and critical eye is needed for the full experience. The show is packed with mysteries, cliffhangers, and it can be difficult to gauge which characters are good or bad, but there’s a pretty consistent cycle of questions posed and answers discovered, so I didn’t feel too disappointed when I was left wanting for specific answers; the challenge is part of the fun.

I’m excited for tonight’s episode, and I encourage you to give the reboot a try, even if you agree with the masses about the decline of Heroes in its later seasons of the original series. From what I’ve seen so far, Heroes Reborn looks like it has the potential to revitalize the series with an aura of intrigue reminiscent of the show’s first season.

Heroes Reborn
Created by Tom Kring
Premiered September 24
Thursdays at 8 p.m. on NBC

The Tech is collecting successful application essays (hint: yours!).

Email your pieces to cl@the-tech.mit.edu!
Solve conference is part of HUBweek

4 partners organized Boston event

Solve, from Page 1

In his opening address at Solve, MIT President L. Rafael Reif said that if the conference “can make real progress,” that it will serve as a “proof of concept” that “21st century universities have a special role, not only in educating future generations to live meaningful lives, but also as conveners, connectors, and problem-solvers in confronting humanity’s great shared global challenges.”

Solve, which was produced by the MIT Technology Review, was part of HUBweek, a weeklong, TED-esque festival celebrating the intellectual capital of the greater Boston area. The festival was a partnership between MIT, Harvard, Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Boston Globe, and featured events that focus on “big ideas” in disciplines ranging from technology to art.

Connect, from Page 1

in 24 hours after Mohammad Ghassemi G and Taka Waddah Al Hana G started it last spring. A report they submitted to the Graduate Student Life Grants said that 70 percent of the students who filled out the program’s final survey expressed interest in rejoning the program, while 52 percent planned to stay in touch with their buddies. Ghassemi insists that this is not a dating service, but is intended as an opportunity to meet new people who you wouldn’t otherwise be able to meet. “We do allow people to specify gender preferences, but most people choose the Don’t care option in our signup form,” Ghassemi said. This fall, the program already has more than 130 people signed up, including the dean of graduate education, Christine Ortiz.

—Henry Naouf

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DERTOUZOS LECTURE SERIES

The Land Sharks are on the Squawk Box

Wednesday, October 14, 2015
MIT Bldg 32-123/Kirsch Auditorium
4:30-5:45PM

Abstract:
This Turing Award talk intermixes a bicycle ride across America during the summer of 1988 with the design, construction and commercialization of Postgres during the late 80’s and early ’90’s. Striking parallels are observed, leading to a discussion of what it takes to build a new DBMS. Also, indicated are the roles that perseverance and serendipity played in both endeavors.

Biography:
Professor Stonebraker was awarded the ACM System Software Award in 1992 for his work on INGRES. Additionally, he was awarded the first annual SIGMOD Innovation award in 1994, and was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1997. He was awarded the IEEE John Von Neumann award in 2005, and is presently an Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at M.I.T, where he is co-director of the Intel Science and Technology Center focused on big data.

Professor Stonebraker was the Distinguished Lecture Series, the series has been renamed in memory of Michael Dertouzos, Director for the Lab for Computer Science from 1974 to 2001.

For more information: www.csail.mit.edu or 617.253.0145

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By Costa Christopoulos

Just over a week ago, forecast models remained uncertain about an intensifying Category 3 hurricane near the Bahamas. Luckily, Joaquin scooted harmlessly into the Atlantic and out of our weather forecast. By now the former hurricane has weakened into a non-tropical system, and it is expected to bring gusty winds and rain to Spain.

The main local headline for this week is an approaching cold front that will bring showers to the area tomorrow. Southerly winds ahead of the front will kick highs into the upper 60°F. Although the front will bring precipitation, expect relatively mild weather to continue into next week. This weekend will feature clear skies and highs around 60°F. By Columbus Day, highs will approach the 70°F mark as high pressure builds in.

Extended Forecast

Tonight: Low of 50°F. Winds southeast at 5 mph. Partly Cloudy.
Sunday: High of 63°F. Winds east at around 10 mph. Partly Cloudy.

Solution to Sudoku

from page 3

Solution to Techdoku

from page 5

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The First Year

Learning to take rain by storm

A California girl is introduced to rain

By Gillian Bellon

This was it. This was the day I had been dreaming of for the past few months, the day I had been fantasizing about in my mind over and over again since my official move into MIT last fall. I thought that maybe, just maybe, this day might never come: today was the first rain.

Coming from California, which has been experiencing a drought for most of my life, I’d been taught to value water as if it were a rare resource on our last few drops. Which, actually, currently is the case. And so, now, on this rain-filled Boston day, I felt like I was a Californian bear.

If you were to have looked at the text before my family, you’d find that I’d been sending screenshots of the rain-filled Cambodian 10-day forecast for the past nine days. This wasn’t one of those “California rain forecasts” that I was so familiar with back in California, if it’s true it’s going to rain, you can bet that by the time the day actually arrives, the forecast has changed to sunny and 75 degrees. No, this was the real stuff.

Upon waking up, I could hear the splashes of the raindrops against my window; it was such a beautiful sound. I immediately sat up in bed and just stared in awe at the mysterious water droplets falling from the sky. I felt so prepared for this day. After waiting about 20 minutes or so just watching the rain, I finally got out of bed and organized my gear: I had my running shoes, thick jeans, a sweater, a rain jacket, and a $2 umbrella from Ikea, newly bought specifically for Cambridge because I didn’t own one back home. I hadn’t realized this day was going to be so much fun. I mean, what could possibly go wrong?

After finishing breakfast, as I walked outside along with 30 or so other Simmons residents to catch the Tech Shuttle, I spied someone with a tarp on top of their backpack.

This wasn’t one of those “California rain forecasts” that I was so familiar with… No, this was the real stuff.

Wow, that looks ridiculous, I thought. It looked like a bit of a Superman cape as it flapped in the wind, and I wondered why he thought he needed it. However, I quickly forgot about the tarp as my thoughts returned to the Tech Shuttle stop.

As a result of living in Simmons, which is the last dorm on the Tech Shuttle’s route around campus, the shuttle was beyond full. It was so crowded that there were people practically falling out of the door, and so I wasn’t going to be taking the shuttle. And so with a detour, and seemingly unani-

mous agreement, everyone packed up away from the shuttle and started shuf-

flying down the long and empty road, I suddenly realized how exactly I had expected the day to start out, but my good mood wasn’t going to be ruined that easily.

As I started out my walk to class, I be-

come super excited as I pulled out my umbrella. I guess I now know what people mean when they say “you get what you pay for” because it rained for a good 30 minutes before my $2 Ikea umbrella turned inside out and became completely useless. But even this wasn’t enough to ruin my mood, and so I soldiered on.

Walking to class was most definitely a disappointing experience. By the time I ar-

rived in 34-101, I was drenched, I might as well have taken a nice and long shower; be-

cause I don’t think anyone could have told the difference. My shoes made it feel like I was walking in my own personal puddle — one that conveniently followed me around wherever I went.

Even though I was clearly drenched, I naively imagined that my backpack wouldn’t be. And so you might imagine my surprise when, after opening up my bag be-

fore class, I found that all of my notebooks were completely drenched. The pencil marks were barely visible and I certainly couldn’t take notes in them that day. Now this was the final straw for me — no one took my notes with me. No one, not even rain. In that moment, I decided I was done with this stupid called rain.

The rest of the day continued as you might imagine, as I frantically attempted to dry my notebooks and air out my clothes. The day had not turned out as I had expected, to say the least. My clothes were less-dry, my umbrella was less functional, my notes were less readable, and my mood was less agreeable.

But eventually as my notes-dries and my mood improved, I realized that the bad wasn’t the rain’s fault, but my own lack of preparedness. Maybe, just maybe, rain boots might have been better than running shoes, a $2 umbrella that wasn’t great of an idea, and a Superman cape actually a fantastic addition for my backpack.

When I returned home to Simmons, I immediately went online and ordered the gear I needed in time for the next rainy day. I might not have looked as stylish as before, but damn was I prepared. And so, when the next rainy day came, I was able to go out into the rain with that same stupid happy grin that can only belong to a Californian. Gillian Bellon is a member of the Class of 2018.

Escape the dome: pset-stalling and Boston Calling

A much-needed musical awakening

By Chloe Yang

There are times when I can only forgive myself for unleashing my inner music fangirl. Even during those occasions when I can allow myself to release her in public. During Boston Calling, two days before my first half week, when I was hiding in the back half of the half week, I saw armies of deadlines and tests march toward my slapdash barricade — my life flashed before my eyes in due dates. It got to the point where opening the test score ever earned in my life. Though I naively imagined that my backpack wouldn’t be. And so you might imagine my surprise when, after opening up my bag before class, I found that all of my notebooks were completely drenched. The pencil marks were barely visible and I certainly couldn’t take notes in them that day. Now this was the final straw for me — no one took my notes with me. No one, not even rain. In that moment, I decided I was done with this stupid called rain.

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scape through the mist, I felt like we were and because we were suspended in the air, I was charged with happy whoops as we rolled our emotional baggage into the was charged with happy whoops as we rolled-up copy of the festival lineup. Boston Calling would be my first. I could experience firsthand what is meant to release her in public. During Boston Calling, two days before my first half week, when I was hiding in the back half of the half week, I saw armies of deadlines and tests march toward my slapdash barricade — my life flashed before my eyes in due dates. It got to the point where opening the test score ever earned in my life. Though I naively imagined that my backpack wouldn’t be. And so you might imagine my surprise when, after opening up my bag before class, I found that all of my notebooks were completely drenched. The pencil marks were barely visible and I certainly couldn’t take notes in them that day. Now this was the final straw for me — no one took my notes with me. No one, not even rain. In that moment, I decided I was done with this stupid called rain.

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Master's program will triple size of on-campus class
If the pilot program is successful, more courses may be offered under this model, says Reif

Masters, from Page 1

"Inverted admissions" process
MIT is calling this new para-
digm an "inverted admissions’’ process since students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their performance in the subject material before even applying.

Professor Yossi Sheffi, the head of the SCM core course that the proposed program, compared these “perform-
ance-based admissions” to the current model, in which students are assessed based on short, one-
time tests like the GRE. He said that performance-based admissions will offer a long-term view of the SCM master’s candidates’ qualifi-
cations and will even allow MIT to connect with them as they’re tak-
ing online classes.

When asked if an online com-
ponent would water down an MIT degree, MIT President L. Rafael

Reif said he thought it would help-

"democratize the access to MIT” without diminishing the quality of a degree. Many people are quali-
fied to be here, he said, and MIT’s hope is to allow more of them to come to the school to learn.

While many foreign students who receive a MicroMaster’s may not be able to afford to come to MIT for a semester, Sheffi men-
 tioned that employees with organizations would identify students excelling in their online classes and connect them with partner companies. The companies could then choose to hire students and fund the rest of their SCM master’s degrees. Sheffi said this could be benefi-
cial to companies that are looking to expand their businesses into coun-
tries where the students come from.

The idea behind MicroMaster’s

Davidson, from Page 1

outcomes result from getting more people involved in the policy plan-
ning process.

"The assumption is that it will get more complex and more oner-
ous if more people are involved," Mazen said. "But other communi-
ties nearby have found that when you empower people who are thought of as community dissi-
dents, you get a better outcome.”

Engagement is especially im-
portant, as Davidson in particular believes that the way we design and build cities has a major impact on people’s access to opportunities.

"I think we all intuitively un-
derstand that where you live deter-
mines your access to opportunity," Davidson said. "It's the combina-
tion of services, it's your housing, your access to transportation… your economic opportunities.”

Davidson and Mazen both not-
ed the influence of special inter-
est groups on the election. Mazen said that almost all the incumbents took donations from special interest groups, the only way to be 100 per-
cent sure that it's not influencing your decision making is to not take it.

A total of 23 candidates are competing for nine spots. David-
son said that the previous years’ elections had been decided by only four votes, and encouraged MIT students to register to vote before the Oct. 14 deadline.

"It's practicing being a good citi-
zens,” said Mazen.

Nobel, from Page 1

three scientists have detailed, at a molecular level, mechanisms by which cells repair damaged DNA.

"The Nobel Laureates in Chemistry 2015 have provided fundamental insights into how cells function, knowledge that can be used, for instance, in the development of new cancer treat-
ments," the Royal Swedish Acad-
emy of Sciences said.

Modrich is the 28th MIT alumnus (and 65th current or for-
mer MIT student, staff, or faculty member) to win a Nobel Prize, according to MIT.

—Leon Lin

Looking forward
While MIT has shown eager-
ness in bringing its curriculum, and now credentials, online, it has no desire to offer a completely online degree, Sheffi said. While many parts of an education can be learned online, he said, things like “dealing with people, leadership, communication” still need to be done in close proximity to professors and other students. The hybrid model allows for both types of learning to take place while also letting students receive an MIT education.

MIT is using this pilot program as a means to test inverted admis-
sions for the first time. "If it works well, and the quality is there,” Reif said, “chances are it’s going to con-
tinue.” Although the pilot is limited to SCM for now, Reif left open the possibility that it could spread to other parts of MIT. "It’s a matter of who wants to do it,” he said.

Climate rally unfurls banner near MIT board meeting

The MIT Climate Council ended Oct. 3 with a rally attended by more than 100 MIT students, staff, faculty, alumni, and local community members.

The rally was the last event of the week-long MIT Climate Countdown series which in-
cluded discussion panels, a Q&A session, a movie screening, and a mixer.

The activists gathered in the Student Center for the rally and enjoyed rock songs performed by the band Mofedefog. The band’s human-powered sound equip-
dment was supported on a system of pedals, signaling their commit-
ment to green energy.

MIT Professor Ian Condry spoke at the rally. “My concern is that the economy of the MIT society is being created by a system of profit,” he said. "The most central core of my research for 20 years now, that's been my cultural movements go... and that's where we need to look today for meaning, in the past, opening up, and collabor-
ating solutions.”

"[Dissolve is] trying to facilitate conversations at the margins with people at the margins, because it's at the margins that you're going to find new ideas that can move to the center," Condry said. "That's been the core of my research for 20 years now, that's been my cultural movements go... and that's where we need to look today for meaning, in the past, opening up, and collabor-
ating solutions.”

Questions of inequality “didn't seem to be getting enough attention at the Solve conference,” Condry said. "Condy and the other faculty wanted to create an event that would tackle these questions more directly."

"We need to build a movement. It can't just be top-down solutions that are driven by the elites at the top." Condry said that he was ap-
proached by Solve and that the collaboration "was a recent
development”.

"[Dissolve is] trying to facilitate conversations at the margins with people at the margins, because it's at the margins that you're going to find new ideas that can move to the center," Condry said. "That's been the core of my research for 20 years now, that's been my cultural movements go... and that's where we need to look today for meaning, in the past, opening up, and collabor-
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—Leon Lin

Slate for Cambridge includes
MIT alums from courses 2 & 6

Davidson notes electoral influence of interest groups

Conference to feature 10 mini-
discussions on social issues
Condy hopes to include people 'at the margins'

Disolve, from Page 1

the public, unlike the Solve Confer-
ence, which is more of a "national public and "invitation-only" events.

Condy, a professor of anthro-
pology, organized the event the last year after learning about Solve.

"A few of the faculty who were con-
cerned that there wasn't enough openness for students, and the gen-
eral public, and for a variety of fac-
ulty to get involved,” Condy said.

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Football earns first win in home opener
51-26 win over Maine Maritime comes after losses at season's start

By Yueyang Ying
SPORTS WRITER

Fans, immersed in gray and car
dinal, flooded the stands of Stein-
brenner Stadium to cheer on the
MIT football team in its first home game of
the season. The Engineers topped their first win
of the season by an im-
pressive 51-26 score line
over Maine Maritime on
the back of a dominant performance from running back Adis T. Ojeda ’19, who ran for a mammoth 262 yards in-
cluding 3 touchdowns.

Despite an upsetting start to the season, highlighted by losses against WPI, Becker College, and Rensselaer, the team managed to pull through. Anthony M. Emberley ’17, captain and outside linebacker, described the win as a “great [moment] seeing everyone on the team happy,” but added that he was “still eager to do better next week.”

Last year, the Engineers won ten consecutive games, culminating in MIT's first NCAA playoff win against Hudson — a historic season for MIT’s football program. The team is seeking to uphold its reputation and deliver the same excitement as the previous season. Brian W. Copeland ’19, captain and left tackle, claimed that the team's “goal is every week to go out and win
on Saturday, or as [the] coaches like to say, going 1-0 every week.”

Coach Brian Bubna repeatedly stresses the importance of defending the conference championship to the team. “The team's goal is to make play-
offs and win the conference, (then) go as far as we can in playoffs,” defensive end Tyler J. Wasser ’19 said. The team holds considerable promise for the rest of the season. While many players are highly skilled at their positions, the chemistry be-
tween teammates plays a major role in the team's success. Free safety Riley C. Quinn ’19 emphasized the “great chemistry, mental tightness, and work ethic” that helped boost the team's performance. Copeland later added: “Our biggest strengths as a team are our discipline and hard work. Getting into and attending MIT forces you to have these traits and we're able to le-
verage them on the football field.”

“There’s a great team enthusiasm for the game: “We
could [improve on] getting excited about big plays on the field and being 'pumped up' for games” Nonetheless, the team agrees that the fan sup-
port from the home game on Satur-
day was impressive, better than most years in the past. Laura Yechensky ’19 remarked, “A lack of specific student sections makes starting cheers a little more
difficult, but MIT’s fans love the team.” The team hopes for bigger turnouts and greater fan involve-
ment for future home games as the Engineers look to defend their con-
ference title.

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Do you have a question for
President Reif?
Frisbee season opens with 1 win, 3 losses
Ultimate hopes to gain experience, defeats Northeastern in tournament

By Margaret Carpenter
SPORTS WRITER

The men’s ultimate frisbee team opened their season on Sept. 26 with a win against Northeastern at home. The rest of the day brought three losses for the young MIT team. MIT entered into the tournament hoping to get its rookies some valuable gameplay experience by competing with top teams from Brandeis, Stonehill, Boston University, and Northeastern.

Evenly matched against Northeastern, who were also focusing on exposing their new players to full-speed action, MIT was able to seize a win in their first game of the tournament with rookies Andy Wei ’19 and Terrance Liang ’19 breaking open for several deep scores.

Later on in the day MIT’s Jonathan K. Uesato ’17 made a diving defensive play to get the disc back for MIT, leading to a score that he assisted over the goal-line. Returning players Paolo Y. Gentili ’18, Richard B. Yip ’18, and Gil S. Goldshlager ’17 made several remarkable plays during the course of the tournament.

“We played very well for our first tournament, and improved a lot throughout the day,” co-captain Goldshlager said.

With a young but talented team and several returning players, the MIT men’s ultimate frisbee club team has high hopes for this year. “It’s just a matter of putting it all together to make a great ultimate team,” Goldshlager added. The team continues its fall season with the Lobster Pot tournament in Maine on October 24–25.

MIT participates in Westchester Triathlon in NY
MIT closes season with the annual Iron Nerd Super Sprint Triathlon hosted at MIT

By Sam Nicaise
TEAM REPRESENTATIVE

On Sunday, Sept. 27, the MIT triathlon team finished the 2015 Northeast Collegiate Conference Season with the Olympic-distance Westchester Triathlon in Rye, New York. Over 130 collegiate athletes from the region competed in the three-sport race: the 0.9-mile swim, 25-mile bike, and 6.2-mile run.

The start horn sounded at the break of dawn to commence the open-water swim in the Long Island Sound. MIT Engineers flew through the bike course, full of hills, horse farms, and small-town turns. The triathlon finished with a speedy 10k run along the boardwalk and Peningo Neck neighborhood.

MIT athletes had competed in races earlier in the season across the New England region, including the Lake George, the Challenge Maine, and the Buzzards Bay triathlons.


To close out the conference season, the Triathlon Club hosted the annual Iron Nerd Super Sprint Triathlon on west campus on Sunday, Oct. 4. The race was a great success with over 40 finishers despite the gloomy and blustery weather.

MIT Triathlon will continue to train through the winter and compete in off-season local races. In April 2016, MIT athletes will travel to Clemson, South Carolina to compete in the two-day USAT Collegiate National Championships.

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