

Bexley demolition to begin next summer

Students discuss interim use of space

By Alex Delmore
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The demolition of Bexley Hall is projected to take place in the summer of 2015 according to MIT, but the site will have a temporary use before a permanent structure is built there.

In order to legally demolish Bexley, the MIT administration will seek a permit from the City of Cambridge. “We are planning to apply for the demolition permit in December and, dependent on the application schedule, take the building down in the summer of 2015,” wrote Chancellor Cynthia A. Barnhart PhD ’88 in an email to *The Tech*. “Filing in December allows the time needed to gather input on the interim use plan.”

In addition, Cambridge requires a plan for use of the site after the building is torn down. This interim use plan, outlining the temporary

purpose of the site, will be submitted with the permit application. The plan for the site will extend for three to five years, depending on the time frame for developing a long-term plan.

A committee of students, faculty, and staff are working together with a landscape architecture firm to develop the interim use plan for the site. Of the students on the committee, three are former Bexley residents and one is a former Bexley graduate resident tutor.

In an interview with *The Tech*, Laila Shehata ’16, an undergraduate on the committee and also the chairman of the Undergraduate Association (UA) Committee on MIT 2030, said, “The committee’s goal is to have the interim plan done by the end of October, mid-November at the latest.” This would allow the permit application to be

Bexley, Page 15



CHAARUSHENA DEB

HackMIT, spanning October 4-5, brought together over 1,000 students to work on both software and hardware projects over a 24-hour period. The main Hack Center was located in the Johnson Ice Rink.

MIT Chapel undergoing major maintenance and renovations

Construction process continues to affect day-to-day life



KENTO MASUYAMA

Construction is being done to dig up and repair the Chapel moat and restore both the Chapel and Kresge Oval.

By Rohan Banerjee

The MIT Chapel has been temporarily closed for a substantial renovation process, which will include key restorations and upgrades to the more than half-century-old building.

The renovation work will include restoration of the stained glass walls and outside brickwork and modernization of the plumbing and ventilation systems. A major component of the renovation is the reconstruction of the moat, to which an updated filtration and water leakage prevention system will be added, according to the MIT News Office. The reconstructed moat will also help illuminate the interior of the chapel, as the moat is designed to reflect light into the chapel.

The first phase in the construction process was the demolition of the old moat, which caused some complaints from dorm residents who were affected by the early start time of the construction, according to emails from Maseeh student government to the dorm’s Area Director.

According to Matthew Bauer, the director of communications for the Division of Student Life, the noise issue was resolved relatively quickly.

Chapel, Page 13

Excess postdocs causes quiet crisis

Well-educated trainees seen as source of cheap scientific labor

By Carolyn Y. Johnson
THE BOSTON GLOBE

The life of the humble biomedical postdoctoral researcher was never easy: toiling in obscurity in a low-paying scientific apprenticeship that can stretch more than a decade. The long hours were worth it for the expected reward — the chance to launch an independent laboratory and do

science that could expand human understanding of biology and disease.

But in recent years, the postdoc position has become less a stepping stone and more of a holding tank. Some of the smartest people in Boston are caught up in an all-but-invisible crisis, mired in a biomedical underclass as federal funding for research has leveled off, leaving the supply

of well-trained scientists outstripping demand.

“It’s sunk in that it’s by no means guaranteed — for anyone, really — that an academic position is possible,” said Gary McDowell, 29, a biologist doing his second postdoc at Tufts University who hopes to set up his own lab in a few years. “There’s

Postdocs, Page 11

Investigation ensues after Harvard students receive death threats

This past Friday afternoon, hundreds of Harvard University students and affiliates received identical death threats via email from a “hotmail.de” address and a Google Mail address. The Harvard University Police Department (HUPD) reported no suspicious activity on campus immediately following the email distribution.

According to *The Crimson*, the sender claimed they planned to come to Harvard on Saturday; the email that stated he or she would arrive at “11 clock” and “shoot all of you” and “kill you individually.” The threat was written in broken English and contained vulgarities and strong racist language.

Another set of emails was sent out from the same address to the original recipients the following day. In this batch of emails, the sender apologized for the threat and claimed that the previous threats were mistakenly sent.

The original threat identified the sender as a Boston resident named Stephanie Nguyen, but the second stated that the address owner’s younger brother had written the threat and that both siblings lived

in France.

The Google Mail address has been attributed to someone named Huy Dinh, who has self-identified as such in previous emails sent to Harvard students over the past several months from the same address. The previous emails sent from this address asked for monetary donations and requested followers for the sender’s Facebook pages.

The Crimson sent an email to the address attributed to Huy Dinh asking for comment, but only received a request that it delete the online story about the mass death threat.

Many of the recipients of the death threat were female Asian students. Several of Harvard’s Asian cultural clubs postponed an event that had previously been scheduled for Saturday afternoon. In a notice postponing the event, the organizers expressed their sympathy for those who had received the threat as well as provided a list of campus resources for these students.

Cambridge Police and the FBI are currently assisting HUPD with the ongoing investigation concerning the threat.

—Patricia Z. Dominguez

IN SHORT

PE Registration opens for undergraduates this Wednesday, October 8 at 8 a.m. Registration for graduate students opens on Tuesday, Oct. 14 and closes for all on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m.

Leadershape applications for this IAP are now open. The camp will be held from January 16–21; it has limited space and is open to all un-

dergraduates. The deadline to apply is November 7.

The deadline to submit nominations for the 2015 Collier Medal is Monday, October 20. This community service award is given to an individual or group at MIT’s Excellence Awards ceremony.

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

THE TASK FOR FRATERNITIES

How can MIT fraternities overcome sexism?
OPINION, p. 4

FIRST, A SUDOKU

Seems reasonable. **FUN, p. 6**

NEXT, A TECHDOKU

Don’t look at the solutions first.
FUN, p. 6



GETTING INTO SLOAN

But not as a student.
FUN, p. 7

FINALLY, A HUGE TECHDOKU

Because you’re not busy. **FUN, p. 7**

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Virginia issues licenses to same-sex couples

By Michael D. Shear and Erik Eckholm
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ARLINGTON, Va. — Virginia began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on Monday, hours after the Supreme Court’s surprise decision letting such marriages stand in five states. Same-sex couples and other gay marriage advocates gathered in front of the Arlington courthouse and in Richmond and declared themselves pleased and stunned. “The excitement, I don’t think can be put into words,” Tony London of Norfolk, one of the plaintiffs in the Virginia case, said in a telephone news conference. Officials in Utah, Wisconsin, Indiana and Oklahoma were also in the process of preparing same-sex marriage certificates after the decision. In Salt Lake County, District Attorney Sim Gill advised the clerk to begin issuing marriage licenses immediately to same-sex couples. “We are excited and pleased

that we now have clarity from the courts and the fundamental rights of all Utahns are honored and protected,” Gill said in a statement. Paul Ferguson, the court clerk in Arlington, Virginia, said that the forms had been changed from “Bride & Groom” to read “Spouse & Spouse.” The application costs \$30, he said. But because of the sudden decision, there was not an immediate crush of people waiting to marry. Not everyone was happy. William J. Howell, the Republican speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, said in a statement that he was disappointed by the court’s ruling. He criticized Mark Herring, the state’s Democratic attorney general, for refusing to defend the state’s ban on marriage, adopted in a constitutional amendment in 2006. “I am a strong supporter of traditional marriage. There are many Virginians who agree with me and some who do not,” Howell said. “Regardless of how one feels about marriage, we should all agree that Virginians deserve to

have their voices heard and votes vigorously defended in court. That did not happen in this case.” Herring waved aside the criticism during an impromptu news conference on the steps of the Arlington courthouse. Flanked by gay members of the Arlington county board and the state legislature, Herring hailed the court’s ruling. In an interview after the news conference, Herring said Virginia had long been on what he considered to be the wrong side of history. He cited the civil rights cases of Brown vs. Board of Education and the 1996 case that struck down the male-only admissions policy at the Virginia Military Institute. “I was determined to make sure that the injustices of Virginia’s position in those past cases were not repeated again,” Herring said. Adam Ebbin, a Virginia state senator and the first openly gay member of the General Assembly, said he was excited about the ruling even though “everyone I know already got married somewhere else.”

Promise seen in deals with Iraqi tribes against Islamic state

By Kirk Semple
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD — After enduring weeks of abuse by insurgents of the group called Islamic State, members of the Aza tribe struck a secret deal last month with local police and military officials: The authorities would supply weapons to two tribal regiments totaling about 1,150 fighters, and in return the tribe would help government security forces fight Islamic State. Several days later, the tribal regiments, in collaboration with Iraqi government troops and Shiite militia fighters, liberated 13 villages in Diyala province from the group also known as ISIS, officials said. “ISIS has humiliated the top sheiks of Diyala and has done horrible and unforgivable crimes against people here,” said Abu Othman al-Azawi, an Aza sheik and a member of the provincial council. “They tried to vandalize the tribal system and break its ties.”

Despite the support of U.S.-led airstrikes, anti-ISIS forces have had little success driving the insurgents from territory they seized in Iraq and Syria. A cornerstone of the government’s military strategy is a long-term plan to integrate Sunni tribal fighters into national guard units in the Sunni-dominated provinces where Islamic State has made its greatest gains. That idea, however, remains inchoate. “They’re just fleshing out the concept now,” retired Gen. John R. Allen, President Barack Obama’s special envoy for the global coalition fighting ISIS, said of the national guard plan during a recent visit to Baghdad. But the successful deal with the Aza tribe — arranged by a brigadier general without Baghdad’s input — offers an early glimmer of hope for long-term cooperation between the Shiite-led security forces and Sunni tribes. Around the country, govern-

ment forces and some Sunni tribal leaders are brokering emergency marriages of convenience, resulting in a patchwork of alliances against Islamic State. Some of the arrangements involve the arming of tribes and even cash payments by the government. Others are nothing more than an understanding that despite whatever animosity a Sunni tribe might feel toward the central government, its weapons will be trained on their common enemy, Islamic State, not on each other — at least for now. Wasfi al-Aasi, an Obeidi tribal sheik and head of a council of tribes opposed to Islamic State, said in an interview Monday that most tribes fighting alongside the government are doing so out of necessity, but not with contracts or guarantees. “The Iraqi government and the coalition should arm us and support us because it’s us who are on the ground,” he said. “They know this very well because they need our power on the ground.”

New Wal-Mart program aims to enhance food sustainability

By Stephanie Strom
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Walmart announced an initiative Monday to reduce the environmental impact of the food it sells and help its customers improve the nutrition in their diets. The retailer is the nation’s largest grocer, and food is its biggest business. So it has enormous clout with food producers and big food processing companies — influence that it can use, for example, to sway how much water is used to produce a crop, or shorten the distance a load of strawberries is shipped, thus reducing consumption of fossil fuels. “What’s become clearer and clearer is that we have a real challenge globally around feeding the world’s growing population in a way that doesn’t cut down every last tree and use every last drop of water,” said Kathleen McLaughlin, senior vice president for global sus-

tainability at Wal-Mart. Wal-Mart’s new effort to enhance sustainability has four legs: reducing the overall cost of food, including its environmental footprint; increasing access to more nutritious food; making it easier for its customers to eat healthier foods; and improving food safety, with greater transparency about where food comes from and how it is produced. The company has been working with a variety of partners, ranging from nonprofit groups like the Environmental Defense Fund and Feeding America to big food manufacturers like General Mills and PepsiCo, as well as agricultural businesses like Monsanto and Cargill. To reduce food waste, Wal-Mart has begun developing more ways to use a “whole crop” in its private label food production and placing an emphasis on more efficient ordering to reduce spoilage.

It also is working to make healthier foods more broadly accessible through lower prices and building stores in food deserts. McLaughlin said Wal-Mart would supply 4 billion more meals to needy people over the next five years with greater donations to food banks and by working with schools and other institutions to help them figure out what equipment they need to prepare and store more fresh foods. Through organizations like 4H and the American Heart Association, the company will offer education on how to shop for fruits and vegetables and how to prepare them. It plans to track that program by counting the number of meals that consumers getting such information prepare at home as well as whether fruit and vegetable consumption increases. “We want to democratize healthy eating,” McLaughlin said. “You shouldn’t have to pay more to eat something nutritious.”

Florida suspends a player accused of sexual assault

The University of Florida announced Monday that quarterback Treon Harris, a true freshman who came off the bench to lead the Gators to a victory Saturday, had been suspended “from all team activities” after a female student accused him of sexually assaulting her early Sunday morning in a residence hall. According to a university crime log, there was a claim of a sexual battery Sunday morning between 2:30 and 3:25, which was reported to the university police shortly after midnight Monday morning. The university announced that its police department was investigating the matter and that it had brought in the Gainesville police as well. In a separate statement, the Gainesville department said that only its forensic crime unit was involved in the investigation, and only to assist in the collection of evidence. “We have no tolerance for sexual assault on our campus,” Bernie Machen, the university president, said. Harris has not been arrested, his lawyer, Huntley Johnson, said. “We are cooperating with the investigation, and I’m hopeful that there will not be an arrest in this case,” Johnson said by phone Monday.

Johnson added that he thought the suspension from team activities was fair. “The university has their rules, and based on what they know at this point, it’s appropriate,” he said. “In the long run, I hope it’s not appropriate.” Harris, who went to high school in Miami, took over for the starter, Jeff Driskel, in Saturday’s game and led the Gators to a 10-9 comeback victory at Tennessee. With Florida trailing by 9-0 late in the third quarter, coach Will Muschamp subbed Harris for Driskel, who had completed 11 of 23 passes for only 59 yards and had thrown three interceptions. Harris, in the first meaningful snaps of his college career and aided by favorable field position after a Tennessee fumble, led the Gators to a touchdown, a field goal and a win. After the game, Muschamp said he was “very proud of Treon and the job he did.” Muschamp’s scheduled teleconference for Monday morning was not held. The accusation against Harris comes amid a nationwide debate over the handling of reports of sexual assault on college campuses, including some involving prominent athletes. Last month, President Barack Obama announced the start of the “It’s on Us” initiative to raise awareness of sexual assaults on campuses. “An estimated 1 in 5 women has been sexually assaulted during her college years,” Obama said. In late 2012, Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston, last season’s Heisman winner, was accused of rape, but the claim did not become public for several months, and it was later discovered that the police and the university had conducted a flawed investigation. Prosecutors declined to file charges, and Winston was not suspended. According to a report released in July by Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., athletic departments handled sexual assault accusations against athletes at more than 1 in 5 campuses nationwide. “I think suspending him from athletic activities makes a statement to the larger community that sexual assault is not tolerated and there will be serious consequences,” said Jessie Lazarchik, the community education project coordinator at the Alachua County Victim Services and Rape Crisis Center, near Florida’s campus in Gainesville. —Mark Tracy, *The New York Times*

Two in Tehran are missing after explosion near military complex

TEHRAN, Iran — A mysterious explosion at or near an important military complex rocked the Iranian capital on Sunday, lighting up the skies over the city. Iranian official sources denied the explosion had taken place at the complex, the expansive Parchin military site in the east of the city, where international monitors suspect Iran once tested triggers for potential nuclear weapons. But the enormous orange flash that illuminated Tehran around 11:15 p.m. local time clearly came from that direction, several witnesses said. Officials at Iran’s Defense Industries Organization, though also denying that the explosion took place at Parchin, confirmed that two people were missing after “an ordinary fire” caused by “chemical reactions of flammable material” at an unspecified production unit, according to the semiofficial Iranian Student News Agency. There was no word on the location of the fire. Witnesses in the east of Tehran said that windows had been shattered in the vicinity of the military complex, and that all trees in a 100-yard radius of two villages, Changi and Hammamak, were burned. The villages are on the outskirts of the military site. Inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency were given access to Parchin in 2005, but they have since been refused follow-up inspections. The United Nations agency is still seeking access to the site, where they suspect Iran of having conducted high-explosive experiments related to nuclear weapon research. Iran has denied this, and says the site is part of its regular military program and is therefore off-limits to inspections. Built during the reign of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, the site — partly buried in the Barjamali hills — was traditionally used as a munitions storage facility but is now also used for the production of missile engines and drones. From roughly 2010 until 2012, Iran was plagued by a series of mysterious explosions and incidents involving critical gas pipeline infrastructure and military sites. In 2011, a huge explosion west of Tehran killed 17 people, including the head of the Revolutionary Guard’s missile program. While officials say most of the disasters have been accidents, representatives of President Hassan Rouhani’s government have in the past accused Western powers and Israel of a campaign to sabotage Iran’s nuclear and missile programs. —Thomas Erdbrink, *The New York Times*

WORLD&NATION WORLD&NATION WORLD&NATION WORLD&NATION WORLD



OPINIONOPINIONOPINIONOPINIONOPINION

**Want the UA to respond to
your questions in *The Tech*?**

**Want to find out what's
really going on in student
government?**

Email your questions to *ask-ua@
tech.mit.edu* and UA leadership will
respond in a column.

Sudoku

Solution, page 14

			8	3	4	9		
4	5						8	3
		9		5				1
		3	7					
1	2						7	9
					2	4		
3				9		1		
5	1						9	4
		4	1	7	6			

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.

Techdoku

Solution, page 14

30x			96x		
1-		6x		2-	
	30x		24x		
12x				108x	
	21+				15x
			3+		

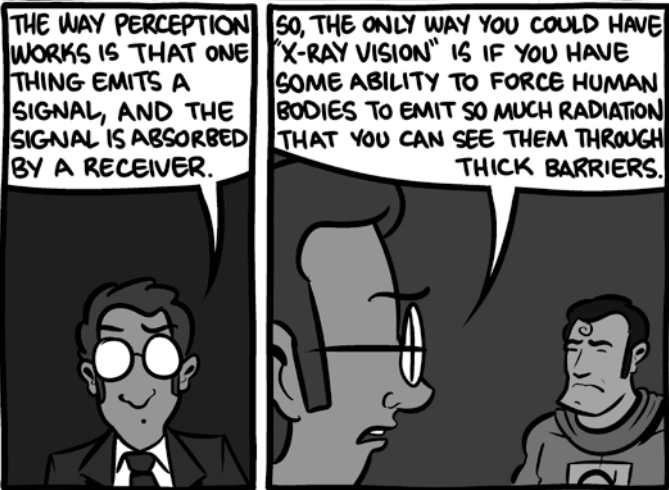
Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

S M B C

SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CEREAL

BY ZACH WEINER

[3502]



Saturday Stumper

by Anna Stiga

Solution, page 14

ACROSS

- 1 Delivery specialty
- 11 Touchdown stats
- 15 Cops who need collars
- 16 Harvard and Yale drafted the first one for 1948
- 17 Water down, perhaps
- 18 Circular header
- 19 Peer group
- 20 Flight debut of 1900
- 22 Color like khaki
- 23 Trunk with a chest
- 24 "The cow is of the bovine ___": Nash
- 25 Exploit
- 26 Dress in
- 27 Scandinavian capital
- 29 Impatient one's question
- 30 Laser ancestor
- 33 Bell, by birth
- 34 What pros provide
- 35 One with dubious connections
- 39 Curtain-hook shape
- 42 Budget manager's responsibility
- 43 Old rock collection

- 44 With 45 Across, feature of some maxiskirts
- 45 See 44 Across
- 46 When an iconic Life photo was taken
- 49 Caterpillar product
- 50 Go-between
- 52 Food processor
- 53 In a different way
- 54 Runoff facilitator
- 56 Name on some cheesecake boxes
- 57 Solitaire, by definition
- 58 Part of 16 Across
- 59 What Brits call "divans"

DOWN

- 1 It includes "The True North strong and free!"
- 2 Pundit's prognostication, perhaps
- 3 Not included, unkindly
- 4 Had a harrowing experience
- 5 Verbal invitation
- 6 Rugby equipment
- 7 Asimov called it "bad . . . but it is immortal for that one

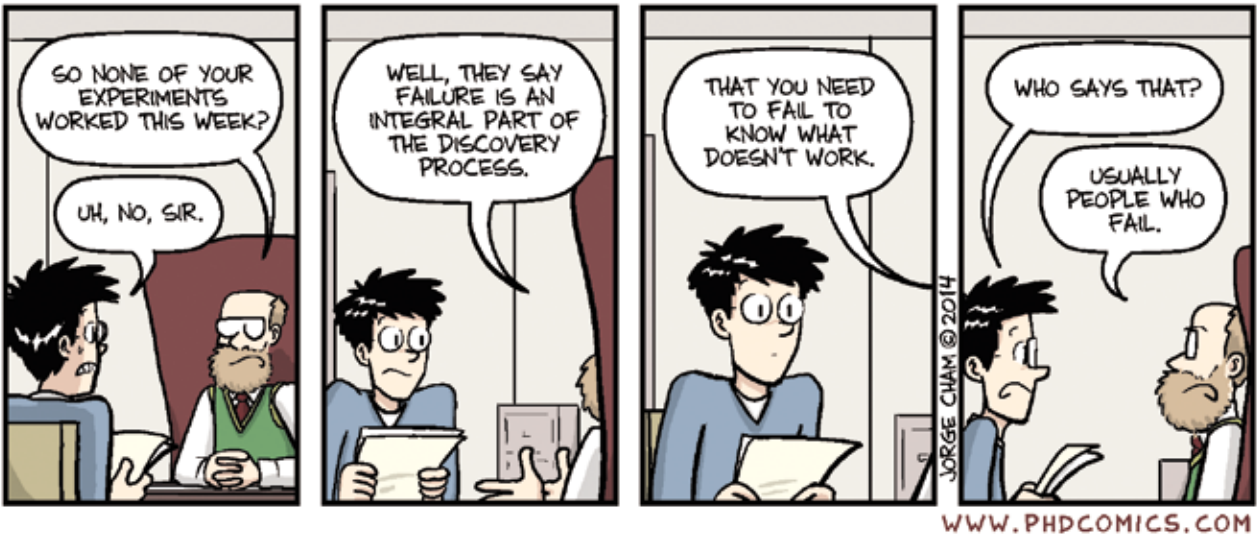
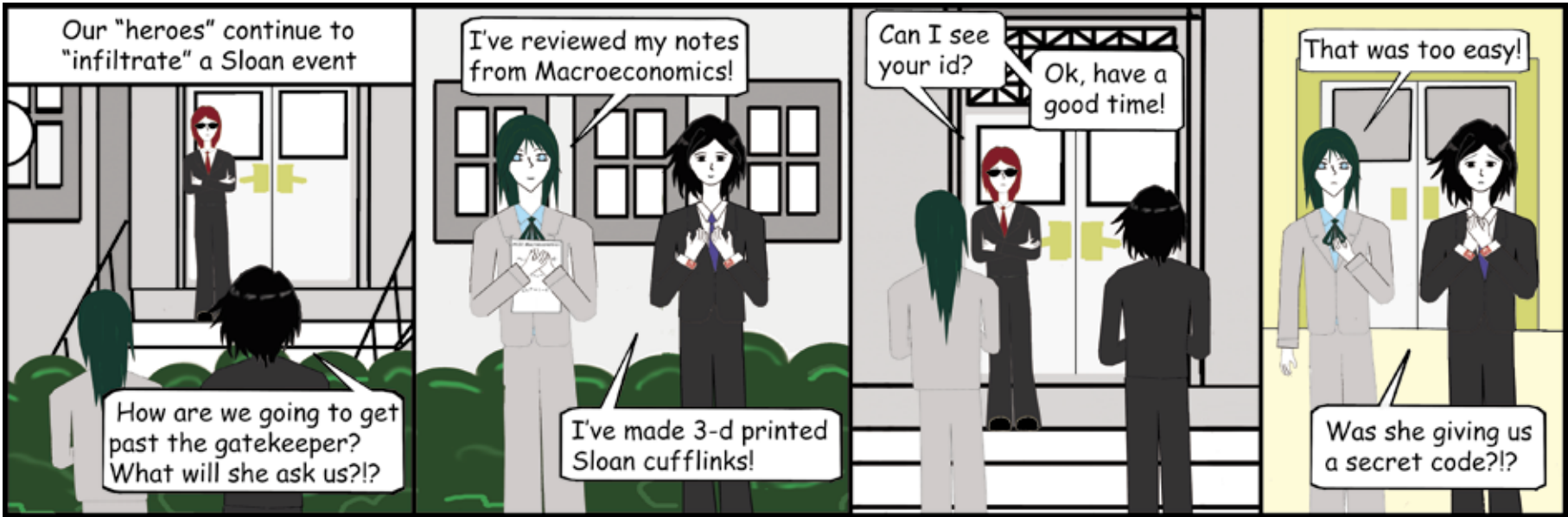
- word"
- 8 Playing unusually well
- 9 Person teaching by example
- 10 Metaphorical pathway
- 11 In addition
- 12 Poet born in St. Louis
- 13 Creator of Forbes' "most valuable fictional character"
- 14 Tough puzzle
- 21 More inertial
- 23 Crow-hat wearer in a 2013 film
- 26 Purveyor of It-Lash and Dreamskin
- 28 Board-certified professionals
- 30 They're seen at sports bars
- 31 Patriarchal nickname
- 32 Washington bottled them at Mount Vernon
- 33 Experience
- 35 Cowboys run there
- 36 Some home-comers
- 37 Specialties
- 38 Hanes purchase of 2007
- 39 Langston Hughes Medal recipient in 1984

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14
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45				46	47	48				49				
50			51						52					
53					54			55						
56					57									
58					59									

- 40 Straining, in a way
- 41 Yarn, essentially
- 44 It's loaded into many subs
- 47 #1 baby boy's name, 1999-2012
- 48 Proprietor of the Clog Talk blog

- 49 "Le Petit Eléphant"
- 51 Team seen in the Ocean's Eleven remake
- 52 It may be led by a figurehead
- 55 They're playable on most laptops

Somewhere on the Search for Meaning... by Letitia Li



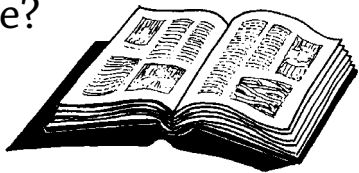
Titanic Techdoku

Solution, page 14

32x		28x		23+		24x	5
	22+			7		4	9
2		4-		1		252x	
6		36x		34+			9+
49x		160x				20+	
	4		3x	6			8x
45x	252x			1÷		5	
			48x		1-		3-
27x				2		224x	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–9. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

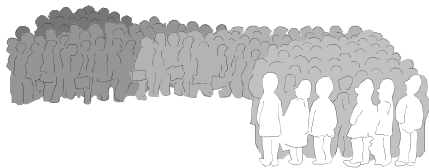
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A visitor at MIT's Mini Maker Faire uses an Oculus Rift virtual reality headset to interact with an InMoov robot.

TRISTAN C. HONSCHEID—THE TECH

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Despite concerns, bitcoin startups get ample VC funding

New startups announce investors

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In the latest move, Blockchain, a bitcoin wallet provider and software developer, is expected to announce on Tuesday that it has closed a roughly \$30.5 million fundraising round, led by Lightspeed Venture Partners and Wicklow Capital. The investment, raised from Blockchain's first round of outside financing, is one of the biggest in the digital currency industry to date.

Blockchain says it tries to make it easier for people across the globe to use bitcoin. The company has 2.3 million consumer wallets, making it among the most popular wallet services in the world. It has also developed a search engine that allows users to verify transactions quickly in the currency's public ledger, known as the bitcoin blockchain. Most of the company's revenue comes from advertising.



ALEXANDER C. BOST—THE TECH

Kumail Nanjani of HBO's Silicon Valley draws laughs from the crowd during the UA Fall Festival on Saturday night. Nanjani was joined by co-star Thomas Middleditch and local comedian Jamie Loftus for a two hour comedy set followed by a meet-and-greet.

Blockchain has gained respect for focusing on anonymity.

But despite the failure of some bitcoin-related sites and new regu-

EVENTS

OCT. 07 – OCT. 13

TUESDAY

(6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.) MIT Museum Soap Box: How to Make Life and Influence Planet — N51

WEDNESDAY

(7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) Cleantech Entrepreneurs Panel, sponsored by MIT Energy Club and MassCEC — E40-160

THURSDAY

(6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) Urban Films: Dark Days, sponsored by the Department of Urban Studies and Planning

FRIDAY

(6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) Take Back the Night, hosted by Alpha Epsilon Phi and Alpha Chi Omega — Student Center Steps (rain location: 20 Chimneys)

SATURDAY

(6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) MITHAS presents Mysore Brothers (violin duo), \$10 admissions for students and seniors, \$30 otherwise — 32-123

SUNDAY

MONDAY

(5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) MIST-Israel Info Session, food provided —
E40-496

(7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.): 2014 Folk Music of the British Isles & North America presents Jeff Davis, sponsored by Music and Theater Arts, Literature Section — 14W-111

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Reduced federal funding has left a glut of postdocs

Expanded size of PhD pool flooded the system and created extended training periods

Postdocs, from Page 1

this huge labor force here to do the bench work, the grunt work of science. But then there's nowhere for them to go; this massive pool of postdocs that accumulates and keeps growing.”

Postdocs fill an essential, but little-known niche in the scientific pipeline. After spending 6 to 7 years on average earning a PhD, they invest more years of training in a senior scientist's laboratory as the final precursor to starting labs where they can explore their own scientific ideas.

In the Boston area, where more than 8,000 postdocs — largely in the biosciences — are estimated to work, tough job prospects are more than just an issue of academic interest. Postdocs are a critical part of the scientific landscape that in many ways distinguishes the region — they are both future leaders and the workers who carry out experiments crucial for science to advance.

The plight of postdocs has become a point of national discussion among senior scientists, as their struggles have come to be seen as symptoms of broader problems plaguing biomedical research. After years of rapid growth, federal funding abruptly leveled off and even contracted over the last decade, leaving a glut of postdocs vying for a limited number of faculty jobs. Paradoxically, as they've gotten stuck, the pursuit of research breakthroughs has also become reliant on them as a cheap source of labor for senior scientists.

“They really are the canary in the coal mine,” said Marc Kirschner, a professor of systems biology at Harvard Medical School

whose lab of 17 scientists includes 12 postdocs. “They decided they'd go ahead and try to understand why a cancer cell is different from a normal cell, and here they are a few years out. They knew it was a competitive situation, and they were going to work very hard, but they didn't see the whole system was going to sour so quickly.”

Biomedical research training traditionally has followed a well-worn path. After college, people who want to pursue an advanced degree enroll in graduate school. The vast majority of biology graduate students then go on to do one or more postdoc positions, where they continue their training, often well into their 30s.

Their progress is very poorly tracked; the leader of a national report on the state of postdocs has called them “invisible people.” The National Institutes of Health estimates there are somewhere between 37,000 and 68,000 postdocs in the country. Salaries vary, but rarely reflect their level of education. The NIH stipend ranges from \$42,000 a year for a starting postdoc, up to \$55,272 for a seventh year.

The problem is that any researcher running a lab today is training far more people than there will ever be labs to run. Often these supremely well-educated trainees are simply cheap laborers, not learning skills for the careers where they are more likely to find jobs — teaching, industry, government or nonprofit jobs, or consulting.

This wasn't such an issue decades ago, but universities have expanded the number of PhD students they train — there were about 30,000 biomedical graduate students in 1979 and 56,800

in 2009. That has had the effect of flooding the system with trainees and drawing out the training period.

In 1970, scientists typically received their first major federal funding when they were 34. In 2011, those lucky enough to get a coveted tenure-track faculty position and run their own labs, at an average age of 37, don't get the equivalent grant until nearly a decade later, at age 42.

Facing these stark statistics, postdocs are taking matters into their own hands. They organized a Future of Research conference in Boston last week that they hoped would give voice to their frustrations and hopes and help shape change.

“How can we, as the next generation, run the system?” said Kristin Krukenberg, 34, a lead organizer of the conference and a biologist in her sixth year as a postdoc at Harvard Medical School after six years in graduate school. Krukenberg plans to apply for faculty positions this year, and said that as she has neared the end of her long years of training, she has begun to think deeply about her future responsibilities to the people in her lab.

“Some of the models we see don't seem tenable in the long run,” Krukenberg said.

She has seen how large labs can create a vicious feedback loop: the scientists who run them become both dependent on the cheap labor and stuck in a cycle of endlessly writing grants to support a big laboratory. She would like to run a lab small enough that she can do science, while helping prepare postdocs for their next jobs.

Many senior scientists, who may fondly remember their own

postdocs days, agree that laboratories have grown too bloated. As the cost of conducting research and the number of institutions doing such work have increased, science has outgrown the traditional model in which trainees are also the worker bees, they say.

“The mom-and-pop structure we used to have doesn't work... anymore,” said Gregory Petsko, who headed a national committee studying the plight of postdocs and for years ran a laboratory at Brandeis University before moving to Weill Cornell Medical College. “The game is changed, and what should be a wonderful time in people's lives is, in many cases, a time of great, great anxiety and unhappiness.”

Possible solutions span a wide gamut, from halving the number of postdocs over time, to creating a new tier of staff scientists that would be better paid. One thing people seem to agree on: Simply adding more money to the pot will not by itself solve the oversupply.

Petsko said he is the “poster child” for how the system can go wrong, by building a laboratory that leaned heavily on efficient, smart postdocs who could do science productively, rather than emphasizing their training.

“As I got older and developed more outside responsibilities... it became easier to have more postdocs than graduate students because they didn't need as much supervision. You could have a bigger lab that way without occupying more of your time,” Petsko said. “I could have done almost as much science and just about as good science with a significantly smaller lab.”

The issue has been taken up

by influential groups. Petsko led a committee convened by the National Academy of Sciences to draft a report on the state of postdocs, expected to be released soon. Earlier this year, Kirschner teamed up with the head of the National Cancer Institute, the former president of Princeton University, and the former editor-in-chief of the prestigious journal Science to publish a controversial paper describing a worrisome, hypercompetitive atmosphere in science and its dependence on postdocs and graduate students.

Casey Ydenberg's path illustrates how easy it is to follow a dream and find oneself locked in a career track without a destination.

Ydenberg, 33, has an impressive resume: he earned a PhD at Princeton, then went for a postdoc at Brandeis. This summer, a decade into his training, he realized that not only were the odds of getting a faculty job against him, but he didn't think he really wanted one. He felt burnt out.

Today, Ydenberg is pursuing a job that gives him real joy, building websites. He isn't bitter; he cherishes his memories of graduate school. But he uses none of his formal training and thinks there should be more conversations, earlier, about future careers so that people don't spend as long honing research skills that may not prove relevant.

“I don't think we're this oppressed minority or anything like that,” Ydenberg said. “But I think for science to reform and for science to become better at serving society, the issues facing postdocs are going to need to be addressed — otherwise nobody is going to want to go into research.”

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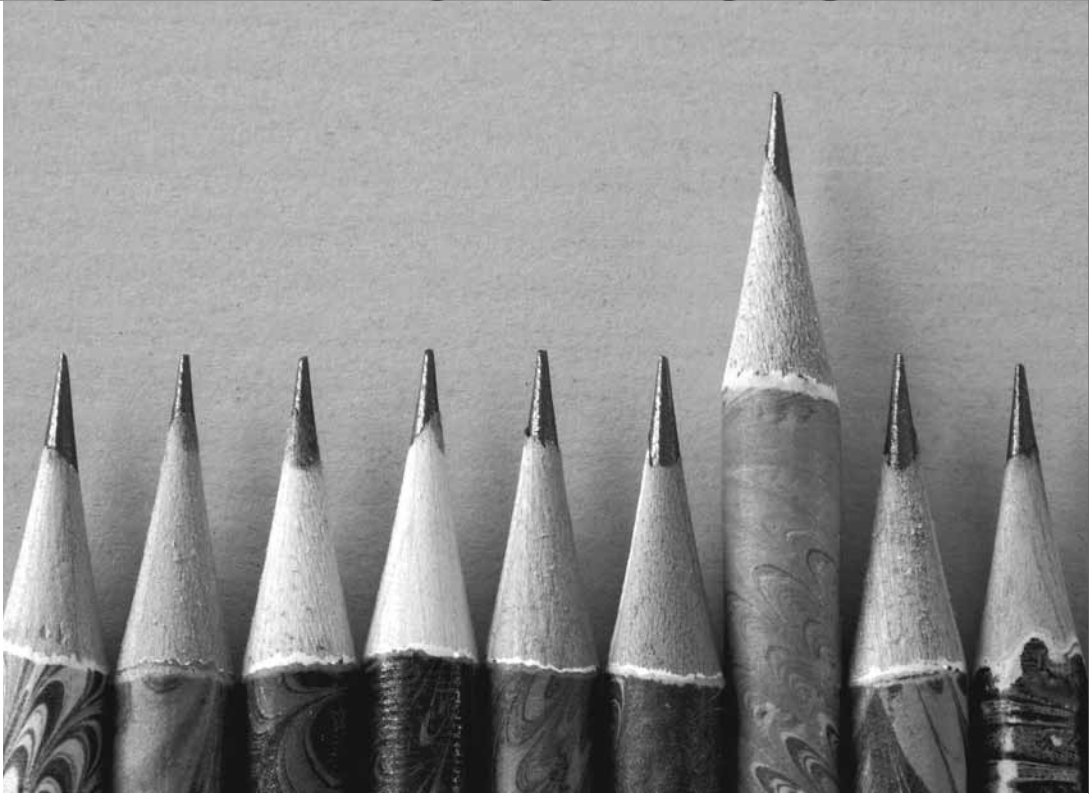
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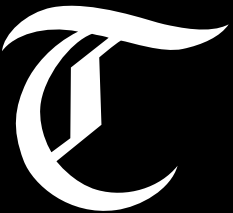
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Chapel renovation adds new sidewalks to lawns on Kresge

Noise complaints resolved quickly after admins talked with students

Chapel, from Page 1

“Staff met with the affected communities, and accommodations were made to delay high-noise activities until later in the morning,” said Bauer in an email to *The Tech*.

According to the MIT News Office, temporary walkways have also been created on Kresge lawn due to the chapel construction, and a new sidewalk has been paved that cuts across the lawn.

Some MIT students have continued to feel the impact of the chapel construction process on their daily lives.

“I’d say it’s quite a bit of a hindrance getting around the construction zone, but with the construction of the new sidewalk it’s not terrible,” said Justin Xiao ’17. Xiao also felt that the construction zone was aesthetically unpleasing.

The construction process has caused some student groups, including MIT Cru and the Protestant Student Community, to temporarily relocate their activities until the construction is complete. Most activities have been moved to either the Student Center or the nearby Religious Activities Complex.

The renovation will also include a restoration of the central skylight and a complete replacement of the roof, which will require temporary removal of the spire and bell tower. All of the work on the Chapel is expected to be completed by February of the coming year, according to the MIT News Office.

The MIT Chapel was originally designed by the acclaimed architect Eero Saarinen and opened in 1955 along with the Kresge Auditorium, also designed by Saarinen.

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Solution to Sudoku
from page 6

2	6	1	8	3	4	9	5	7
4	5	7	9	6	1	2	8	3
8	3	9	2	5	7	6	4	1
6	4	3	7	8	9	5	1	2
1	2	5	6	4	3	8	7	9
7	9	8	5	1	2	4	3	6
3	7	2	4	9	5	1	6	8
5	1	6	3	2	8	7	9	4
9	8	4	1	7	6	3	2	5

Solution to Techdoku
from page 6

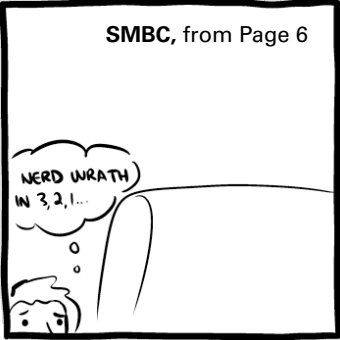
2	3	5	6	1	4
6	1	3	4	5	2
5	6	2	3	4	1
4	5	1	2	3	6
1	2	4	5	6	3
3	4	6	1	2	5

Solution to Titanic Techdoku
from page 7

4	1	2	7	3	6	9	8	5
8	5	6	2	7	1	4	3	9
2	8	9	5	1	4	7	6	3
6	3	4	9	5	8	2	1	7
1	7	8	4	9	3	6	5	2
7	4	5	1	6	9	3	2	8
9	6	7	3	8	2	5	4	1
5	2	3	8	4	7	1	9	6
3	9	1	6	2	5	8	7	4

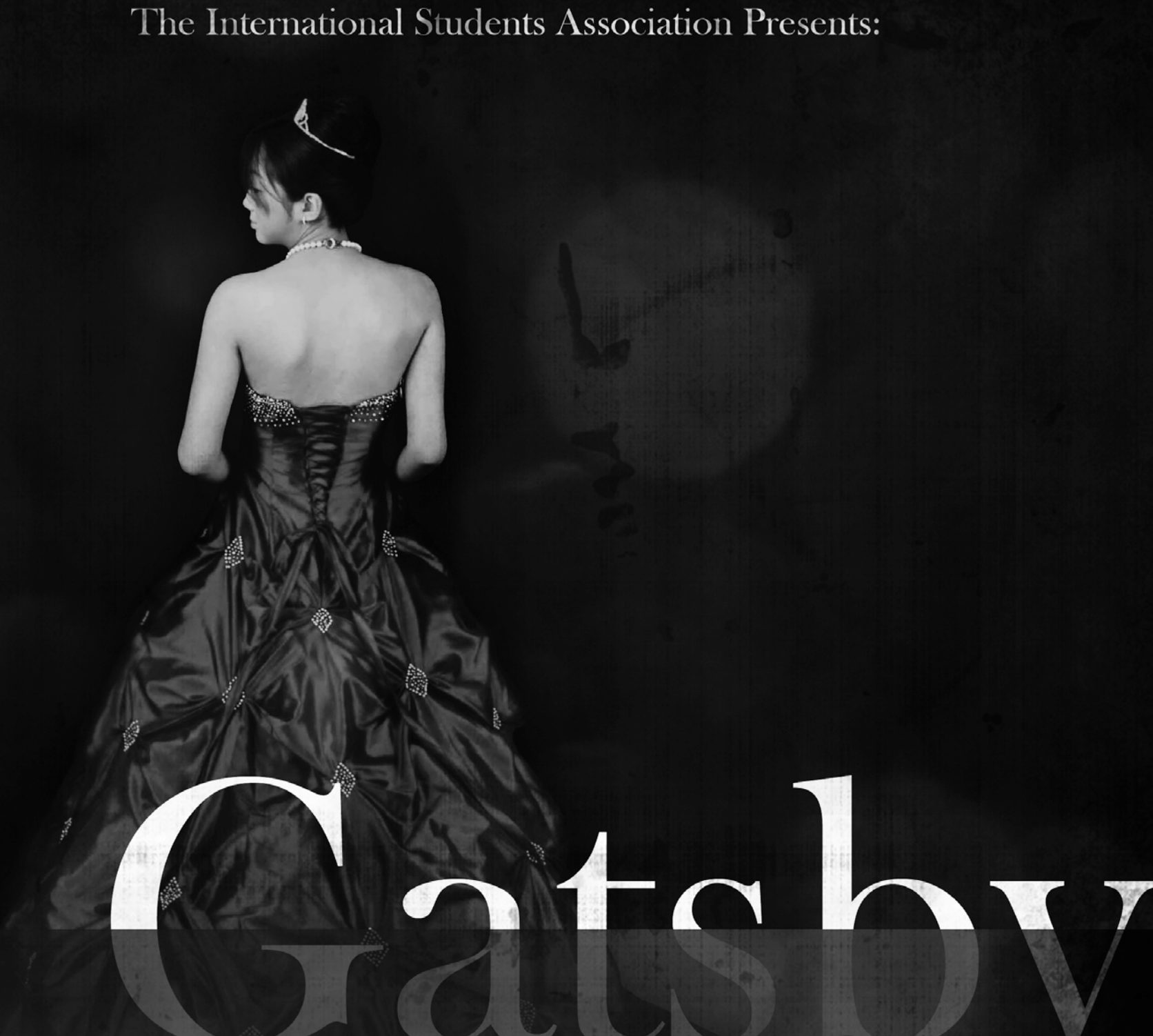
Solution to Crossword
from page 6

O	B	S	T	E	T	R	I	C	S	E	T	A	S
C	A	N	I	N	E	U	N	I	T	L	S	A	T
A	D	U	L	T	E	R	A	T	E	S	E	M	I
N	O	B	L	E	S	Z	E	P	P	E	L	I	N
A	M	B	E	R	T	O	R	S	O	I	L	K	
D	E	E	D	D	O	N	K	R	O	N	E		
A	N	D	L	I	N	E	P	R	I	N	T	E	R
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F	L	E	E	T	L	P	S	S	L	I	T		
C	U	T	V	J	D	A	Y	B	A	L	E	R	
E	M	I	S	S	A	R	Y	S	A	L	I	V	A
A	N	E	W	C	A	T	C	H	B	A	S	I	N
S	A	R	A	O	N	E	D	I	A	M	O	N	D
T	E	S	T	B	O	X	S	P	R	I	N	G	S





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‘Open space’ to replace Bexley after demolition

Student art gallery, central food truck stop among possibilities for interim use of space

Bexley, from Page 1

submitted on schedule in December.

Shehata and Rene L. Miller '15, another undergraduate on the committee, described their vision for the interim use of the space. “The plan is for it to be more of an open space,” said Miller. According to Miller, some ideas that the committee has discussed include movable, modular furniture, an open space for student art installations,

a small stage for movies and music, and space for food trucks.

“It will be like a general park,” added Shehata. There is also discussion about keeping the Bexley archway at the front of the space.

“The committee is the main driving force behind what it’s going to look like,” said Shehata. To create a visualization of their ideas, an architecture firm will make sketches based on the committee’s input.

In an email to *The Tech*, UA

president Shruti Sharma '15 said, “The Undergraduate Association is heavily working with the administration on campus planning, to ensure student perspective is incorporated in major decisions.” She said, “Laila’s 2030 committee has assiduously garnered feedback for the Bexley space and we look to keep getting more opinions.”

Bexley closed due to structural problems in June 2013, displacing 116 undergraduates. The Department of Facilities and the Division

of Student Life put forth a recommendation to demolish Bexley in October 2013, which awaited the approval of both the Building Committee and the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation until this past spring.

To accommodate this loss of housing, Bexley residents were dispersed among several other dorms. Chancellor Barnhart noted that “staff from Residential Life and Dining worked with individual house governments to identify additional

spaces within certain houses to accept an increase in residents, and MIT reduced the freshman class size by sixty.”

Barnhart added, “New housing will be an element of the West Campus Planning Study which will include faculty and student representatives.” The committee for interim use will not be part of the long-term plan for the use of the site. Whether or not the Bexley site will be used to build another dorm is yet to be determined.



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ABSTRACT

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SPEAKER

Dan Jurafsky
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

HOSTS

Jim Glass and **Victor Zue**
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BIOGRAPHY

Dan Jurafsky is Professor and Chair of Linguistics, and Professor of Computer Science, at Stanford University. He is the co-author of the widely-used textbook “Speech and Language Processing”, co-created one of the first massively open online courses, Stanford’s course in Natural Language Processing, and is the recipient of a 2002 MacArthur Fellowship. His trade book “The Language of Food” comes out September 2014. His research focuses on computational linguistics, and its application to the social and behavioral sciences.



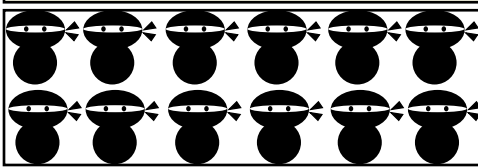


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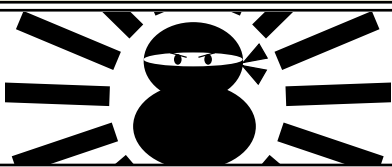
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Women's soccer team rolls past Mount Holyoke

Great team effort plays central role in MIT's dominant performance in its 4-0 victory

By Matthew Noonan
DAPER STAFF

Four different players located the back of the Mount Holyoke College net as the Engineers cruised to a 4-0 victory against the Lyons on Saturday, October 4 at Roberts Field at Steimbrenner Stadium in New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) play. With the win, the Engineers improve to 6-3-2 overall and 2-0-1 in conference play, while the Lyons fall to 4-7-0 and 0-3-0.

MIT outshot Mount Holyoke, 25-0, and held an advantage in corners, three to one. Mount Holyoke goalkeeper Mackenzie Randall turned away a season-best 12 shots, including eight attempts in the second stanza. Hannah Zlotnick '17 and Lauren S. Ullmann '17 both appeared in goal, but neither goalkeeper recorded a single stop.

Kathleen H. Chen '17 put the Engineers on the board with her second goal of the season at 7:51 in the opening session when she directed a shot to the far post following a header in the

box from Ambika M. Krishnamachar '15. MIT extended its advantage roughly 13 minutes later as Krishnamachar located Olivia M. Struckman '18 on a rush down the field at 20:36. Struckman collected the pass in the box and fired home her sixth goal of the season.

Krishnamachar scored MIT's final goal of the first half after collecting a pass from Zara A. Perumal '16 and dribbling past Mount Holyoke's defense on the far side at 29:05. Mount Holyoke tried to respond off a corner kick by Ashleigh Hartsock at 31:58, but the Engineers defense denied the potential scoring chance and cleared the ball out of their zone.

MIT took a 3-0 lead into the break, but registered their final goal at 60:45 in the second half when Jennifer R. Ibanez '15 pounced on a loose ball on the far side of the Mount Holyoke box. Ibanez collected the ball after Randall deflected an attempt by Struckman and directed her shot to the nearside post.

Both teams return to action next Tuesday, October 7 as MIT travels to Wheaton College for a 4:00 p.m. kick-off, while Mount Holyoke hosts Clark University for a 6:00 p.m. start.



ALEXANDER C. BOST—THE TECH

Football's offense is too much for Curry College

Men's football team snapped 16-game losing streak to Curry with a 49-20 win on the road

By Phil Hess
DAPER STAFF

Playing on the road for the first time this season the MIT football team churned out 462 yards of offense, 311 of it on the ground, as the Engineers rolled past Curry College, 49-20, in a New England Football Conference (NEFC) game on Friday, October 3. The win keeps MIT undefeated at 4-0 and broke a 16-game losing streak to the Colonels dating back to 1997.

MIT (4-0, 2-0 NEFC) took control of the contest early, scoring three times in a span of just over four minutes covering the end of the first quarter and the beginning of the second. On its second drive of the night the Engineers faced a 2nd and 17 on its own 16 before Justin R. Wallace '15 erased that by running 75 yards to the Curry nine-yard line. On the next play Bradford L. Goldsberry '15 ran it in for the first score of the night.

After holding the Colonels to a three and out, MIT got a pair of big pass plays from Peter J. Williams '16, one for 38 yards to Seve A. Esparrago '16 and the second for 35 yards and a score to Jared T. Hanson '18 to complete the short, four-play drive. On Curry's first play of its next drive Robert V. DiSanto '18 picked off Spencer Tyler's pass attempt at the Curry 25. Six plays later Wallace was in the end zone from three yards out to give the Engineers a 21-0 lead just eight seconds into the second quarter.

Curry (0-5 0-2 NEFC) came back with a 12-play, 90-yard scoring drive that was capped off by a 29-yard scoring pass from Tyler to Skubie Mageza. MIT quickly answered, going 59 yards in seven plays. Williams broke off his longest run of the season, scampering 37 yards for the score with 5:12 left in the half to give the Engineers a 28-7 advantage that lasted until the half.

Curry started the second half with a 13-play, 61-yard drive that brought the

Colonels back within couple of scores when Tyler plunged in from the one with 10:37 on the clock. The extra point was missed, however, leaving MIT up by 15 at 28-13.

That would be as close as Curry would get, however, as a 38-yard run by Wallace on the next MIT drive set up a nine-yard Williams to Goldsberry scoring play just 1:23 after the Colonels scored. Later in the quarter Tyler was intercepted again, this time by Mitchell P. Turley '18 who returned it 86 yards for a score to make it 42-13 with 5:37 left in the third.

The two teams traded scores in the fourth quarter to close out the scoring. With 5:34 left Esparrago found the end zone on a three-yard run for MIT, while Curry added a score with just seven seconds left when Trae Weathers broke away for a 39-yard scoring run.

Wallace rushed for over 100 yards for the fourth time this season with his 196-yard effort. With the ground game going and MIT having five scoring drives that lasted less than three minutes, Williams only attempted 15 passes, completing nine of them for 151 yards and two scores along with an interception. It was enough, however, to allow the senior to pass Rick Mancusco '09 as MIT's all-time leader in passing yards with 4,496, surpassing Mancusco's total of 4,456.

Weathers led Curry with 101 yards rushing; with Tyler completing 18 of 35 passes for 139 yards and one score while being picked off twice. Dave Digiorgi led all receivers for the Colonels with eight catches.

MIT finished with 462 yards of offense to Curry's 342. Kodiak D. Brush '17 led MIT with nine tackles, while Parrish Rogers-Reed led all defenders for Curry with 13 tackles, three of which were for a loss of a total of 11 yards.

MIT will be off next week, not playing again until Oct. 17 when the Engineers will play at Nichols College at Noon. Curry will be in action next week, traveling to Coast Guard for a 1:30 p.m. matchup on Oct. 11.

Tennis team bests Wheaton

Women's tennis team improves to 6-0 in NEWMAC play

By Phil Hess
DAPER STAFF

Playing a dual match for the first time in nearly two weeks, the MIT women's tennis team did not miss a beat as the Engineers remained undefeated in New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) play with a 9-0 win over Wheaton College on Saturday, October 4. The victory improved MIT to 6-0 (6-0 NEWMAC) on the season while Wheaton fell to 4-4 (4-2 NEWMAC).

MIT quickly jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the match with a sweep of the doubles action. The Engineer's No. 2 pair of Krystal Y. Lai '17 and Dora R. Tzeng '18 put the first point on the board with an 8-1 win over Izzy Gorham and Caroline DiNicola-Fawley. MIT's No. 3 team

of Michelle M. Dutt '15 and Jae Hyun Kim '18 then completed the sweep with an 8-2 victory over Stassy Furber and Caroline Stanclift.

In singles play MIT made quick work of the team decision as it won the Nos. 3-5 matches by 6-0, 6-0 scores, with Lai grabbing the deciding fifth point with her win at No. 4. The closest match of the day came at No. 1 where Elysa M. Kohrs '17 squared off against Alexandra Marlowe. Marlowe took the first set, 7-5, but Kohrs came back to take the second set, 6-4, and then the deciding third set, 10-3, to pick up the win and finish off the match.

MIT will step away from NEWMAC play in its next outing when it makes the short trip over to Tufts University for an Oct. 8 matchup with the Jumbos starting at 4:00 p.m. Wheaton will return to the courts on Oct. 7 when the Lyons will host Babson College in a NEWMAC battle starting at 4 p.m.



SARAH LIU—THE TECH

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, October 7

Men's Soccer vs. Brandeis University

7 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

Thursday, October 9

Women's Volleyball vs. Wheaton College

7 p.m., Rockwell Cage